



# LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**August 16, 2022**

Dear Colleagues,

The counsel of teachers has been invaluable throughout my career serving Louisiana families. When I was a teacher, veteran educators helped me be at my best for children. When I became a school leader and later a school system leader, I was intentional about maintaining open lines of communication with those closest to our students

The same has been true in my role as State Superintendent. When we were outlining our beliefs as an agency, one of the first included was “Louisiana believes educators are valued professionals.” One of the newest ways we’re elevating teacher voice is through the creation of a new teacher advisory council. The application window is now open for all Louisiana PK-12 teachers. If you or someone you know is interested, our application process is quick, easy, and [available online](#).

We’re looking for teachers who can represent the many students and school choices found throughout our great state. Help us think through the educational challenges we’re facing and how we can move forward together.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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## Important Dates for School Systems

### **Office Hours**

- Louisiana Models of Excellence Office Hours: [August 17 at 9 a.m.](#)
- [Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: August 23 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Office Hours: [September 7 at 12 p.m.](#)

### **Monthly Calls**

- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [August 24 at 1 p.m.](#)
- [Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: August 25 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [August 25 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [August 29 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Principal Monthly Call: [August 31 at 1 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [September 2 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [September 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- CWA Liaisons and Louisiana Attendance Alliance Monthly Call: [September 7 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Leaders Monthly Call: [September 7 at 10 a.m.](#)
- School Medicaid Monthly Call: [September 20 at 2:30 p.m.](#)
- Well-Being Monthly Call: [September 21 at 9:30 a.m.](#)

### **Upcoming Events**

- 2022 SPED Leader Back-to-School Webinar: [September 8 at 2 p.m.](#)
- [AEMing for Success Conference](#): October 18-19

## Operations

### **Ready to Achieve! 2022-2023 Operational Guidelines**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

The Louisiana Department of Education has updated the [Ready to Achieve! 2022-2023 Operational Guidelines](#) to reflect the most recent recommendations released by the Centers for Disease Control on August 11, 2022. Please share this information with system leaders and administration.

Please contact [meredith.mcgovern@la.gov](mailto:meredith.mcgovern@la.gov) with questions.

### **2022-23 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan**

**Share with federal program directors, IDEA supervisors and school system leaders.**

As school systems prepare for a strong Comeback 2.0, the Department provided an updated data template to be used to complete the 2022-2023 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plans, **via the FTP Monday, August 15.**

Please contact [LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov) with questions.

## **Homeless Liaison Webinar (New Liaisons Only)**

**Please share with homeless liaisons.**

The LDOE will be providing a McKinney Vento 101 training for new homeless liaisons, **10 - 11 a.m.** on **August 26**. The webinar will cover all things McKinney Vento, which includes introducing new liaisons to the McKinney Vento law, funding, EdLink, and much more. All new liaisons are asked to attend. All other liaisons should attend the back-to-school workshop on August 29.

**Date and Time:** August 26 at 10 a.m.

**Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96511265117?pwd=Mk96OEUxaHV6NTRtSGI1OCtteXRmZ09>

**Phone Number:** +1-470-250-9358

**Meeting ID:** 965 1126 5117

**Passcode:** 727530

Please contact [antiqua.hunter@la.gov](mailto:antiqua.hunter@la.gov) with questions.

## **Homeless Coordinator and Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator 2022**

### **Back-to-School Training**

**Please share with homeless liaisons and parent and family engagement coordinators.**

LDOE will be providing a back-to-school training for both homeless coordinators and parent and family engagement coordinators on August 29, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The training will be held in person at the Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802. The variety of sessions offered will provide information on federal mandates and updates for both programs, results of the statewide Parent and Family Engagement Survey, information on migrant and English learners programs, PimsPoints and Be Engaged Bot updates, EdLink, monitoring, and much more.

All homeless and parent and family engagement coordinators are asked to please attend. Please contact [antiqua.hunter@la.gov](mailto:antiqua.hunter@la.gov) with questions.

## **Ready to Achieve! 2022-2023 School System Operations Plan Submission**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

A school system that receives ARP ESSER funds must make publicly available on its website a **Ready to Achieve! plan** for safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. School systems can meet this requirement for 2022-2023 by updating their Ready to Achieve 2021 plans to reflect the [Ready to Achieve 2022-2023 guidance](#).

School systems will [submit a link](#) to their plan to LDOE **no later than September 12**. Please contact [meredith.mcgovern@la.gov](mailto:meredith.mcgovern@la.gov) with any questions.

## Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

### **Data Certification**

**Please share with district accountability contacts and system leaders.**

On Monday, August 15, the La Data Review system opened for review of ACT and DCAI rosters. Accountability contacts in school systems that had ACT and/or DCAI rosters were sent an email with login credentials, guidance, and additional resources developed to support the review process. Additional emails will be sent to accountability contacts who have only assessment data to check by the end of the month.

Please contact [jennifer.baird@la.gov](mailto:jennifer.baird@la.gov) with questions.

### **ACT**

**Please share with test coordinators.**

**August 26:** Deadline to enter fall testing dates for WorkKeys and adjust enrollment counts for WorkKeys accommodated paper material in PANext. All accommodations can be administered online except large print and braille.

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with questions.

### **LEAP Connect**

**Please share with test coordinators, special education teachers and supervisors.**

The department approved Prioritized LEAP Connectors for English language arts, mathematics and science to provide instructional support and planning resources for teachers and content leaders.

The [Prioritized Connectors Guide](#) is available in the LEAP Connect Assessment Resources section of the Assessment Guidance Library on the department website.

Please contact [Tywanna.Dushime@la.gov](mailto:Tywanna.Dushime@la.gov) with questions.

## Career and College Readiness

### **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Webinar**

**Please share with school administrators, school security staff and emergency management staff.**

School staff are invited to join the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, for a [webinar](#) on tools and resources to enhance physical security planning at K-12 schools and campuses. The event will feature an overview of CISA's [K-12 School Security Guide Suite](#), a set of products that provides K-12 schools with a comprehensive doctrine and methodology to assess vulnerabilities, plan for emergencies, and implement layered elements of security.

The webinar will also include a Q&A session for attendees to engage with members of CISA's School Safety Task Force. K-12 school security staff, administrators, emergency management professionals, regional and local personnel, and other members of the school safety community are encouraged to attend.

**Webinar Date and Time:** Thursday, August 18, 2 – 3 p.m.

**Registration:** <https://CISAK12SchoolSecurityGuideWebinar.eventbrite.com>

Registration is required. The access link to join the webinar (hosted on Webex) will be provided to all registrants one day in advance of the event.

Please contact [SchoolSafety@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:SchoolSafety@hq.dhs.gov) with questions.

### **Jump Start Funding Guidance**

**Please share with CTE supervisors and school system leaders.**

The Department has released the following updated Jump Start funding guidance for the 2022-2023 school year:

- [2022-2023 List of CDF Qualifying Courses](#)
- [2022-2023 Guidelines for Use CDF Allocation](#)
- [2022-2023 Jump Start Funding Guidance](#)

Please contact [jessica.vallelungo@la.gov](mailto:jessica.vallelungo@la.gov) with questions.

### **Seizure Disorder Training**

**Please share with school employees and school nurses.**

Louisiana [Act 562](#) requires the Department to approve and provide courses of instruction regarding treating students with seizure disorders, including information about seizure recognition and related first aid, one each for: (1) school nurses, and (2) other school employees, including school bus operators, who have regular interactions with students with seizure management and treatment plans. Nurses and employees are required to complete such courses biennially.

[The Epilepsy Alliance of Louisiana](#) offers [training](#) on Seizure Recognition and First Aid for School Personnel and Managing Students with Seizures: A Training for School Nurses. The [Foundation](#) offers online [courses](#) on demand for school employees and nurses.

Please contact [michael.comeaux@la.gov](mailto:michael.comeaux@la.gov) with questions.

## **Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment Waiver Requirements for Schools** **Please share with school nurses and business managers.**

Any facility, including schools performing testing on a sample obtained from an individual (blood, saliva, urine, respiratory swab, etc.), requires a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CLIA) certificate covering the complexity of testing. The [Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988](#) are the regulations for clinical laboratory testing inclusive of any COVID testing, glucometer testing, flu testing or pregnancy testing.

The Center for Medicaid Services issues fee coupons by mail for both initial certification as well as renewal. Certificate cycles are two years and fee is based on complexity of testing. Waived testing is typical for schools and is \$180 for a two-year cycle.

Schools may check online to determine certificate status at CMS laboratory demographic lookup at [QCOR lookup](#). Please contact [elizabeth.duncan@la.gov](mailto:elizabeth.duncan@la.gov) with questions.

## **School System Financial Services**

### **FY2022-2023 Annual Adopted Budget and General Fund Budget Submission** **Please share with business managers and financial officials of city/parish school districts.**

Louisiana R.S.17:88 requires that city/parish school boards submit an adopted balanced budget to the Department no later than **September 30** each year. The [FY2022-2023 Adopted Annual Budget Memo](#) and [FY2022-2023 Adopted Budget Submission Instructions](#) provide guidance, documents to be completed, and additional resources.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please email [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov) or call School System Financial Services at 225-342-3617.

