



News for Louisiana



# CHARTER SCHOOLS

**August 10, 2022**

Dear Colleagues,

After the impact of a global pandemic and two of the strongest hurricanes in our state's history, K-12 education is on the rise in Louisiana. Our 2021-22 LEAP scores show strong student growth. Students in grades 3-8 improved their mastery rates by three points in both math and ELA. Across our great state, 80 percent of school systems improved their mastery rate. You can find system and school results [on our website](#).

We're seeing this progress because we kept schools open, strategically allocated resources, and developed innovative solutions to recover and accelerate student learning. This progress is a true testament to the dedication of our educators to maintain high standards for students no matter the circumstance. We still have work to do before we've fully recovered from the impact of the last two years, but there's excitement among our teachers and leaders to close that gap and continue moving our students forward.

Improving student outcomes is our top priority as educators. Our top responsibility is student safety. Your commitment to keeping students and educators safe was on display during our first statewide school safety summit last Thursday. Around 800 educators, law enforcement, elected officials, and support professionals participated in this inaugural event. What struck me most was the diversity of professionals at the table. We had school and system leaders, local and state law enforcement, fire and rescue, EMTs, 911 operators, and mental health professionals. Everyone was eager to share their perspectives, learn from one another, and build relationships that will ultimately lead to safer schools and stronger school climates.

Whether it's school safety or academics, it's vital we remain intentional about continuously setting the bar higher. We must elevate our expectations and push for that next step in our Louisiana comeback.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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## Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	<a href="#">August 16 at 10 a.m.</a>
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	<a href="#">August 16 at 3 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Assessment and Accountability Office Hours</a>	<a href="#">August 16 at 3:45 p.m.</a>
Louisiana Models of Excellence Office Hours	<a href="#">August 17 at 9 a.m.</a>
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 11 at 9 a.m.</a>
Education Technology Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 11 at 9 a.m.</a>
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 11 at 1 p.m.</a>
School-Based Medicaid Provider Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 16 at 2:30 p.m.</a>
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 16 at 3:45 p.m.</a>
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 17 at 9:30 a.m.</a>
Nonpublic Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 17 at 2 p.m.</a>
Teaching and Learning Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 24 at 1 p.m.</a>
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 25 at 10 a.m.</a>
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	<a href="#">August 25 at 3 p.m.</a>
System Leaders Monthly Call	<a href="#">September 2 at 9 a.m.</a>
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	<a href="#">September 6 at 1 p.m.</a>
Alternative Education Leaders Monthly Call	<a href="#">September 7 at 10 a.m.</a>
<i>*Monthly call presentations are available in the <a href="#">School Improvement Library</a>. View the <a href="#">School System Support Calendar</a> to access a complete schedule of events.</i>	
Upcoming Events	
2022 SPED Leader Back-to-School Webinar	<a href="#">September 8 at 2 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">AEMing for Success Conference</a>	October 18-19

## Office of School Choice

### Charter Accountability

#### 2022 – 2023 School Year Material & Non-Material Amendment Submission Deadlines

Please share this reminder with school and system leaders, Charter Board Point of Contact, Charter Board President, and Primary Charter Contact for LDOE.

Material Amendment requests may be submitted at any time. Please note that material amendments that require BESE approval may take several months to process depending on the complexity of the request.

Material Amendments are considered at the School Innovation and Turnaround Committee (SIT) meetings and then ratified by the full BESE Board following approval or denial of the request. For an item to be considered at the SIT Committee in the months outlined below, it is imperative that items are received by the Charter Accountability team by the dates listed below.

Failure to submit items by the dates listed in the table below may result in delays in consideration and/or the inability to agendaize the material amendment request at the desired BESE meeting.

