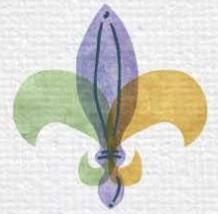




News for Louisiana



CHARTER SCHOOLS

November 10, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

This Thursday is Veterans Day, a moment for us all to honor and remember our U.S. Veterans and reflect on how our lives have been impacted by their service. Every Veterans Day, I am reminded of the countless educators in Louisiana who are not only serving our children today but who have also previously served their country through the military.

To our educators who have previously served -- thank you for your service and sacrifice. The gift you have given this country is one that can never be repaid. To our educators who have a spouse, family member, or child who is a Veteran or is in active duty-- thank you for supporting them as they serve our country.

Please join me in taking a moment this week to recognize the Veterans and active duty service members in your life. It is thanks to their courage and willingness to serve that we are able to live in a free, secure, and prosperous nation.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

In This Issue

- Important Dates for School Systems
- Operations
 - Federal Support and Grantee Relations
- Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics
- Career and College Readiness
- Teaching and Learning
 - Academic Content
 - Educator Development
 - Literacy
- Reminders

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	November 15 at 3:30 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	November 16 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	November 16 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	November 16 at 3:45
Data Coordinator Office Hours	November 18 at 1 p.m.
K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours	November 23 at 12 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	December 2 at 3 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	November 10 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	November 10 at 3 p.m.
CLSD UIN Communities of Practice	November 12 at 11 a.m.
Teaching and Learning Roundtable	November 12 at 11 a.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	November 15 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	November 16 at 3:45 p.m.

Nonpublic Monthly Call	November 17 at 2 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	November 18 at 9 a.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call**	November 18 at 10 a.m.
SPED Leader Monthly Call	November 18 at 2 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	November 18 at 3 p.m.
System Leaders Roundtable	November 19 at 9 a.m.
Preparation Providers Monthly Call	November 24 at 10 a.m.
Literacy Monthly Call	December 2 at 10 a.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	December 2 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	December 3 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	December 7 at 1 p.m.
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	December 8 at 1 p.m.

**Monthly call presentations are available in the [School Improvement Library](#). View the [School System Support Calendar](#) to access a complete schedule of events.*

***Achieve! Incentive Round 2 and Super App application office hours and Q&A will take place during this call.*

Upcoming Events

Event Title	Zoom Link
Early Literacy Commission	November 15
Pre-Educator Pathway Call	November 19

[School Plan Family Engagement Survey](#)

December 1

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

November is National Family Engagement Month

Please share with Parent and Family Engagement Coordinators.

Governor John Bel Edwards issued a [state proclamation](#) acknowledging November as Family Engagement Month in the State of Louisiana. This is a time to recognize and celebrate the important role of families in the education and well-being of their children. It is an opportunity for families, schools and the community to reflect upon how to promote and strengthen family engagement.

In celebration of Family Engagement Month, LDOE has launched the BE ENGAGED Initiative, which consists of a number of activities and initiatives to ignite and support family engagement.

LEAs can continue to promote Family Engagement during the month of November three ways:

1. Share the requested/provided [videos](#) on various platforms such as social media or school websites to encourage families to BE ENGAGED. Remember to get necessary permissions.
2. Promote "Tell Us Something Good" Share your story: Invite families to share an experience on social media or with a local newspaper about their child's teacher/school that highlights their welcoming attitude and enthusiasm in working with families to create a positive experience for students.
3. Post parent and family engagement pictures on social media/school websites and use the hashtag BE ENGAGED.

For more information about the BE ENGAGED Initiative please visit the website at www.louisianabelieves.com/beengaged or contact the State Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator, Dr. Antiqua Hunter at antiqua.hunter@la.gov.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

Interests and Opportunities Survey

- Principals and school system accountability contacts received notification regarding the 2021-2022 Interests and Opportunities Survey along with a unique access code.
- The survey will be open for completion and submission from November 15 through December 17
- The Interests and Opportunities Index, which is 5% of the school performance score, will not be hold-harmless in 2022.

ACT

- Previous ACT data sharing agreements expired, and all school systems need to submit an updated agreement as soon as possible.

LEAP 2025

- Additional materials requests are now being accepted in DRC INSIGHT for sites administering LEAP 2025 high school assessments during Window A: November 30-December 17
- LEAP 2025 high school testing schedules for Window A are due to assessment@la.gov.

