



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 10, 2023

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Message from the Deputy Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

As I visit with school and school system leadership across our state, I am very excited about our collective increased focus on mathematics instruction. We know our students deserve the very best, and our time committed to increasing effectiveness in math teaching and learning will yield improved student outcomes.

We know our teachers need resources and support to address the needs of all learners. We are proud to announce the release of [Foundational Lessons for Accelerating Math Education \(FLAME\)](#). This new resource provides teachers with tools to build, track, and support the development of math fluency for students in grades K-5. FLAME offers engaging activities in the form of lessons to allow students to build the skills needed for success. FLAME is designed to complement any high-quality curriculum currently in place in schools. We acknowledge that curricular resources do contribute to students' fluency development. The missing element has been the ability for teachers to track and report the attainment of skills for each student.

Unit 1 was released in September. Units 2 and 3 will be released in November and January, respectively. To learn more about the design and implementation of FLAME, join the LDOE math team for the [FLAME Kickoff Webinar](#) on October 11 at 10 a.m.

For questions about this new resource or any aspect of the Louisiana Math Refresh, please contact STEM@la.gov.

Dr. Jenna Chiasson
Deputy Superintendent

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Teacher/Principal, *New Teacher*, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Process Overview Call: [October 11 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [October 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
- [Alternative Education Monthly Call](#): [October 12 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [October 16 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: [October 17 at 3:45 pm](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [October 19 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Office of Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [October 19 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Monthly Practicing Principal Webinar – Accountability Updates: [October 23 at 1 p.m.](#)
- School System Planning Office Hours: [October 24 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Division of Diverse Learners Office Hours: [October 24 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Outstanding School System Support Employee of the Year Office Hours: [October 25 at 11:30 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [October 25 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Healthy Schools Community of Practice: [October 26 at 2 p.m.](#)
- School System Planning Office Hours: [October 30 at 2 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [November 3 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [November 7 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [November 9 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Zearn Support for Middle School Leaders: [November 14 at 9 a.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Teacher/Principal, *New Teacher*, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Launch: October 11
- Deadline to submit Outstanding School Support Employee [nominations](#): October 12
- Deadline to submit School Health Service Provider of the Year [nominations](#): October 12
- [ACT College and Career Readiness Workshops](#): October 10-17
- Deadline to submit the Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application: October 16
- [School Support Institutes](#) Session 2 Virtual: October 17 - 20
- School System Planning Guide/Super App launch: October 19
- [Mentor and Resident data](#) due in Edlink: October 20
- [Fall 2023 Counselor Institutes](#): October 24 - 26
- Deadline to complete enrollment verification and select paper testing for grade 3 in DRC INSIGHT: October 27
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 PPP](#): October 31
- Deadline to submit nominations for [U.S. Presidential Scholars Award](#): November 6 by 4 p.m.
- Deadline to submit application for [Immersion Site Certification](#): November 15
- Deadline to [order AP Exams](#): November 15
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 Title I, Part A - Annual Comparability Report](#): November 17
- Deadline to submit system-level Outstanding School System Support Employee of the Year Award [application](#): November 30
- Deadline to submit Teacher/Principal of the Year application: January 11
- Deadline to submit Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year application: January 11
- Deadline to submit New Teacher of the Year application: January 26

Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

2024-2025 Super App Release

Please share with business managers, federal program directors, and superintendents.

The LDOE will host the School System Planning Launch as part of the [Federal Support and Grantee Relations \(FSGR\) Monthly Call](#). During the launch, the Vision for Success: 2024-2025 School System Planning Guide and the Strategic Planning and Budget Workbook will be released.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions, and include “School System Planning” in the subject.

Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year Nomination and Application

Please share with award program coordinators and school system leaders.

The [public nominations portal](#) for the Outstanding School System Support Employee of the Year Award will close this **Friday, October 12**.

School systems will receive nomination information October 17. As a reminder, this information submitted by stakeholders serves as an extra layer of information for school systems to view/consider. However, systems are able to use their own processes to identify the candidates they’d like to participate in the state-level process. School systems that don’t have a process in place may opt to select their honorees from the nominations pool.

On October 19, the [Outstanding School System Support Employee of the Year Application](#) will open. At that time, all application materials will be available on the [Awards page](#).

School systems are encouraged to select up to three candidates, one per division (elementary, middle, and high) as their local-level honorees, and submit these selections to the state process. School systems without a formal selection process in place may elect to send their candidates directly to the state-level process. The deadline to submit school system-level applications is **November 30**.

The LDOE will host office hours to provide information about the timelines, application materials, processes and more October 25 at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, access the [Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year Overview](#); please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with questions.

Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

Innovative Assessments

Please share with testing coordinators

The first administration window for the ELA Innovative Assessment Program and the math testlets program will open October 23 and will close November 3 for districts who opted to participate in these assessments. Districts should test all students by the close of the window. Assessment schedules are past due to assessment@la.gov.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

National Apprenticeship Week

Please share with CTE leaders, secondary supervisors, school counselors, and high school administrators.

In celebration of National Apprenticeship Week (November 13-19), the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) will host the 2023 Virtual Apprenticeship Expo November 8, from 9-10:30 a.m. via Zoom. This event is free, but [student registration](#) is required.

Participants will receive information on apprenticeship programs, processes, benefits, and outcomes at this event. Through a series of interactive presentations from industry professionals as well as state and national workforce development administrations, students will:

- Discover alternative pathway to high-paying and high-demand jobs,
- Gain knowledge of soft skills necessary for workforce success, and
- Learn about Louisiana business and industry.

Please download the [informational flier](#) for more information; contact caronda.bean@la.gov for questions regarding registration or technical assistance for the expo.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews

Please share with content supervisors, literacy coaches, and school leaders.

The LDOE conducts reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly-rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [annotated reviews](#) web page. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [weekly report](#).

- Great Minds, PBC - Eureka Math Squared, Grades 6-7 (©2021)
- Kendall Hunt Publishing - OpenSciEd, Grade 6 (©2022)

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

New Teacher Survey Deadline Extended

Please share with all second-year teachers.

The LDOE is collecting feedback from early career educators to inform the support provided by the New Teacher Experience. The Department wants to ensure that it receives input from a large number of early educators, so the deadline has been extended. Please ask all second-year teachers to complete this brief [survey](#) by October 29.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

Professional Learning Partner Guide

Please share with CAOs, federal programs directors, professional learning and curriculum staff.

The LDOE will release a single, comprehensive, digital guide of its professional learning partners to school systems. Currently, the LDOE has produced over ten separate, static vendor guides for school systems to access as they choose the partners that best fit their needs. Based on feedback from partners and school systems, a dynamic Professional Learning Partner Guide (PLPG) has been created that will be more accessible and user-friendly for school system leaders. The PLPG will go live October 16 with the opening of the 2024-2025 School System Planning Process.

Please contact em.cooper@la.gov with questions.