



News for Louisiana



CHARTER SCHOOLS

January 12, 2022

In This Issue

- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Operations](#)
 - Healthy Communities
- [Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [School System Financial Services](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - Academic Content
 - Diverse Learners Supports
 - Educator Development
- [Reminders](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Data Coordinator Office Hours	January 13 at 1 p.m.
April Dunn Act Office Hours	January 13 at 4:30 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	January 18 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	January 18 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	January 18 at 3:45 p.m.
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	January 24 at 3:30 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	February 3 at 3 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	January 18 at 3:45 p.m.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	January 19 at 9:30 a.m.
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	January 19 at 11 a.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	January 19 at 2 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call**	January 20 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	January 20 at 3 p.m.

Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	January 24 at 10 a.m.
Teaching and Learning Monthly Call	January 26 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	January 27 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	February 1 at 1 p.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	February 3 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	February 4 at 9 a.m.
<p><i>*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library. View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.</i></p> <p><i>**Achieve! Incentive Round 2 and Super App application office hours and Q&A will take place during this call.</i></p>	
Upcoming Deadlines	
Vacancy Survey Due	January 21
New Teacher of the Year Application Due	February 18

Operations

Healthy Communities

School Health Survey

Please share with Physical Education/Health or Wellness staff and/or staff that oversee Bullying and Suicide prevention programs.

As required by state law, the Louisiana Department of Education monitors and evaluates health, recess, physical activity, and employee training in schools to provide an annual report to the Louisiana Legislature.

Participation is critical to providing accurate, high-quality data to the Senate and House Committees on Health and Welfare.

Each school should complete the [survey](#) by or before **January 28**.

Although information may be collected from staff that oversee Physical Education/Health, Bullying and Suicide prevention, only one survey should be submitted per school.

Please contact michael.comeaux@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

LEAP Connect

- January 14: Final identification for LEAP Connect eligibility
- January 14: Test coordinator and administrator manuals available
- January 18: Test setup opens in DRC INSIGHT
- January 27: Test materials delivered to school systems

ELPT

- Send requests to transfer students from one school system to another to assessment@la.gov
- January 31: Requests for additional materials opens in TIDE
- Nonparticipation codes now match accountability codes for all other testing programs. Please plan to use them for students who are expected to take ELPT and do not, when appropriate.

ACT

- January 14-21: Verify enrollment in PANext
 - Check that the standard time testing enrollment information for students is accurate.
 - Check that the accommodations/supports enrollment information for students is accurate.
- January 12: Administration webinar hosted by ACT
 - **Title:** LA ACT Test Admin Training #2 Spring 2022
 - **Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022
 - **Time:** 10 a.m. Central Standard Time
 - **Duration:** 1 hour
 - Audience Link
<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/3404961/09E582BC10DFA45CB9F81A07CD4CF828>

NAEP

- For concerns about upcoming testing and increasing numbers of absences due to Covid-19, please contact Rebecca.Frederick@la.gov or Jennifer.Baird@la.gov. At this time, all schools are still expected to participate.

2021-22 School District Boundary Review & Verification Survey

Please share with Data Coordinators, District Mapping Coordinators, and Federal Programs Coordinators.

Annually, the Census Bureau requests review and update of school district boundaries through the [School District Review Program](#) (SDRP). The updated school district boundary information submitted through this program, estimates of the number of children aged 5 through 17 in families in poverty for each school district. These estimates are the basis of the Title I allocation for school districts in each state. It is important that each school system review and verify boundaries due to the impact on Title I allocations.

Traditional public school systems are asked to complete the [School District Boundary Review and Verification Survey](#) and submit changes to LDOE by January 14, 2022. Charter schools or other state special schools are not required to verify school district boundaries.

Please contact crystal.wilkinson@la.gov with questions regarding school district boundary verification.

Release of Oct 2021 Economically Disadvantaged Student Rosters

The Department will release the October 2021 data file of economically disadvantaged students for each school system on January 11 for the purposes of informing grants, federal funding, and subgroup determinations. The single Excel file named, LEA Code_LEA Name_Oct 2021 Economically Disadvantaged, will be available through April 1 on the Data Management FTP site. FTP coordinators should locate their individual school system file and share it with their federal program and finance staff.

Please contact EdLink360@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

2021-2022 Graduate Diploma and Seal Orders

Please share with principals, professional school counselors, and data coordinators.

The deadline to order [diplomas and seals](#) for 2021-2022 graduates is Friday, February 4. All diploma requests must be submitted through the electronic form. Only one form should be completed for each school system. The Department will cover the costs for the initial order and distribution.

For more information, please contact megan.thompson2@la.gov.

School System Financial Services

MFP Certificated and Support Personnel Pay Raise Monthly Payments

Please share with Business Managers.

Funding was provided to school systems for the Certificated and Support Personnel Pay Raises in the July to December monthly 2021-2022 Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula payments. The same pay raise allocation amounts will continue in the January and February 2022 monthly MFP payments. The October 1, 2020 staffing data is the basis for the current allocation amounts. Eligible positions and counts from the October 1, 2021 staffing data submission will be compared to the October 1, 2020 staffing data and a final allocation calculated. Payment adjustments, increases or decreases, as applicable, resulting from the reconciliation will be reflected in the March 2022 MFP payments rather than in January 2022 as originally scheduled.