<b>BESE SIT Committee Meeting Dates</b>	<b>Material Amendment Requests &amp; Supporting Documentation Due to Charter Accountability Team</b>
October 11, 2022	August 8, 2022
December 13, 2022	October 17, 2022
January 17, 2023	November 7, 2022
March 7, 2023	January 16, 2023
April 18, 2023	February 20, 2023
June 13, 2023	April 17, 2023
August 22, 2023	June 26, 2023
October 10, 2023	August 14, 2023
December 12, 2023	October 16, 2023

## Important Dates & Submissions for Charter Schools and Leaders

### Important Upcoming Dates and Submissions

<p>Teacher and Principal of the Year Applications: Each school system is encouraged to submit up to three teachers and three principals to the state-level process (one elementary, middle and high).</p>	<p>Application window opens September 1st</p>	<p><a href="mailto:excellenteducators@la.gov">excellenteducators@la.gov</a></p>
<p>Pupil Progression Plans: The 2022-2023 Pupil Progression Plan (PPP) template is available in the <a href="#">School Policy Library</a>. The purpose of this document is to ensure schools are in accordance with applicable laws and regulations related to student placement and promotion and aligned with policy in Bulletin 1566.</p>	<p>September 9, 2022</p>	<p>Your board-approved PPP should be submitted to <a href="mailto:PPP@la.gov">PPP@la.gov</a> and <a href="mailto:charters@la.gov">charters@la.gov</a></p> <p>For additional support, please contact your school's Director of Charter Accountability</p>
<p>Compass System opens for the 2022-2023 School Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information for Teacher &amp; Leader evaluations</li> <li>• Set, Review, Accept SLTs</li> <li>• Conduct Observations and monitor observation progress</li> </ul>	<p>September 10, 2022</p>	<p>Location for Submittal: <a href="#">CIS</a></p> <p>Support Contact: <a href="mailto:compass@la.gov">compass@la.gov</a></p>
<p>Charter School Assurances: Comprehensive list of assurances aligned with charter school law and BESE policy</p>	<p>September 20, 2022</p>	<p>The Charter Board Chair shall submit the signed assurances document to <a href="mailto:charters@la.gov">charters@la.gov</a></p>
<p>Annual Financial Report: Each charter school must submit an Annual Financial Report (AFR) to the Department of Education no later than September 30 each year as required by 17:92. The AFR follows the same general format as the quarterly report, but contains additional line items and fund classifications. AFR instructions and forms are located on the LDE website at the following <a href="#">link</a>.</p>	<p>September 30, 2022</p>	<p>The completed AFR should be uploaded via the LEADS Portal</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact Satoiya Jones via e-mail <a href="mailto:Satoiya.Jones@la.gov">Satoiya.Jones@la.gov</a> or call 225-342-3775.</p>
<p>Annual Operating Budget: If the Annual Operating Budget submitted on July 31st has not been adopted in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act, a submission of the budget adopted is required.</p>	<p>September 30, 2022</p>	<p>This information should be submitted to <a href="mailto:charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov">charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov</a></p>

## Operations

### **FSGR August Monthly Call**

**Please share with federal program directors, IDEA supervisors and school system leaders.**

The Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call that is currently scheduled for August 18 is being moved to **August 25, 2022, at 10 a.m.**

**Date and Time:** August 25 at 10 a.m.

**Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95258128918?pwd=c3FQVy92bVAvNnJkVkhJRmJHOXM0Zz09>

**Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799

**Meeting ID:** 952 5812 8918

Please contact [LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov) with questions.

## Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

### **DCAI and ACT Data Certification**

**Please share with system accountability contacts.**

DCAI and ACT rosters will be available in Louisiana Data Review the week of August 8. All accountability contacts will receive login credentials via email prior to opening and should submit any requests for changes no later than August 31.

Please contact [jennifer.baird@la.gov](mailto:jennifer.baird@la.gov) with questions.

### **ACT**

**Please share with district test coordinators.**

ACT held an annual meeting with states during the CCSSO conference in June. Louisiana received one of three awards bestowed by ACT for the outstanding work of states. The department shares this award with all district test coordinators who worked diligently to administer ACT to all of the students in our care.

Thank you so much for everything you do, and congratulations!

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER: LEAP Student Reports**

**Please share with district test coordinators.**

LEAP individual student reports have not been and are not now embargoed. Schools and systems should make sure that all student reports have been sent as soon as possible. The department will refer all parents to the school systems for these reports.

Please contact [jennifer.baird@la.gov](mailto:jennifer.baird@la.gov) with questions.

