



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dec 20, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

By now, most school systems have either started or are on the eve of their winter break. I hope this time off allows you to pause and reflect on the progress we are beginning to see with Louisiana's children. The day-to-day nature of our work is challenging. It's important you understand just how far we've come together in 2022. Here are some of the highlights you made possible.

- [Louisiana's students and schools showed strong improvement on state assessments.](#) Mastery rates for students in grades 3-8 improved three points in both math and ELA, and 80 percent of Louisiana school systems improved their mastery rate when compared to 2020-21.
- [Louisiana's statewide school performance score returned to its pre-pandemic level.](#) Statewide, the majority of traditional public school systems improved their SPS since 2021 and many have exceeded their pre-pandemic SPS from 2019.
- [Louisiana's fourth graders led the country in reading growth on The Nation's Report Card.](#) This was not a 'jump for joy' moment because we still want to get better, but it shows our strategy for academic recovery and acceleration is working. To be ranked No. 1 in the nation for fourth grade reading growth is worthy of recognition.
- [Louisiana adopted the state's first accountability system for kindergarten through second grade.](#) This landmark action closed a glaring gap in our accountability system and embraced a fundamental shift in how we're teaching children to read. It should also focus additional resources to foundational elementary grades.
- [Louisiana approved new K-12 Student Standards for Social Studies.](#) These standards were informed by a year of public feedback, demonstrating why an engaged, informed citizenry is essential to protecting, sustaining, and improving upon our constitutional republic. This Freedom Framework represents the majesty of our country, while recognizing our quest to become a more perfect union.
- Louisiana made historic investments in early childhood care and education. Together with the legislature and BESE, we helped provide more families with quality options from birth to 4.
- Louisiana is elevating teacher voice. 2022 marked the third consecutive year Louisiana teachers received a pay raise. Statewide teaching vacancies were cut in half. We also launched [Louisiana's first Teacher Advisory Council.](#)

With the holidays coming up in the next two weeks, this is our final newsletter until January 10, 2023.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Canceled: December 27 Assessment and Accountability Office Hours
- School System Financial Services Business Manager Monthly Call: [January 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [January 24 at 3 p.m.](#)
- [Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: January 26 at 3 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [December 29 at 9 a.m.](#)
- SPED Camera Application closes: December 31
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [January 9 at 4 p.m.](#)
- K-12 Computer Science Education [listening sessions](#) January 9 – 18
- Teacher and Principal of the Year applications due: January 11 at midnight
- Deadline to identify students eligible for LEAP Connect: January 13
- Deadline to and finalize accommodations for students participating in LEAP Connect: January 13
- Deadline for 2022-2023 Round 1 high cost services application: extended to January 27
- [2023-2024 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application Closes](#): January 27

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

AP Data Posted to FTP

Please share with system/school leaders and testing coordinators.

AP data are now available on the district data manager ftp and will be posted publicly on the department website January 6, 2023. Data shared with school systems are embargoed until such time.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Personally Identifiable Information

Please share with school and system leaders, testing coordinators.

Please be reminded that state law does not permit school systems to send full PII to department staff except in cases of audits. School and school system staff should not send documents with full PII through email for any purpose.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ACT

Please share with test coordinators.

Due to issues with TAA, ACT is extending the deadline to submit accommodations for spring state testing from January 13 to January 2. Test coordinators should have received an email from ACT on December 15 regarding this extension. Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP 2025

Please share with test coordinators.

- December 21: Setup for test sessions and printing test tickets available for LEAP 2025 Fall High School Window B.
- January 5: Opening of LEAP 2025 Fall High School Window B. Not available to systems that participated in Window A.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP Connect

Please share with test coordinators and special education directors.

- January 13: Deadline to identify students eligible for LEAP Connect and to finalize accommodations for students participating in LEAP Connect.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ELPT

Please share with test coordinators and English learner district supervisors.

- January 5: Deadline to request exemptions for Listening and/or Speaking Domains. Students who do not have prior approval and who do not participate in testing will negatively affect the school and district performance score.
- January 13: Deadline for finalizing accommodations on IEPs or IAPs for EL students participating in LEAP Connect.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Home Study Report and Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval Enrollment Reports

The November Monthly Home Study Report is available via the Data Management FTP (with user names ending in @datamgmt) in zipped files named "LEACode_LEAName_HomeStudyReport_Nov22."

The data includes entries from November 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022, for both home study approvals and nonpublic schools not seeking state approval enrollment. Within the zipped file, there will be the following:

- Statewide enrollment numbers of BESE-approved home study students
- Statewide enrollment numbers of nonpublic schools not seeking state approval
- Detailed list of students from your LEA enrolled in home study program
- Detailed list of enrollment from your LEA enrolled in nonpublic schools not seeking state approval
- Each student's home study approval notification letter

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions related to this report.

School System Relations

Teacher and Principal of the Year Applications Due January 11

Please share with teachers and school leaders.

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers and three principals, one per division, as their local-level honorees and submit these selections to the state process.

- **Candidates** submit their applications in the [Candidate's Online Portal](#). Complete the [Online Portal Help Desk Form](#) with any submission problems. See [Candidate online portal guide](#) for more information.
- **Coordinators** submit the names/info of their school system level honorees (one for elementary, middle and high) in the [Coordinator's Online Portal](#). See [Coordinator online portal guide](#) for more information.

All application materials and timelines are available in the [Library](#) on the [Awards](#) page. Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Educator Development

Funding Available for Aspiring Educators to Attend Teacher Leader Summit

Please share with school, teacher, and system leaders.

Aspiring educators from across the state are invited to attend the 2023 Teacher Leader Summit in New Orleans. Funding is available for aspiring educators enrolled in the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway, involved in Educators Rising, or enrolled in a Post-Secondary Teacher Preparation Program to attend our statewide, professional development, networking event. System and Teacher Preparation leads may [request funding](#) to offset registration, lodging, and transportation costs by completing a funding request no later than **January 6, 2023**.

More information about aspiring educator registration and session sign-up will be made available following funding allocations in March 2023. Contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

2023 Educators Rising State Conference

Please share with school, teacher, and system leaders.

University of Louisiana (UL) at Lafayette will host students from middle schools, high schools, and colleges for the 2023 [Educators Rising Louisiana State Conference](#), **March 17, 2023**, from 8:15 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the UL Lafayette Student Union.

Events of the day include keynote speakers, lunch in the union dining hall, exhibitors, optional competitions, and breakout sessions with panels, presentations, posters, and interactive sessions for aspiring educators and those who support them.

Aspiring and current educators, school counselors, and leaders in middle school, high school, college, school system, and state departments are invited to submit proposals for conference presentations, interactive workshops, panels, and/or a poster showcase. All proposals should be submitted via the online [Proposal Submission Form](#) by **January 27, 2023**. [Conference Registration](#) and [Competition Registration](#) deadline is **March 3**. Please contact edrising@louisiana.edu with questions.

Literacy

READBowl

Please share with school leaders and teachers.

Pre-K – 8 schools are encouraged to sign up for the [READBowl](#), the free global reading competition in which pre-K – 8 teams from around the globe compete to read for the most minutes. The competition begins the day of the American College Football National Championship, the second Monday in January, and culminates with a live crowning of the World Champions of Reading on the morning of the National Football League's (NFL) Super Bowl Sunday. The top Louisiana school will get a special surprise. Rapides has already signed up schools!