Assessment and Accountability Office Hours

- November 23: Office Hours Cancelled

Career and College Readiness

Build Your Future's "I Built This!" Contest

Please share with school counselors, principals, and CTE supervisors.

Build Your Future is holding a nationwide video contest titled "I BUILT THIS!" This competition invites construction craft students and trainees to showcase their building projects. Requirements of the videos:

- Projects must be relevant to construction or maintenance.
- Proper safety practices are followed.
- Maximum of 3 minutes in length.
- Contains a speaking/voiceover element, including at least one student.
- Projects must be completed in 2021.

High school career and technical education students are eligible to [enter](#) this contest.

For more information, please contact troy.borne@la.gov.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Social Studies Standards Review Update

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

Louisiana's social studies standards are currently under review. The Department has extended the time frame for public comment. All stakeholders now have the opportunity to comment on individual standards using an online [Public Comment Form](#) until November 30. A [crosswalk](#) of the 2011 Louisiana studies standards and the 2021 draft Louisiana Social Studies Standards has been released and can be found in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#).

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast: Episode 16 Released

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You'll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the podcast and listen to the latest episode. .

Episode 16 Summary: I'm a Teacher First with 2022 State Principal of the Year Marco French

Marco French shares how he transformed his school in Caddo Parish from failing to award-winning, the moment he was selected as state principal of the year, and advice for principals. East Baton Rouge Parish School System is featured on the What's Making Me Smile segment with their data happy hour.

Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.

Share Your Stories: Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What's Making Me Smile segment.

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

Paraprofessional to Teacher Program

On Monday, November 1 the Department hosted a webinar for school systems and participants interested in enrolling in REACH University: a hybrid, virtual opportunity for paraprofessionals and other school based personnel to earn their Bachelor's Degree and teaching certification. In order for participants to apply to the program, school systems must have an MOU partnership in place with REACH University. This partnership comes at no cost to the school system.

For more information contact Blake Noel, bnoel@reach.edu, Dean of Students, at REACH University.

Pre-Educator Pathway

The next Pre-Educator Pathway statewide check-in will be held on **November 19**. All system leaders, school leaders, CTE coordinators, and college counselors connected to Grow Your Own work are encouraged to attend this check-in as we will discuss and share updates related to the pathway and continue to highlight best practices for establishing a strong regional Grow Your Own program.

- **Webinar Date/Time:** November 19, 12-1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>
- **Webinar Phone number:** 1-470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID:** 345 504 8179

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning Roundtable

The next Teaching and Learning Roundtable will be held **November 12**. This series focuses on key areas related to teaching and learning such as instruction and building educator capacity and is targeted for system-level leaders (e.g., assistant superintendents, CAOs) that lead academics, professional development, human resources, school leadership, and other teaching and learning teams. These roundtables will provide space for school system leaders to share and discuss:

- best practices aligned to key areas,
- the implementation of state strategies, and
- frequently asked questions and challenges.

When: Second Friday of each month

Time: 11 a.m.

Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98360496776?pwd=cDhPbHICNUVGOHNiaS9NYjl4RnlLUT09>

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

Literacy

National Family Literacy Month: Building Skills at Home

In honor of November being National Family Literacy Month, the Department is releasing a series of activities that families can do at home to build literacy skills. These one-page resources are organized by age groups and offer ideas for customized, fun, simple literacy activities. They can be found under Resources for Families in the [Literacy Library](#), but for extra convenience, the individual links are provided below. They will be translated into Louisiana students' native languages, so continue to check the Literacy Library for updated resources. Teachers and leaders are encouraged to share these resources with families by sending them home, informing families of the Literacy Library, or adding them to site-based family centers.

Building Literacy Skills at Home for:

- [Newborn to Infant](#)
- [Toddlers](#)
- [Preschool to Early Elementary](#)
- [Upper Elementary](#)
- [Middle and High School](#)

Please contact lisa.holliday@la.gov with questions.

CLSD Office Hours Postponed

The monthly office hours for CLSD CIR/UIR-A and UIN schools are postponed until January due to the upcoming holiday season. CLSD CIR-UIR-A Office Hours will resume on January 5, 2022 at 11 a.m., and CLSD UIN Office Hours will resume on January 7, 2022 at 11 a.m. The monthly CLSD UIN Communities of Practice will still occur on November 12, 2021 and December 10, 2021 at 11 a.m. and continue in 2022.

