



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Nov 15, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

We will release 2021-22 school and district performance scores Wednesday morning. These will be the first official performance scores since the 2018-19 school year. I just finished a briefing with system leaders about our statewide data, and look forward to sharing these with the general public Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Our newsletter will take a break next week as schools close for Thanksgiving. I want to wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving. I am thankful for you and the entire educational community in Louisiana.

Dr. Cade Brumley

In This Issue

- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Operations](#)
- [Assessments, Accountability and Analytics](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - [Academic Content](#)
- [Reminders](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Well-Being Community of Practice: [November 16 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: [November 17 at 10:00 a.m.](#)
- Young Children with Disabilities Community of Practice: [November 30 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Monthly Call [December 6 at 1:00 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [December 7 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [December 8 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [December 15 at 3 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Computer Science Education Week: December 5-9
- LSSSS Social Studies Webinar on High School U.S. History and Civics: [December 8 at 3:30 p.m.](#)

Operations

2022 National School Lunch Equipment Grant

Please share the following announcement with food nutrition supervisors.

The USDA has awarded Louisiana \$521,423, provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, and an additional funding amount of \$860,586 to be competitively awarded to school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to purchase equipment to improve the ability to serve healthier meals, support scratch cooking, improve food safety, store fresh food, upgrade equipment, and help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the School Breakfast Program (SBP).

Only those entities that participate in the NSLP will have access to online grant applications. Priority will be given to schools where the greatest percentage of enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Grant related information is located at [2022 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grants](#) and online applications will be accessible at the [Child Nutrition Programs Website](#). The application period will tentatively open December 1 and close on December 30, 2022. Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with any questions.

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

Office Hours

Please share with test coordinators and accountability contacts.

Office Hours for November 22 have been canceled. We wish for a very happy Thanksgiving to all of the school system testing and accountability staff that work tirelessly on behalf of students.

ACT

Please share with testing coordinators.

- November 15: Test administration webinar and Q & A session at 10:00 at this link: [Register](#)
- Now: Test dates should be selected in [PANext](#).

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

K-3 Literacy Screener for Gifted Referrals

Please share with testing coordinators and special education supervisors.

Due November 18: ACT 688 requires each school district to [report](#) the number of students who were referred for gifted evaluation as a result of literacy screening scores. The data captured will include the following for grades K-3:

- Number of students that have a gifted classification
- Number of students that do not have a gifted classification and have been referred for additional gifted screening
- Number of students that do not have a gifted classification and have been referred for gifted evaluation

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Monthly Call

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

The November monthly call has been canceled. We wish for a very happy Thanksgiving to all school system staff that work tirelessly on behalf of students. The next call is scheduled for December 15.

Please contact erica.spencer@la.gov with questions.

AP Exam Registration and Ordering

Please share with school counselors, administrators, and AP teachers.

As a reminder, November 15 at 10:59 p.m. is the final ordering deadline for all full-year and first semester AP courses and all exam-only sections. Exam orders submitted after this date will incur an additional \$40 per exam late order fee, with some exceptions. For details, go to [Ordering Exam Materials](#) and download the *2022-23 AP Coordinator's Manual, Part 1* from the [AP Coordinator Resource Library](#).

Please contact charmaine.cureton@la.gov with questions.

Introducing AP Pre-Calculus Webinar

Please share with school counselors, administrators, and AP teachers.

[Register](#) to join College Board on November 17 at 6 p.m. for an overview of the new AP Precalculus course, launching in the 2023-2024 school year. Learn more about the students who could benefit most from taking this course, the course content and skills, the free course resources, and why a school should consider offering this course.

Please contact charmaine.cureton@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Educational Technology: Cybersecurity

Please share with technology leaders and administrators.

As part of an ongoing effort to support school systems in [cybersecurity awareness](#), the Department will be hosting Dustin Glover from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Protection at our December EdTech Monthly call. We will be discussing cybersecurity grant information and planned cybersecurity support for school systems.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** December 8 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/575223228?pwd=NDNIN01SS3c0Rk4wV25aNkZhTEc2Zz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 301-715-8592
- **Meeting ID#:** 575 223 228
- **Passcode:** 2020-202!

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with any questions.

