

May 23, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

This time next week we will be wrapping up day one of the Teacher Leader Summit. I hope you made plans to join us in New Orleans. You can literally spend the week with educators from across the state! [Teacher Leader Summit](#) is May 30 to June 1 and our second annual [Early Childhood Conference](#) is June 2-3. Click on one of the links if you are still finalizing your plans or have questions.

Both events will provide educators with high quality professional learning opportunities. We have been strategic and intentional when selecting which sessions to include. I encourage you to be strategic and intentional not only in which sessions you choose to attend, but also in how you implement takeaways from next week. One of the ways you can do that is by following the high quality professional learning cycle highlighted in our [Professional Learning Roadmap](#).

1. **Define Purpose:** What problems or needs are priority for you to address in your work to improve student outcomes?
2. **Receive New Learning:** Attend sessions aligned to your identified purpose. Engage and participate by leaning in to the new learning.
3. **Internalize and Practice:** In the days and weeks following the conference, review and reflect on key takeaways and prioritize your work. Collaborate with colleagues on how key takeaways can be best implemented with your students.
4. **Implement Learning:** Apply these new lessons and takeaways in your work with students.
5. **Assess Impact:** Evaluate the impact on student performance by analyzing data and refining instructional strategies.

In addition to hundreds of high quality sessions, next week will also include opportunities to network with colleagues, recognize excellence across our state, and have some fun. I'm excited to celebrate the end of a successful school year, and look ahead at what's possible when we come together for Louisiana's children.

Dr. Jenna Chiasson
Deputy Superintendent

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- [Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: May 24 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Federal Fiscal Compliance Office Hours: [May 24 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [May 25 at 10 a.m. \(Rescheduled\)](#)
- Mentor and Resident Spring Data collection Call: [May 25 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Fiscal Compliance Office Hours: [May 30 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: May 30 (**Canceled**)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [June 6 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- [2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#): June 15
- Registration for [School Support Institutes 2023-2024](#) deadline: June 8

Operations

Consolidated Monitoring Schedule for SY 2022-2023 (Quarter 4)

Please share with superintendents, federal program directors, and special education supervisors.

The Louisiana Department of Education conducts annual monitoring of school systems to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. The LDOE released the [consolidated monitoring schedule for the 2022-2023 school year](#) to assist school systems in thoughtful planning and preparation for a scheduled monitoring event. This schedule is tentative, and the agency reserves the right to make adjustments as necessary. School systems severely impacted by a disaster and currently listed on the schedule are requested to contact DOE-program.monitoring@la.gov.

Quarterly updates will follow this newsletter announcement. The assigned statewide monitoring team leader will send a more detailed monitoring notification reminder, along with any necessary planning documents or instructions, directly to superintendents, federal program directors, and special education directors of each school system appearing on the [monitoring schedule](#).

Please contact DOE-program.monitoring@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) May 2023 Update

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Mid-Year Adjustments to MFP payments for charter schools for the Students with Disabilities and Gifted and Talented counts in FY 2022-2023 are complete and reflected in the May 2023 MFP Budget Letter. These adjustments are also identified in the supporting documentation posted in the [Minimum Foundation Program Library](#). Please contact ldoemphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Instructional Support: Instructional Material Reviews

Please share with content supervisors, administrators, and literacy coaches.

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](#).

- SpringBoard English Language Arts, Grades 7-8
- HMH Into Math, Grades K-2

The Department is reviewing currently posted Tier 1 and 2 ELA curricula which include foundational skills for [Act 517](#) compliance. Upon completion, a cover page is added to the posted review noting the impact of the review for compliance. The materials listed below have been reviewed for compliance and posted to the [Tiered Reviews](#) webpage.

- Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) 2nd Edition (©2017)
- EL Education, ELA Grades K-5 (©2017)
- EL Education, ELA Grades K-5 (©2017)
- Wonders, ELA Grades 3-5 (©2020)
- EL Education, ELA, Grades K-5 (©2019)
- myView Literacy, Grades K-2 (©2020)

The [Act 517 Compliance Reviews Status Report](#) lists the status of all Act 517 compliance reviews, including reviews that have been completed, are under review, and are ready for review. For any materials not reviewed for compliance under Act 517, the Department recommends that school systems engage in a [local review process](#) of the materials for compliance under Act 517 using the [Act 517 Three-Cueing System Ban Guidance](#) located on the [Literacy Instruction, Intervention, and Extension](#) webpage to ensure that teachers and students are utilizing high-quality instructional materials that are in compliance with Act 517.