CLSD UIN Communities of Practice

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/93019040336>

Meeting ID: 930 1904 0336

Passcode: 7Pb3Dc

Please contact catasha.edwards@la.gov with questions.

Science of Reading Office Hours Update

The Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours will switch to bi-weekly beginning November 15, 2021. Teachers and school leaders are encouraged to join the conversation and ask questions about effective implementation and literacy best practices.

Zoom Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96153652200>

Meeting ID: 961 5365 2200

Passcode: literacy

Call-in #: 312-626-6799

Please contact sarah.stohlman@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- **Operations**
 - **Communications**
 - **Federal Support and Grantee Relations**
 - **Healthy Communities**
- **Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics**
- **Teaching and Learning**
 - **Academic Content**
 - **Assessment Content**
 - **Diverse Learners**
 - **Educator Development**

Operations

Communications

LDOE Organizational Chart Update

The Department has updated the [Meet the LDOE team](#) and [organizational chart](#) links in the Louisiana believes website. Please visit this portion of the website to learn more about the agency's leadership team and the agency's support structures.

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

School System Planning November Launch

In September LDOE released the [2022-2023 School System Planning Guide and associated planning materials](#) to support initial school system planning and submission of the Achieve! Incentive Planning Round 1 application. On November 1, LDOE hosted a School System Planning November Launch event to release updated versions of the school system planning materials to support the completion of the Achieve! Incentive Planning Round 2 application and Super App. The launch presentation deck and recording, as well as updated 2022-2023 planning resources, have been posted to the Department's [School Improvement Library](#). During November, December, and January, regularly scheduled team monthly calls will provide opportunities for school system leaders to learn more about specific sections, ask questions, and receive guidance.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions, and put School System Planning in the subject line.

Healthy Communities

Free In-Service Training for Educators

Please share with personnel involved in school health and/or wellness.

The Department has partnered with [Well-Ahead Louisiana](#) to provide in-service training for educators to support safe and healthy learning environments. Training topics focus on school wellness and range from *Physical Activity in the Classroom to Healthy Fundraisers, Celebrations, and Rewards*. Training topics can be adapted to address districts' unique needs. Complimentary, tailored follow-up support is available to support local implementation.

To request a training, fill out the [online training request form](#).

Please contact stephanie.jodeir@la.gov or stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Grants to States for School Emergency Management Program

Please share with personnel engaged in school safety.

LSU NCBRT/ACE and the Louisiana Department of Education offer free virtual training to K-12 schools in Louisiana through the [Grants to States for School Emergency Management \(GSEM\) Program](#).

Developing and Enhancing School EOPs Virtual Training (4 hours)

This 4-hour virtual training walks participants through FEMA's best practices for school emergency planning. Key concepts include the 6-step collaborative planning process, the whole community approach to emergency management, and the format and structure of a comprehensive all-hazard emergency operations plan (EOP).

[Register](#) for November 16, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Risk Assessment for K-12 Schools: Building a School Profile (4 hours)

This training explores how a school profile and risk assessment are used to direct the development and maintenance of a comprehensive school emergency operations plan (EOP). Attendees will identify and prioritize threats and hazards of concern to their school sites.

[Register](#) for November 17, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Emergency Operations Functional Planning for Schools (4 hours)

This virtual workshop introduces a process for addressing critical emergency functions within a school's emergency operations plan (EOP). Participants will define EOP functional annexes and identify emergency functions relevant to their schools. Additionally, participants will identify the roles, responsibilities, and courses of action required to perform a given function at their school site.

[Register](#) for November 18, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Please contact rlandry@ncbrt.lsu.edu with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

ACT and WorkKeys

- Graduation Class Profile Reports for Class of 2021 for districts and schools are available through ACT. Please contact renee.hartley@act.org to request a copy.
- ACT has provided a [What's New for the ACT Spring 2022](#) document on the [ACT State Testing](#) website. This general overview document covers any major changes that would impact states participating in the ACT.
- September 13, 2021- January 7, 2022: Submit initial requests for ACT approved accommodations in TAA
- October 6, 2021- April 29, 2022: Register students in Validus for the WorkKeys assessment during the online window.
- November 1- December 23: Select test and shipping dates and verify the district shipping address in [PANext](#) for ACT and WorkKeys.
- November 1- January 17: Upload student data in [PANext](#) for WorkKeys for paper testers.
- November 1- January 21: Verify student information, submit the Enroll and Unenroll Students file in [PANext](#) to ensure appropriate quantities of paper test materials are shipped for initial testing.
- See the Preparing for [State Testing FAQs](#)
- ACT Customer Care
Phone: 800.553.6244 ext. 2800 for standard time and ext.1788 for accommodations