## Teaching and Learning

### Diverse Learners

#### **2022 SPED Leader Back-to-School Webinar**

**Please share with special education directors/supervisors.**

The Department will be holding a back-to-school webinar to kick-off the 2022 - 2023 school year with important updates and helpful resources to assist school systems in supporting students with diverse needs. Information to attend the September 8 webinar is as follows:

**Date/Time:** September 8 at 2 p.m.

**Zoom:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96791988170>

**Phone:** 1-346-248-7799

**Meeting ID:** 967 9198 8170

Please contact [diverselearnersupport@la.gov](mailto:diverselearnersupport@la.gov) with questions.

#### **AEMing for Success Conference, October 18-19**

**Please share with special education leaders, assistive technology contacts and educators.**

Louisiana Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) is hosting its [4th annual conference](#) at Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge, on October 18-19 for educators working with students with exceptionalities. The conference provides an opportunity to deepen your assistive technology knowledge and strengthen your implementation strategies. Visit the [conference website](#) for the agenda, registration information and conference details.

Please contact [robin.king@la.gov](mailto:robin.king@la.gov) for details.

### Educator Development

#### **2022-2023 Mentor Waiver Application Now Open**

**Please share with school and system leaders.**

At the April BESE meeting, the Board approved a waiver for the Mentor policy for the 2022-2023 school year. Mentor teacher waivers will be granted on a case-by-case basis through the application process established by the LDOE and at no fee to the applicant, school system, or teacher preparation provider.

The 2022-2023 Mentor Waiver [Application](#) is now open.

Mentor Waiver Applications must be created by the system leader responsible for resident placement and/or Mentor recruitment and support. Mentor waivers should be in place prior to **October 1**.

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.



## **New Teacher Experience Pilot**

**Please share with school leaders and system leaders.**

The following school systems were selected to participate in the [New Teacher Experience Pilot](#). Athlos Academy, Assumption Parish, Bogalusa City School District, Caddo Parish, Calcasieu Parish, Catahoula Parish, Charter Schools USA, Delhi Charter, Dennis Mills Learning Academy, V. B. Glencoe Charter School, Grant Parish, Inspire NOLA, Jackson Parish, Livingston Parish, Pointe Coupee Parish, Richland Parish, St. Landry Parish, and Webster Parish.

Aligned to research on retaining new teachers, the New Teacher Experience (NTE) Pilot will provide school systems strategies for new teacher induction to foster a community of practices and create conditions for effective teaching and learning. In addition, the pilot will support the direct work of principals, mentors, and colleagues with new teachers. Participating school systems will implement best practices throughout the year and work with the LDOE in fine tuning the New Teacher Experience.

These school systems will either develop a support program for new teachers or enhance a current induction program to include additional best practices. New teachers will participate in:

- Affinity groups.
- Professional development modules.
- Mentoring.

Participating systems will be provided funding to support the NTE. Funding may be used for:

- Stipends for Mentors supporting new teachers.
- Funding for Mentor training and credentialing.
- Travel costs for attending in-person trainings.
- Completion stipends for participating new teachers.

Please contact [aurie.carlton@la.gov](mailto:aurie.carlton@la.gov) with questions.

## **REAL**

**Please share with REAL program contacts and federal programs coordinators.**

The [REAL](#) fall cycle dates are September 16 - December 2, 2022. Fall allocations will be added in eGMS pending BESE approval at the August BESE meeting. More information will be provided during the Teaching and Learning monthly call on August 24, 2022 at 1 p.m. As a reminder for the REAL summer cycle, PERs should have been submitted on July 1 and will also need to be submitted on August 22. The August 22 PER should be marked as final.

**Webinar Date and Time:** August 24 at 1 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97396335186?pwd=bVpGd0pUcW9kMGRET2F4WjgyQzI0QT09>

**Meeting ID:** 973 9633 5186

**Passcode:** 342325

Please contact [holly.manson@la.gov](mailto:holly.manson@la.gov) with questions.

## **Summer Learning Program Survey**

Please share with summer learning program coordinators.

The 2022 Summer Learning Program [Survey](#) is due **August 26, 2022** and should be completed for systems who offered a 2022 Summer Learning Program and/or if Achieve or Super App funding was used. The survey is to collect information about school systems' implementation of summer learning programs.

The [survey](#) should be completed by one system-level leader; systems should submit only one survey. The [survey document](#) allows you to view all survey questions before submitting.