## Teaching and Learning

### Educator Development

#### **Principal's Newsletter Appreciation**

**Please share with principals and principal supervisors.**

The Department's monthly [Principal's Newsletter](#) is designed to celebrate and inform building-level leaders of pertinent topics in school leadership. This month's Principal's Newsletter will be released on **August 25**. If you have a building-level leader who you would like to recognize, take a minute to send a shout-out of appreciation using this [survey link](#) by **August 22**. This note of appreciation will be included in our August Principal's Newsletter.

Please contact [brandy.garrett@la.gov](mailto:brandy.garrett@la.gov) with questions.

#### **Principal Webinar Series**

**Please share with principals and principal supervisors.**

The Department will hold a monthly webinar series for current school leaders. The August webinar will highlight 2023 State Principal of the Year, David Schexnaydre, and Division-Level Honorees Heather Brooks, Michael Hilton, and Tamela Phillips. These celebrated principals will take part in a panel discussion focusing on strong back-to-school practices.

**Webinar Date and Time:** August 31, 1 - 2 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98516144298?pwd=VHoxSlhaNWWhFZUNrQWICS05MRHlzZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 985 1614 4298

**Passcode:** 125571

Please contact [louisianaleaders@la.gov](mailto:louisianaleaders@la.gov) with questions.

#### **Pre-Educator Pathway System Leader Professional Learning Community**

**Please share with the lead contact for the Pre-Educator Pathway in your school system.**

Offered twice each semester, System Lead Professional Learning Community meetings are virtual opportunities for Pre-Educator Pathway/Grow Your Own System leads to share best practices related to developing and expanding access to the Pre-Educator Pathway.

#### **Webinar Dates and Times**

- September 1, 10 – 11 a.m.
- November 3, 10 – 11 a.m.
- February 2, 1 – 2 p.m.
- April 6, 10 – 11 a.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>

**Webinar Phone Number:** +13462487799,,3455048179#

**Meeting ID:** 345 504 8179

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

## Literacy

### **Local Literacy Plan Guidance**

**Please share with system and school literacy leaders.**

The Literacy Division has released the second of a series of webinars to support literacy leaders with the development of local literacy plans. This most recent webinar focuses on the inclusion of explicit literacy instruction, interventions, and extensions in local literacy plan goals and action steps. The resources listed below provide literacy leaders with targeted support for planning and implementing literacy best practices. Look for the next webinar on planning for ongoing professional growth opportunities in local literacy plans in mid-September. These webinars and related resources are located in the [Literacy Library](#) under Local Literacy Plan Guidance.

- [Planning for Explicit Instruction, Intervention, and Extension slide deck](#)
- [Planning for Explicit Instruction, Intervention, and Extension recording](#)
- Updated, fully editable [Local Literacy Plan Template](#)

Please contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) with questions.

## Reminders

- [Assessments, Accountability and Analytics](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
  - [Diverse Learners](#)

## Assessments, Accountability and Analytics Reminders

### **ELPS/ELPT**

**Please share with Test Coordinators and EL Supervisors.**

The English Language Proficiency Screener (ELPS) is now available in the [Louisiana Portal](#) provided through Cambium. The [ELPS Guidance document](#) is available in the assessment library on the department website.

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with questions.

## Teaching and Learning Reminders

### *Diverse Learners*

### **AEMing for Success Conference, October 18 - 19**

**Please share with special education leaders, assistive technology contacts and educators.**

Louisiana Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) is hosting its 4th annual conference at Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge, on October 18-19 for educators working with students with exceptionalities. The conference provides an opportunity to deepen your assistive technology knowledge and strengthen your implementation strategies. Visit the [conference website](#) for the agenda, registration information and conference details.

Please contact [robin.king@la.gov](mailto:robin.king@la.gov) for details.

### **2022 SPED Leader Back-to-School Webinar**

**Please share with special education directors/supervisors.**

The Department will be holding a back-to-school webinar to kick-off the 2022 - 2023 school year with important updates and helpful resources to assist school systems in supporting students with diverse needs. Information to attend the September 8 webinar is as follows:

**Date/Time:** September 8 at 2 p.m.

**Zoom:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96791988170>

**Phone:** 1-346-248-7799

**Meeting ID:** 967 9198 8170

Please contact [diverselearnersupport@la.gov](mailto:diverselearnersupport@la.gov) with questions