LEAP 2025

- The next Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call will be Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 3:45 p.m. See information below to join:
 - **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
 - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
 - **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164

Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal Transition

In an effort to provide more impactful and integrated data analytics, the Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal will be transitioning into EdLink 360 later this school year. Secure accountability data currently available at louisianaschools.info will be integrated into the EdLink 360 system, providing accessible data and visualizations for school and district leaders.

- Users should set up their login credentials in EdLink no later than **December 1, 2021**.
- District data coordinators can assist users in setting up accounts within EdLink. Use [this guide](#) to assist in logging in to EdLink so you are ready to access secure accountability data when the transition occurs.
- Superintendents and district-level administrators should request District Administrator role, and Principals should request Principal role.
- Secure accountability data will populate in EdLink 360 by January, 2022.
- The Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal (louisianaschools.info) will remain available until accountability data transitions to EdLink. After the transition is completed, all data will be located in EdLink 360 and the Secure Portal will be discontinued.

For questions and troubleshooting issues related to EdLink, contact edlink360@la.gov.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

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.

Publisher	Title and Grade Levels	Core Subject	Tiered Rating
Curriculum Associates, LLC	Ready Classroom Mathematics Grades 6-8	Math	Tier I

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Assessment Content

LEAP 360 Interim Teacher Guides

The English I and English II interim teacher guides with student samples and annotations are now available in the [DRC INSIGHT Portal \(eDIRECT\)](#). The updated teacher guides for the grades 3-8 interims will be available by Friday, November 5.

Please contact Barbara.Holland@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

Public Comment on Alternate Connectors for English Learners

The [Alternate Louisiana Connectors for English Learners](#) (Alt EL Connectors) were developed for English Learners (ELs) with significant cognitive disabilities. They were adapted from CCSSO's English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards for ELs with Significant Cognitive Disabilities. They are consortium-wide standards, meaning they are in use in several states under other names. Thus, the standards cannot be edited or modified as a result of individual states' public review process. However, guidance will be state specific and will take into account suggestions taken from the review process and public comment.

LDOE welcomes your comments regarding the Alt EL Connectors. Comments may be submitted via this [survey](#) by November 30, 2021.

EL PD Vendor Guide

LDOE has released the [2021-2022 English Learner \(EL\) Professional Development Vendor Guide](#) to identify vendors who provide initial and ongoing training for EL programming and support. These vendors specialize in helping school systems with implementation and ongoing support to improve educational opportunities for ELs across all content areas and grades.

School systems should invest in professional development to develop the capacity of content teachers to make their content accessible to ELs of any proficiency level. Schools should consider their EL program, the amount of ELs enrolled, their EL proficiency levels, and the capacity of any EL specialists specifically working with them to then select professional development to meet the needs.

All questions should be directed to diverselearnersupport@la.gov.

ARP IDEA Funding Guidance

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) offers the first COVID-19 related targeted IDEA resources to address the challenges faced in ensuring services for children with disabilities during this pandemic. The purpose of the ARP IDEA funds is to provide districts with relief funds to address the impact COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools that are providing educational services and is intended to help school districts safely reopen schools, and with a focus on acceleration rather than remediation. These funds will be released to school systems in November, and LDOE has created [guidance](#) for systems to use when planning for these funds.

Questions should be directed to specialeducation@la.gov.

Educator Development

2020-2021 School Leader Evaluation Scores

Due to the federal waiver of SPS scores traditionally used for leader Student Learning Targets (SLTs), districts now have the following options for completing the student growth portion of 2020-2021 Leader SLTs.

1. If leaders did not use SPS scores as one of their SLTs they are not impacted by the federal waiver of the SPS scores and will enter evaluations as planned.
2. If leaders had one SLT that was based on SPS scores and one based on alternate measures, the alternate SLT should be duplicated for a final student growth score.
3. If districts used only SPS scores for SLTs, the observation score will comprise the sum total of the evaluation score as student growth scores are unavailable.