Please contact [keisha.thomas2@la.gov](mailto:keisha.thomas2@la.gov) with questions.

## **Literacy**

### **Foundational Skills Lessons for Grades 3-5**

Please share with ELA teachers and school literacy leaders.

The first units of a new resource developed by knowledgeable Teacher Leader Advisors, Foundational Instruction for Reading Excellence (FIRE) lessons for grades 3-5, have been posted in the [Literacy Library](#). FIRE is an instructional resource designed to support teachers in providing students advanced reading foundational skills in grades 3-5. Each unit consists of 40 quick lessons and brief student activities focused on either spelling, grammar, or morphology - skills that are essential for proficient reading and writing. Lessons can be taught concurrently with any other ELA knowledge-building curriculum as part of whole-group core instruction. There are three units per grade level. Two more units will be released in the fall.

- [Grade 3 Unit 1 - Teacher's Guide](#)
- [Grade 3 Unit 1 - Student Activity Book](#)
- [Grade 4 Unit 1 - Teacher's Guide](#)
- [Grade 4 Unit 1 - Student Activity Book](#)
- [Grade 5 Unit 1 - Teacher's Guide](#)
- [Grade 5 Unit 1 - Student Activity Book](#)

Please contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) with questions

## Reminders

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## ***Operations***

### **2022–23 Louisiana Comeback 2.0: Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan**

**Please share with school system leaders and federal program directors.**

During the School System Leaders Monthly Call this past Friday, August 5, the Department launched Louisiana Comeback 2.0, the statewide campaign to continue planning for the improvements students need and deserve. The call included information about making necessary investments in these key areas:

1. Attendance and Well-Being
2. Recovery and Acceleration
3. Professional Development and Learning

Following the launch, the Department will host the following office hours:

- **Office Hours, Option 3:** Aug 10 at 11 a.m.
- **Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96570977774?pwd=Mm9VeEV4eIVZR0h6NzZ6cm0yNIY0UT09>
- **Meeting ID:** 965 7097 7774
- **Phone Number:** 470-250-9358

Along with the tremendous efforts underway to start the 2022- 20223 school year, please make room for data disaggregation and thoughtful planning in response. We are making a Louisiana Comeback.

### **Certification of Critical Shortage Areas**

**Please share with school system leaders.**

Critical shortage areas must be certified to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) and to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) using [Form 15-CS](#). Return completed forms to BESE by emailing [abigail.petit@la.gov](mailto:abigail.petit@la.gov) and to TRSL by emailing [web.master@trsl.org](mailto:web.master@trsl.org) or via postal service. [Further information](#) is available within the TRSL Procedures Manual.

Please contact [educationpolicy@la.gov](mailto:educationpolicy@la.gov) with questions.

## ***Assessments, Accountability and Analytics***

### **LEAP 2025 Summary Data Release**

**Please share this information with school and system leaders and test coordinators.**

On August 3, the Department released statewide, school system, and school-level LEAP 2025 data to the public.

- **August 2:** System leaders received **embargoed** statewide results via email from Assistant Superintendent Lambert.
- **August 3:** School system and school-level unsuppressed summary files became available on the secure FTP.

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with questions about these data.

### **LEAP 2025 Post-Window File Update**

**Please share this information with district test coordinators.**

The post-window data files for the LEAP 2025 spring high school administration now have updated demographic data for students. These files can be accessed in DRC INSIGHT by selecting My Applications/Report Delivery/Pregenerated (Summative)/LEAP 2025 High School Spring 2022.

### **Cohort Graduation Rosters**

**Please share this information with accountability contacts and school leaders.**

Post-data certification cohort graduation rosters are now available on the ftp. The rosters include approved changes requested in the data certification process and are final.

### **ACT and WorkKeys**

**Please share this information with school and district test coordinators.**

- 2022-2023 ACT Estimation Worksheets, MOUs and Information Sheet are now posted in the [Assessment Library](#) under the ACT and WorkKeys section. Signed MOUs are due by September 23rd.
- ACT issued a recommendation that schools do not include ACT scores on school transcripts in effort to avoid student privacy concerns or inconsistent score report data. Students can send scores to colleges from their MyACT account which is accessed at [myact.org](http://myact.org).