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Social Studies Course Frameworks

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

[New Social Studies Course Frameworks](#) are available for grades K-8 and High School Civics. All units for grades K-8 and High School Civics will post prior to the Teacher Leader Summit. Units for high school U.S. History will post throughout the month of June.

The Course Frameworks are designed to help teachers implement the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies](#) by scoping and sequencing out content for the year, suggesting rigorous primary and secondary sources, and offering framing and supporting questions to guide instruction.

Social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-12 teachers should [submit suggestions or report any issues](#) they may have when accessing the Course Framework documents.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Social Studies Curriculum Development

Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-8 social studies teachers.

The first units for grades 4 and 5 of [Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum](#) will begin to post in June, and additional units for grades K-8 will be released throughout the 2023-2024 school year. Bayou Bridges is a complete curriculum that includes

- unit plans and daily lessons,
- student and teacher-facing materials,
- engaging primary sources,
- formative and summative assessments, and
- 100% alignment to the 2022 K-8 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies and the criteria on the 2022-2023 IMR Rubric.

For more information, including a closer look at the materials, unit progressions, and materials access, visit the new [Bayou Bridges page](#). Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Bayou Bridges Professional Learning

Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and 4-5 social studies teachers.

Professional learning modules to support the implementation of the new Bayou Bridges social studies curriculum in grades 4 and 5 will be available in the professional learning section of the [Bayou Bridges page](#) by June 30.

These asynchronous modules include a unit study tool to support initial curriculum implementation and support teachers in understanding the design and key features of Bayou Bridges.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

BESE Tuition Program for Teachers-Applications for Fall 2023 Open Now!

Please share with all full-time classroom teachers.

The BESE Tuition Program for Teachers provides tuition funding for selected classroom teachers to enroll in courses at regionally accredited colleges or universities in Louisiana. Online applications for coursework funding for the fall 2023 semester will close **June 2**.

Program details, as well as a link to the [application](#), can be found on the [Continuing Opportunities for Educators page](#). Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

End of Year Google Classroom Closeout

Please share with teachers, EdTech Supervisors, content supervisors and administrators.

It is essential that Google Classrooms are closed out at the end of the year. The most important action is archiving Google Classrooms to ensure students are unable to access them during the summer. Other helpful steps are to

- return all student work,
- organize Classroom folders,
- copy Classrooms for the following school year, and
- hide or delete the Classroom Calendar.

For more information, review the [End of Year Google Classroom Checklist](#).

Computer Science Education Feedback Opportunity

Please share with content supervisors, administrators, and computer science teachers.

Per [Louisiana Act 541](#) (2022), the Computer Science Education Advisory Commission has been collecting stakeholder input for the development of a statewide K-12 computer science education plan.

The Department is currently seeking additional [feedback](#) to inform further recommendations as the commission prepares to present recommendations to BESE. Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

LEAP Connect: Connecting Curriculum to Best Practice

Please share with district leaders, special education teachers, and related service providers of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

LASARD is hosting an in-person overview of multi-sensory approaches on reading, writing, and math for students with profound disabilities. [LEAP Connect: Connecting Curriculum to Best Practice](#) will take place June 6 from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in Baton Rouge.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov for more information.

Educator Development

Mentor and Resident Spring Data Collection Call Rescheduled

Please share with school system leaders.

The Department is collecting Mentor and resident data in Edlink from school systems for those residents and practitioners who began their residency in spring 2023. The overview call is rescheduled for **May 25** and will provide further details to school systems and preparation programs.

Webinar Date and Time: May 25, 2 - 3 p.m.

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

Webinar Phone Number: 470-381-2552

Meeting ID#: 345 504 8179

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Summer Learning Programs

Please share with school system level leaders and summer learning coordinators.

School systems who received funding through Achieve! and/or the Super App for [Summer Learning Programs](#) must identify their effectiveness through the completion of the [Summer Learning Program Survey](#). The survey is due **August 1** and must be submitted by one system level leader; school systems should only submit **one** survey. All questions may be viewed on the [survey document](#) before submitting.

School systems should complete the [2023 Summer Learning Program System Contact Form](#) to identify the system level coordinator/contact for summer learning programs to ensure they receive all communication. Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

Elevate Teacher Engagement through Upbeat

Please share with school system leaders and principals.

As part of the statewide recruitment and retention strategy, the Department is partnering with Upbeat, a company that provides a unique research-based employee survey and coaching service. This opportunity is available for **125 schools** for the 2023-2024 school year **at no cost**. Interested school and system leaders may find additional information on [Upbeat's landing page](#) for Louisiana.

School/System Leaders are asked to complete the [interest form](#) by **June 23**. To ensure a variety of representation from across the state, the Department will review inquiries from interested stakeholders and notify selected schools **mid-July**. Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.