



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dec 13, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you're making the most of the final school days before the Christmas break. It's hard to believe we are already at this time of year.

Today we gave our [2022 Fall Reading Report presentation](#). As I shared with you last week, we recently released [statewide data from the reading screeners](#) given to K-3 students during the first 30 days of school. Along with the most recent data, the presentation includes an implementation timeline of our comprehensive literacy strategy and key supports currently in place for Louisiana educators.

Among these resources are FIRE and the LIFT kit. I encourage you to spend some time with each.

- [Foundational Instruction for Reading Excellence \(FIRE\)](#) lessons provide a systematic, explicit reading foundations program for all students in grades 3-5. Short daily lessons are intended to complement, not replace, the work of a high-quality knowledge-building curriculum.
- The [Literacy Interventions and Foundational Tools \(LIFT\) Kit](#) helps teachers pinpoint specific gaps in foundational skills for students in grades 3-12.

I've heard from many of you who have been listening to Sold A Story by Emily Hanford. Last week, I shared with you a [reading list compiled by Hanford](#) for those seeking to learn more beyond her podcast. Louisiana is among a number of states adopting laws that support the science of reading. This [article from one of Hanford's colleagues](#) includes how our state has been "held up as a national model" for how we review reading materials.

There is a clear movement taking place across our nation around how we teach kids to read, and Louisiana is at the forefront.

Have a great week,

Dr. Cade Brumley

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Local Authorizer Call: [December 14 at 11 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Business Manager Monthly Call: [December 14 at 2 p.m.](#)
- [Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call](#): December 15 at 10 a.m.
- [Career and College Readiness Monthly Call](#): [December 15 at 3 p.m.](#)
- [Assessment and Accountability Office Hours](#): December 20 at 3:45 p.m.
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [January 24, 2023 at 3 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [December 14 at 4 p.m.](#)
- *New Teacher of the Year* Informational Overview for Candidates: [December 14 at 4 p.m.](#)
- April Dunn Act Training: Creating Local April Dunn Act Procedures: [December 14 at 4:30 p.m.](#)
- Zearn [Contact Form update](#): December 16
- Registration for [New Teacher Experience Affinity Groups](#) closes: December 19
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [December 29 at 9 a.m.](#)
- High Cost Services Round 1 Application closes: December 30
- [Registration](#) closes for [New Teacher Experience PD Module 2](#): January 5, 2023
- [2023-2024 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application](#) closes: January 27, 2023
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [January 9, 2023 at 4 p.m.](#)
- K-12 Computer Science Education [listening sessions](#): January 9 – 18, 2023

Career and College Readiness

House Bill 548 - Digital Devices Guidelines

Please share with school system leaders, school administrators, and school staff.

The prevalence and use of digital devices (e.g. computers, laptops, tablets, chromebooks, smart devices, project screens, smartboards, and smartphones) by students and educators is an everyday component of the school day and our individual lives. As such, [guidelines](#) were developed in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health and other stakeholders as a result of [House Bill 548](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session.

These [guidelines](#) have been developed to provide school systems with health and safety resources relative to best practices for the effective integration of digital devices in public schools. The resources are not exhaustive but are intended to provide school systems with the age-appropriate time and usage guidelines regarding various digital devices.

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

LEAP 2025

Please share with test coordinators.

- December 16: Test voids due from LEAP fall high school Window A
- December 21: Coordinators can set up test sessions and print test tickets for LEAP fall high school Window B
- January 5: LEAP fall high school Window B opens

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Energy Grant Opportunity through the U.S. Department of Energy

Please share with school system leaders.

The U.S. Department of Energy recently announced first-of-its-kind investments to make clean energy improvements at K-12 public schools.

- Schools can now apply for the first round of the Renew America's Schools grant, up to \$80 million of the \$500 million program, to make energy improvements especially in the highest-need districts across the country.
- The Energy Champions Leading the Advancement of Sustainable Schools Prize (Energy CLASS Prize) program is also accepting applications for up to 25 local education agencies to receive \$100,000 to staff and train select administration and facilities personnel as energy managers.

For more information about these opportunities, please visit the [Grants for Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities](#) website; contact The.Secretery@hq.doe.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Tactile Communication Workshop

Please share with assistive technology supervisors, special education administrators and educators.

Louisiana Accessible Education Materials (AEM) will be hosting a workshop on the use of tactile symbols to support communication with students who are nonverbal. The session will cover designing and implementing tactile symbols in everyday curriculum and in all educational settings.

- Date and Time: January 20, 2023, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Workshop Location: AEM Center, 2888 Brightside Dr., Baton Rouge

Please [register online](#); contact nabiha.mujahid@la.gov with questions.

2022-2023 Annual Dyslexia Reporting

Please share with special education leaders and 504 coordinators.

Per Act 419 (2021), school systems are required to annually report the number of students with dyslexia currently enrolled in their system or the number of students newly identified with dyslexia in the prior school year (2021-2022).

Act 622 (2022) updated the annual reporting deadline [requirements](#) from October 31 to December 15. All school systems should submit the [dyslexia reporting form](#) by December 15.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Teacher Leader Lagniappe: New Episode Released

Please share with teachers, school leaders, and system leaders.

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) Season 2, Episode 10: Louisiana Is on the Rise with Superintendent Brumley

By popular demand, Dr. Brumley is back to chat about Louisiana's State priorities, assessments, and the 2022 NAEP results. Em Cooper is also super excited to smile about Northshore Charter School, Hurst Middle School, George Washington Carver High, DeSoto, Point Coupee, and West Feliciana Parishes for their speedy implementation of literacy resources.

Educators can [submit pictures and stories](#) to be highlighted on the podcast. Subscribe through [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Play](#), and [Spotify](#). Please email em.cooper@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Summer Literacy Support Policy Guidance

Please share with school and system leaders.

The [Guidance for Revisions to Bulletin 1566 Regarding Literacy Support Standard for Grades 3 and 4](#) is available on the [Literacy webpage](#) under Hot Topics. System and school leaders are encouraged to review the guidance, as well as the revisions to Bulletin 1566, to determine implementation next steps.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.