### **Updating Contact Information**

**Please share this information with school system leaders, district test coordinators and accountability contacts.**

The District Test Coordinator and Accountability Contact Update form is located in the [Assessment Library](#) under *Resources + Forms*. Please update any changes to these contacts and send an email with the updates to [patricia.newman@la.gov](mailto:patricia.newman@la.gov) or [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).

## **KEA and K-3 Screening**

**Please share this information with early grade coordinators and test coordinators.**

The department will host a KEA and K-3 Administration and Reporting webinar on August 10, 2022 to provide guidance for schools that must administer kindergarten readiness screenings and K3 Literacy screening the first 30 days of school as required by state law and BESE policy. The webinar will also provide information about reporting due on October 31. Please see information below to join this webinar.

### **KEA and K-3 Administration and Reporting Webinar**

**Webinar Date and Time:** August 10 at 2:30 p.m.

**Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92548541404>

**Webinar Phone Number:** +1 470 381 2552 or +1 312 626 6799

**Meeting ID#:** 925 4854 1404

## **PAST DUE: Course Requirements for Interests and Opportunities**

**Please share this information with system leaders and accountability contacts.**

To better measure the interests nurtured and opportunities provided by our schools, the Department has identified minimum requirements for non-Carnegie credit courses to receive credit in the Interests & Opportunities index. This sets clear minimum expectations and ensures substantial exposure to these enriching experiences. For accountability scores, this course information will come from the different collections outlined in the Interests and Opportunities guidance published in June 2022. Starting in the 2022-2023 school year, all non-Carnegie credit courses will be required to meet the parameters set below.

- Meet the requirements for awarding a Carnegie Unit; or
- Meet the following requirements for non-Carnegie Unit bearing courses:
- Be part of the normal school schedule and included on the master schedule so instructional minutes are documented and preserved.
- Courses should meet for at least 60 minutes each week over the course of an entire school year.
- Courses include graded course work and are content-rich in design.
- Courses are well-articulated and demonstrate a natural progression of learning over the years studied (i.e., students should not learn the same material from year to year).

Schools and school systems should follow these requirements when reporting arts, world languages and STEM courses for the Interests and Opportunities Index. Please return a copy of the [Interests and Opportunities Course Requirements Superintendent Verification Form](#) with a signature from the superintendent to [accountability@la.gov](mailto:accountability@la.gov) as soon as possible.

## ***Career and College Readiness***

### **Louisiana School Safety Summit Update**

**Please share with system leaders, safety/emergency preparedness personnel, school leaders, and mental health providers.**

This past Thursday, August 4, Louisiana's school system leaders, law enforcement officers, mental health providers, and emergency preparedness personnel came together at the [Louisiana School Safety Summit](#) in Baton Rouge. Registered attendees had the opportunity to hear from our keynote speaker [Sean Burke](#), President of the School Safety Advocacy Council.

Please contact [healthyschools@la.gov](mailto:healthyschools@la.gov) with questions.

### **Fast Forward Pathway Library**

**Please share with secondary supervisors, principals, counselors, and testing coordinators.**

The approved [Fast Forward Pathways](#), outlined by region, are now available in the [Fast Forward Library](#). These pathways prepare students for current and emerging professions that expose students to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand jobs. High School students participating in a Fast Forward Pathway will graduate high school with college credit (academic and/or technical), a postsecondary credential of value or both.

Please contact [stephanie.marcum@la.gov](mailto:stephanie.marcum@la.gov) with questions.

### **U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Opportunity**

**Please share with social studies supervisors, secondary administrators, counselors and student council advisors.**

The Louisiana Department of Education and the [William Randolph Hearst Foundation](#) are pleased to announce the launch of the 2023 United States Senate Youth Program. The Department requests your assistance selecting these students.

Please encourage juniors or seniors who hold elected or appointed offices in school or community groups listed in the [national program brochure](#) to submit a Louisiana [application packet](#).

The names of the students selected by each high school and their application portfolios should be e-mailed to the program coordinator, Marian Johnson, at [marian.johnson@la.gov](mailto:marian.johnson@la.gov) no later than October 4, 2022.