Instructional Support: Instructional Material Reviews

Please share with content supervisors and administrators.

The Department conducts ongoing 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](#) webpage. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [Weekly Report](#).

Publisher	Title and Grade Levels	Core Subject	Tiered Rating
McGraw Hill LLC	StudySync, Grades 6-8	ELA	Tier 1
Great Minds PBC	PhD Science, Grades K-2	Science	Tier 1

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies Webinars

Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-12 social studies teachers

The [2022 K-12 Student Standards for Social Studies](#) will be implemented in the 2023-2024 school year. The Department will host [webinars](#) throughout the 2022-2023 school year to support district leaders, school leaders, and teachers as they prepare for the transition.

Join the next 2022 LSSSS Social Studies Webinar at 3:30 p.m. on December 8, which will focus on **High School U.S. History and Civics**.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** December 8 at 3:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/99908161762?pwd=eHRDWdDLaEZpY0dQV2ZGUfYyV09ndz09>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID #:** 99908161762
- **Passcode:** 967543

Department staff will be present and available to answer questions during all sessions and will post recordings of all presentations on the [K-12 social studies resource page](#). Updated information on implementation of the 2022 LSSSS can be found in the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies FAQ](#).

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

OpenSciEd Elementary Science Pilot Coming Soon

Please share with academic officers, science supervisors, administrators, and K-5 science teachers.

As part of an effort to increase access and opportunity for students to engage with high-quality science instructional materials, the Department is seeking elementary educators to pilot [OpenSciEd](#) science materials for grades K-5. Participating teachers will have the opportunity to represent Louisiana and shape these open educational resources by co-designing or field testing units. Professional learning for round 1 of field testing will begin in the summer of 2023. Anyone interested in nominating an individual teacher or a cohort of teachers for participation in the pilot should complete this short [form](#).

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Nominations for the 2023 Presidential Awards for Mathematics and Science Teaching

Please share with academic officers, administrators, teachers, and parents.

[Nominations](#) are now open for the [2023 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching](#). This award is the highest and most prestigious honor bestowed by the United States government specifically for outstanding K-12 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teaching. This year's cycle will recognize teachers of grades 7-12. Nominations close on **January 9, 2023**.

Please contact info@paemst.org with questions.

Reminders

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

2022 School and District Performance Score Release

*The Department will release School and District Performance Scores on **November 16**. More details about the release will be provided directly to system leaders later this week. Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.*

ACT

Please share with test coordinators.

School systems should now begin requesting accommodations for ACT administration.

- *Identify examinees who may be eligible for accommodations and/or English learner (EL) supports and choose appropriate accommodations and/or supports. The [Accessibility Supports Guide for the ACT](#) provides descriptions and application examples.*
- *Request ACT-authorized accommodations and/or supports. Log in to success.act.org and select Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA).*
 - *If the examinee has not been previously approved for accommodations and/or supports, submit a request in TAA with all needed documentation. Collect the [Consent to Release Information](#) form and keep it on file at your school.*
 - *If the examinee was already approved for accommodations/supports for a previous test date, locate the request in TAA and associate it with your Spring State testing administration (see [Retesting with Accommodations](#)). Test materials will not be sent without completing this association.*
- *November 7: [PearsonAccess^{next}](#) opens for ACT Spring State testing.*
 - *November 7 – December 9: Select test dates and shipping dates, verify the shipping address, create accounts and invite users, and submit an [Address Change Request Form](#) if the address needs to be updated in [PearsonAccess^{next}](#).*
- *November 9: Receipt deadline for ACT to receive these documents. Late arriving documents will not be scored.*

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP 2025 Fall High School Administration

Please share with test coordinators and special education directors.

Policy requires that all accommodations for testing be completed at least 30 days prior to the opening of the state testing window. For accommodations that were not finalized by the deadline of October 30 for the test administration beginning on November 29, please complete the [Request for Late Accommodations](#) form posted to the assessment library. Requests by email will not be accepted.

December 5 is the deadline for LEAP Fall High School Window B, which opens on January 5, 2023.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Please share with district test coordinators and special education coordinators.

Due November 18: ACT 688 requires each school district to report the number of students that were referred for gifted evaluation as a result of literacy screening scores. The data captured will include the following for grades K-3:

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- number of students that do not have a gifted classification and have been referred for gifted evaluation

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

Please share with school and system leaders and educators.