The leader evaluation upload window will be open from December 6th -December 22nd, 2021 in CIS. Please note that scores from 2021-2022 cannot be entered during that time.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Resident Funding Increase

The amount of funding school systems will receive for resident teachers is increasing from \$1,000 to **\$1,800**. This will go into effect this school year, 2021-2022.

Residents eligible for this funding are year-long undergraduate residents who hold a resident certificate by October 1, 2021 and are completing their residency in a public school. This increase is only for residents; the Mentor allocation will still be **\$1,000**.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Staffing and Scheduling Initiative

The [Staffing and Scheduling](#) guidance document has been updated to to include:

1. Guidance for hiring retired teachers
2. Sample language for IEPs to reinforce and support this best practice guidance
3. Refined guidance related to connecting acceleration and core instruction
4. Expanded options for creating time for acceleration in the schedule

The final round in the series of [staffing and scheduling supports](#) will continue this fall. Participants must register to attend.

Webinar	Date and Time	Link
Scheduling Q&A Session	November 10 at 1 p.m.	Registration Link
Job Alike Support Session for District Leaders	November 16 at 11 a.m.	Registration Link
Job Alike Support Session for Diverse Leader Learners	November 16 at 1 p.m.	Registration Link
Job Alike Support Session for Counselors and Counseling Leadership	November 18 at 11 a.m.	Registration Link
Job Alike Support Session for School Leaders	November 18 at 1 p.m.	Registration Link

Please email Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov with questions.

Acceleration Professional Development

This month's [Louisiana Acceleration Series](#) session is Maximizing Collaborative Structures to Support Acceleration. During this session, participants will unpack the role of the leadership team in supporting teachers to accelerate learning and will learn how administrators and teacher leaders can strengthen their capacity to support accelerated learning. The target audience for this session is school and district leadership teams.

The next session in the [Louisiana Acceleration Series](#) session is Planning for Accelerated Learning Options and Individualized Learning. This series will begin on November 10. During this session, participants will examine models for grouping students and plan for the incorporation of accelerated learning in core instruction, small group, and individual instruction. The target audience for this session is school and district leadership teams.

For a complete list of training dates and locations and to register, visit NIET.org. Educators can receive a certificate upon completion of each training.

Maximizing Collaborative Structures to Support Acceleration	
Session Date	Session Format
Tuesday, November 9	In person, New Orleans
Wednesday, November 10	Virtual
Thursday, November 11	Virtual
Planning for Accelerated Learning Options and Individualized Learning	
Wednesday, November 10	Virtual
Thursday, November 11	Virtual
Monday, November 15	Virtual
Tuesday, November 16	Virtual
Wednesday, November 17	In person, Shreveport
Thursday, November 18	Virtual

Monday, November 22	Virtual
Tuesday, November 23	Virtual

Please email Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov with questions.

Summer Learning Programs

Summer learning programs require year-round planning. During the months of November through December, school systems can utilize the checklist located in the [Summer Learning Program Guidance](#) to continue planning for their 2022 program. Some of the checklist items include:

- Release SLP dates to educators and families,
- Outreach for preliminary community support,
- Develop and distribute an interest survey for students,
- Develop a distribute an interest survey for staff, and
- Develop a needs assessment with stakeholder input. .

In Super App, school systems must provide a summer learning program that includes tutoring for all students at CIR and UIR-A schools next summer.

Questions can be emailed to Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov.

School Improvement Best Practices

The [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy is designed to support schools in adopting the essential components that drive professional and student growth and will continue during the 2022-2023 school year. LDOE has partnered with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) to develop, implement, and support five [School Improvement Best Practices](#). The five best practices are:

- instructional leadership team support,
- teacher collaboration support,
- teaching standards support,
- principal standards support, and
- career pipeline support.

All schools in Louisiana can [register](#) to attend this professional development [opportunity](#) to support implementation of these essential practices through training sessions during Summer 2022. Educators in all schools can benefit from these best practices, no matter what the current school performance might be. Through these practices, all educators and their students reap the awards of strong leadership practices, teacher collaboration, teaching standards, and career opportunities.

Educators may use this [link](#) to learn more about the [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy training sessions, what's new for Summer 2022, and the requirements for CIR and UIR-A schools.

School systems may apply for funds through their Achieve! application or use other funding sources for schools without an intervention label.

Please contact Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov with questions.

Save the Date

Teacher Leader Summit will take place from **May 31 - June 2, 2022** at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.