Please contact [marian.johnson@la.gov](mailto:marian.johnson@la.gov) with questions.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean School Bus Program**  
**Please share with system leaders and transportation supervisors.**

With funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, EPA's new [Clean School Bus Program](#) provides \$5 billion over the next five years (FY 2022-2026) to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and low-emission models.

EPA is offering \$500 million through the [2022 Clean School Bus Rebates](#) for zero-emission and low-emission school bus rebates as the first funding opportunity.

Please contact [michael.comeaux@la.gov](mailto:michael.comeaux@la.gov) with questions.



## ***School System Relations***

### **Department Names the 2023 State-Level Winners for Awards Programs**

Please share with teachers, school and school system leaders.

On July 30, the Department — in partnership with [Dream Teachers](#) — celebrated excellence in education at the *16th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Awards Gala*, which was held at the World War II Museum in New Orleans. During the event, the Department introduced the [2023 State Elementary, Middle and High School Teacher and Principal of the Year winners](#), the [2023 New Teacher of the Year](#), the [2023 Early Childhood Leader of the Year](#) and the [2023 Early Childhood Teacher of the Year](#).

In addition, the [New Teacher of the Year Finalists](#), [Early Childhood Teacher and Leader Finalists](#), [Milken Educator Award](#) recipients, Louisiana's [Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching](#) honorees, and the [Teacher and Principal of the Year Semifinalists and Finalists](#) were honored.

Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

Please contact [excellenteducators@la.gov](mailto:excellenteducators@la.gov) with questions.

### **Seeking Nominations for Louisiana Models of Excellence**

Please share with school system leaders.

The [Louisiana Models of Excellence](#) initiative was created in an effort to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight schools and school systems serving as exemplary models for implementing the Department's [Believe to Achieve](#) educational priorities that leads to the advancement of student success. This initiative has three main goals.

- To celebrate excellence in Louisiana schools
- To share stories of success and provide models for others to see
- To create high-impact partnerships across school system

The Department is now accepting nominations for the 2022-2023 Louisiana Models of Excellence. School systems may submit nominations for a school or a system-wide initiative through the [online portal](#). To learn more about the Louisiana Models of Excellence program and nomination process, school systems are invited to review the 2022-2023 [Louisiana Models of Excellence Overview](#) document. For school systems with further questions, you may join the Office Hour below:

- [Wednesday, August 17 at 9 a.m.](#)

Nominations are accepted on an ongoing basis; however, nominations need to be submitted by **February 1, 2023** to be considered for the 2022-2023 school year.

Please contact [modelsofexcellence@la.gov](mailto:modelsofexcellence@la.gov) with questions.

## **Calling Louisiana's Excellent Educators**

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

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. The educators that have been previously recognized as a state-level semifinalist, finalist, division-level, or overall winner for Louisiana Teacher or Principal of the Year along with those named Milken Award recipients and Louisiana Exemplary Educators exemplify Louisiana's education profession and commitment to student success. As such, these educators are considered a valuable member of the Louisiana Excellent Educator cohort and may be called upon to share expertise in various capacities.

In order to ensure the Department has the most recent information for all past state-level honorees for Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year, Milken Award recipients and Louisiana Exemplary Educators, please ask them to visit the [Excellent Educator Portal](#) and complete the form. The portal will be open on **August 1, 2022-October 1, 2022**.

Please contact [exemplaryeducator@la.gov](mailto:exemplaryeducator@la.gov) with questions.

## ***Teaching and Learning***

### **Educator Development**

#### **Mentor and Resident Funding**

**Please share with system leaders.**

During the most recent legislative session, funding for Mentor teachers was approved as part of the MFP budget. Mentors will now receive a \$2000 stipend. Please attend one of the following webinars to learn more about the data collection process for Mentor and resident funding for the 2022-2023 school year:

**Date and Time:** August 17 at 11 a.m. or August 22 at 1 p.m.

**Zoom:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>

**Phone:** 1-346-248-7799

**Meeting ID:** 345 504 8179

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

#### **New Teacher Experience Kick Off**

**Please share with system and school leaders.**

On July 25, the Department hosted the first New Teacher Experience [kick-off](#), welcoming new teachers from across the state. Over 100 new teachers from over twenty-nine school systems participated in a day filled with professional development sessions and networking. New teachers were welcomed into the profession and celebrated at this day long event.