The Division of Assessment Content is preparing to convene educator committees in January–March for the following assessments:

- LEAP Social Studies Grades 3–8 and Civics
- LEAP 2025 Science 3, 5–8
- LEAP Connect

Interested educators can access the [Assessment Content Educator Review Committees document](#) for committee details and links to apply. The deadline to complete the interest surveys is **November 20**.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

School Health Service Provider of the Year Nominations

Please share with system leaders, school administrators, related service coordinators, and nursing administrators.

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes and celebrates some of the state’s most exceptional school health providers through the [School Health Service Provider of the Year program](#).

Nominations are now open for any of the following school employees or contractors: **occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, nurses, and licensed behavioral health providers (LCSW/LMSW, LPC, psychologists)**. More information about the award can be found in the [overview document](#). Nominations close **November 15, 2022**.

Please contact elizabeth.duncan@la.gov with questions.

U.S. Presidential Scholar

Please share with school leaders.

The Louisiana Department of Education is pleased to announce the opening of [the nomination process](#) for the [U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](#) to honor our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors graduating between January and August, 2023.

Nomination letters are due to the Department by **4 p.m. on November 23**. School systems should submit nominations to jumpstart@la.gov using the subject line **US Presidential Scholar Program**. Submissions that do not include the completed parental release form will not be accepted. It is recommended that school systems review the [evaluation rubric](#) prior to nominating students.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

USDA Required School Lunch Match

Please share with all business managers and financial officials.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requires an annual match of state funds for the school lunch program. The Louisiana Department of Education is provided a total state match amount by the USDA each year that must be divided into individual school system match amounts.

A memorandum explaining the requirements and a FY2022-23 schedule containing the required match amount for each school system is available in the [MFP Library](#) under the USDA REQUIRED SCHOOL LUNCH MATCH section.

Please contact ldoemfphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Louisiana's Teacher/Principal and New Teacher of the Year Application Open

Please share with school and school system leaders.

The Teacher/Principal and New Teacher of the Year application process for the 2022-2023 school year is now open. All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers, three principals, and three new teachers (with less than one year teaching experience), 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.

All application materials and timelines are available in the [Awards Library](#) and on the [Awards Programs](#) page.

State-level applications must be submitted via the online application portal **by January 11, 2023**.

The Department will host informational Zoom calls to share details regarding this year's Teacher/Principal and New Teacher of the Year process. The dates and times of webinars are listed in the [Informational Webinars for Candidates and Stakeholders](#) document. Please contact the following email addresses with questions.

- Teacher and Principal of the Year excellenteducators@la.gov
- New Teacher of the Year laurie.carlton@la.gov

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Computer Science Education Week Visits: Deadline Extended

Please share with school leaders.

Several state leaders are interested in sharing a coding experience with students during Computer Science Education Week, December 5-9. If you would like a visit to your school, please complete the [School Leader Participation Form](#) by **November 13**.

Computer Science Education Week is a national event meant to introduce students, staff, and communities to the opportunities available through computer science and coding. For more information about Computer Science Education Week and free resources, visit the [Hour of Code](#) and [Code.Org](#) websites; contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-Making Tool Regional Training Sessions

Please share with special education directors, pupil appraisal supervisors, and English learner supervisors.

School systems are invited to select **three representatives** to attend a regional training session that will provide guidance on the implementation of the K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-Making Tool. Suggested attendees are pupil appraisal supervisors, IEP facilitators, SPED directors/supervisors, and English learner supervisors.

The same training will be repeated in five separate sessions throughout the state, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., on each of the following dates:

- November 28 in Alexandria
- November 29 in West Monroe
- November 30 in Mandeville
- December 1 in Crowley
- December 2 in Baton Rouge

Please [register](#) your three-person team to attend one of the sessions in your area. Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana’s Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) Center PD

Please share with special education directors, school leaders and educators

Louisiana’s [AEM](#) is offering several lunch and learn professional development opportunities for educators and leaders.