The Department will offer affinity groups and professional development modules for new teachers beginning in Fall 2022. More information about these new teacher supports is available on the New Teacher Experience [webpage](#).

Please contact [laurie.carlton@la.gov](mailto:laurie.carlton@la.gov) for additional information.

#### **Compass Information System (CIS) Updates**

**Please share with systems leaders, school leaders, human resource directors, and data directors.**

VAM data will be released in October for the 2021-2022 school year. The release date for VAM data is later than in the past due to the later testing dates. Systems are encouraged to meet with staff to review observation and Student Learning Target (SLT) data and provide feedback prior to the release of VAM data in order to begin goal setting for the 2022-2023 school year.

The [Compass Information System \(CIS\)](#) will be open for the 2022-2023 school year following the release of VAM in October. Rosters may be updated once the system is opened for 2022-2023. Systems are encouraged to begin setting [Student Learning Targets \(SLTs\)](#) and completing observations following completion of rater reliability training which will be released later this month in the [Compass Library](#). Scores may be collected and entered into the system after rosters are complete.

Resources for [goal setting](#) and [updating rosters](#) are located in the [Compass Library](#).

Please contact [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov) with questions.

## **K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Office Hours**

**Please share with systems leaders and school leaders.**

Systems currently participating or interested in participating in the K-2 Learning Year: Phase I may join upcoming Office Hours for more information. Upcoming topics include:

### K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Logistics and Content

- Meeting Date and Time: August 10 at 12 p.m.
- Meeting Link:  
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/98569851139?pwd=b0VGdTlvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- Meeting ID#: 985 6985 1139
- Meeting Passcode: 578203

### CLASS Crosswalk and NIET Teaching and Learning Standards Rubric Breakouts

- Meeting Date and Time: September 7 at 12 p.m.
- Meeting Link:  
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/98569851139?pwd=b0VGdTlvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- Meeting ID#: 985 6985 1139
- Meeting Passcode: 578203

### K-2 Portal and Q&A

- Meeting Date and Time: September 21 at 12 p.m.
- Meeting Link:  
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/98569851139?pwd=b0VGdTlvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- Meeting ID#: 985 6985 1139
- Meeting Passcode: 578203

Please contact [lori.pennison@la.gov](mailto:lori.pennison@la.gov) with questions.

## **K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Teacher Webinar**

**Please share with systems leaders and school leaders.**

The Office of Teaching and Learning will host a webinar for teachers participating in the K-2 Learning Year: Phase I. A representative from the University of Lafayette Picard Center will talk about the purpose, processes, and protocols regarding third-party observations.

- Date and Time: September 1 at 4 p.m.
- Link: <https://doe.zoom.us/j/99423703660?pwd=M2x3Zm90bHI1K3lXdmdSM3VHV3pMdz09>
- Meeting ID#: 994 2370 3660
- Meeting Passcode: 638154

Please contact [lori.pennison@la.gov](mailto:lori.pennison@la.gov) with questions.

## **Continuous Learning Toolkit**

**Please share with system leaders.**

Continuous learning should be provided to limit unfinished learning while maintaining access to instructional programming during modified operations. To be prepared for the upcoming school year, the toolkit includes a framework for systems in developing a continuous learning plan.

The Department has released the [Continuous Learning Toolkit](#) to support systems in developing a continuous learning plan for when school closures may occur that require modified operations on a short-, medium-, or long-term basis.

The [continuous learning webinar](#) provides additional information on developing continuous learning plans.

Please contact [keisha.thomas2@la.gov](mailto:keisha.thomas2@la.gov) with questions.

## **New Podcast Episode Released: “Leading the Review with Eric Hirsch”**

**Please share with school and system leaders.**

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) is the podcast that offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. In [Season 2, Episode 3](#), Founding Executive of EdReports, Eric Hirsch, discusses the instructional review process, the curriculum landscape across our country, and why educators should implement high-quality materials into their teachings. Concordia Parish is highlighted for their summer learning program activities.

**Share Your Stories:** Submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for the What’s Making Me Smile segment.

Please contact [em.cooper@la.gov](mailto:em.cooper@la.gov) with questions.