Differential Diagnosis and Remediation of Hearing Loss	November 10, 11:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.	Register
Swift Software	November 17, 11:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.	Register
Supporting Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired	December 1, 11:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.	Register
Implementing Hearing Aids, Cochlear Implants, and/or FM Systems	December 6, 11:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.	Register

Please contact robin@ssdla-aem.org with questions.

Partnerships for Success Guide

Please share with special education directors, supervisors, and principals.

The [Special Education Professional Development for Specialized Supports and Direct Service Providers Guide](#) has been recently updated and released. The guide provides school systems with a list of partners

that can provide professional development to build the capacity of educators to deliver specialized supports and organizations that can fulfill the direct service needs to support students with disabilities.

Please contact diverselearnerssupport@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

New Teacher Experience: Affinity Group Registration Now Open

Please share with new teachers.

The New Teacher Experience is a comprehensive support program for beginning educators designed to increase teacher effectiveness, enhance skills, and reduce attrition among beginning teachers. The Department is excited to announce that registration is now open for Affinity Groups.

Affinity Groups provide support for beginning teachers across Louisiana through bi-monthly virtual meetings. The goals of these groups include

- creating a pathway for novice teachers to experience socialization and collaboration with their peers;
- linking new teachers by a common purpose or interest (teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities, second grade teachers, etc.);
- ensuring an inclusive environment where new teachers are valued, included, and empowered to succeed;
- improving their craft through discussion, collaboration, and purposeful materials and leadership in each group;
- building new teachers' confidence in their abilities to instruct students and manage classrooms.

There is no cost to join affinity groups, but seats are limited. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis. Don't let your new teachers miss out on this great opportunity. Registration will close on **November 18** or once full.

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

New Teacher Experience: Professional Development Registration Now Open

Please share with new teachers.

Along with Affinity Groups, the New Teacher Experience includes Professional Development Modules. The Professional Development Modules are on topics that are critical for new teacher success. These five modules will begin with an asynchronous online component that new teachers complete independently followed by in-person professional development. Module one is on Classroom Management and Culture. The first in-person session will be offered at three different locations on the following dates:

- December 8 in Alexandria
- December 9 in Baton Rouge
- December 10 in Ruston

There is no registration fee for this great professional development opportunity, but seating is limited. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis. Registration will close on **November 18** or once full.

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

Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway Guidance Released

Please share with Pre-Educator Pathway system, school, and teacher leaders.

A compilation of guidance and resources for school systems developing access to the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway and other Grow Your Own strategies has been released. The Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway Guidance is intended to guide and assist Louisiana school systems in the development and expansion of their Grow Your Own strategies through the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway. The guide aims to serve as a centralized hub for effective strategies and resources for developing Pre-Educator coursework and experiences in your K-12 school or system.

The Guidance along with other previously released resources can be found in the [Pre-Educator Pathway Resource Library](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Teacher Survey **Please share with school system leaders, principals and teachers.**

The Department, in conjunction with the Region 14 Comprehensive Center, is providing the opportunity for **teachers** to complete a survey related to teacher recruitment, recovery, and retention. To date, over 6,300 teachers have described their experiences and perceptions and offered suggestions on issues related to teacher recruitment, recovery, and retention by completing the [Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Recovery Survey](#). The survey has been reopened; **teachers** are asked to complete the short [survey](#) by **November 11**.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

Principal's Webinar Series **Please share with principals and principal supervisors.**

Each month, the Department hosts a monthly webinar series for current school leaders and principal supervisors on best practices in school leadership aligned to the state's priorities. October's webinar highlighted best practices related to diverse learners. The presentation can be found in the [Principal Support Library](#).

In celebration of National Family Literacy Month, the next webinar will be held on **November 28** at 1 p.m. The webinar will feature effective literacy practices led by the Department's Literacy Division.

- **Webinar Date/Time:** November 28, 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 with questions.

Literacy **Steve Carter Literacy Tutoring Program** **Please share with school and system literacy leaders.**

In an effort to provide families with additional opportunities to advance their child's literacy development, the Louisiana Department of Education will launch a new literacy tutoring program for eligible public school students in grades K-5 in late November. For more information on this program, school leaders can access the [Steve Carter Literacy Tutoring Admin Letter](#) in the [Literacy Library](#) under [Instruction, Intervention, and Extensions](#).

Please contact holly.manson@la.gov with questions.