Please direct questions to LDOEMFPHelpdesk@la.gov

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Academic Summer Learning Guidance and Webinar

To support systems in planning for 2022 summer learning programs, the Department is developing guidance for accelerating learning. Join the [Academic Summer Learning Guidance webinar](#) for an in-depth look at the instructional guidance and resources designed to align with Louisiana Student Standards for teachers and tutors to use for ELA, [math](#), and [STEM](#) this summer.

- Webinar Date and Time: February 2 at 1 p.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93840352784>
- Webinar Phone Number: +1 470 250 9358 or +1 470 381 2552 or +1 312 626 6799
- Meeting ID: 938 4035 2784
- Passcode: 725316

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) Pilot Updates

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and 3-5 ELA teachers.

The Department is excited to announce we have partnered with [The Writing Revolution](#) to incorporate an explicit writing progression utilizing The Hochman Method® in the ELA Guidebooks. The following updated ELA Guidebook units for grades 3-5 have been added to the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#): Because of Winn-Dixie (3rd grade), The Whipping Boy (4th grade), and The Birchbark House (5th grade).

These units include core and optional activities to support diverse learners and progressive writing strategies to strengthen students' writing skills. The Department will be soliciting teacher feedback on the updated units and the ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) [feedback form](#).

An [ELA Guidebooks Overview \(2022\) Webinar](#) will be held to provide additional information about these updates.

- Webinar Date and Time: January 25 at 3 p.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://zoom.us/j/9540180592?pwd=TTRqaUF6UmhiMGJGamtXWtM3WDNIQT09>
- Webinar Phone Number: +1 470 381 2552 or +1 312 626 6799
- Meeting ID: 956 0761 3972
- Passcode: 046798

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks 6-8 (2018) Future Development

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and 6-8 ELA teachers.

The Department is excited to announce that we are planning to update [ELA Guidebooks for grades 6-8 \(2018\)](#). The first phase of development will occur during the 2022-2023 school year, and the units will be available for piloting in 2023-2024. Instructional leaders should encourage educators in grades 6-8 to submit feedback on the current units prior to March 4, 2022 through the [Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 6-8 Feedback Form](#). More details about these updates and future release dates will be announced in future department communications.

Please contact ELAGuidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks 9-12 (2020) Updates

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and 9-12 ELA teachers.

[Louisiana's ELA Guidebooks 9-12 \(2020\) Pilot Overview document](#) has been updated to include the most recent information about the 9-12 units on Louisiana Curriculum Hub.

The Photojournalism unit for grade 9 is now available on the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#). Three new ELA Guidebooks 9-12 units will be released by April 2022: Bioethics (10th grade), Film In America (11th grade), and In the Time of the Butterflies (12th grade).

Materials for the Photojournalism unit may be purchased through [American Reading Company](#) and [XanEdu](#).

The Department is also soliciting teacher feedback through [Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9-12 Feedback Form](#) for the units being implemented this year. Please encourage educators to bookmark this link for use throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

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
K12 Inc.	MTH128 Summit Algebra I LA	Math	Tier I

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners Supports

ESSA Alternate Assessment Files on FTP

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), any school system with more than 1.0 percent of students participating in the ELA, math or science alternate assessment must take certain actions. The Department provided school systems with the following alternate assessment documents via FTP:

- Alternate Assessment Participation Data (SY 2020-2021)
- Alternate Assessment Participation Review Letter (SY 2020-2021)
- Alternate Assessment Participation Justification Form (SY 2020-2021)
- Alternate Assessment Participation Review Request and Assurances Form (SY 2020-2021)

School systems should review their alternate assessment participation data and take the actions outlined in the corresponding documents. School systems can contact their FTP coordinator to retrieve their alternate assessment files.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Principal Webinar Series

Please share with school leaders.

In January's webinar, the LDOE will partner with NIET for this month's topic of building and managing high-performing instructional leadership teams.

- Webinar Date/Time: January 31 from 2-4 p.m.
- Webinar Link:
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94171949379?pwd=b3d3SVRHc25zL3RWdzlyNy9Pb3BYQT09>
- Meeting ID: 941 7194 9379
- Passcode: 216254

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with any questions.

Principal Newsletter

Please share with school leaders.

The monthly Principal Newsletter will be released on **January 27**. The principal newsletter provides an opportunity to recognize outstanding principals in your school/school system. Take a minute to send a shout-out of appreciation to a colleague who is a building-level leader using this [survey link](#). This note of appreciation will be included in our next monthly newsletter.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with any questions.

Human Resources Directors: Vacancy Survey Due January 21

Please share with Human Resource directors.

The LDOE is releasing a survey to school system human resources directors to identify staffing vacancies across schools within school systems.

For this survey, a vacancy is defined as a position where there is a substitute or no one filling that position as of December 10, 2021.

This survey should be accurately completed by a system-level HR director to their best knowledge and ability. Please complete one survey for each school in your school system. Surveys submitted by January 7, 2022, will be included in the January BESE report. The final date to submit the survey is **January 21, 2022**.

HR directors should use this [link](#) to complete the survey.

If you have any questions concerning this survey, please contact victoria.dunn@la.gov.

Teacher Leader Summit Registration Opens January 10

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

The [Teacher Leader Summit](#) will take place from **May 31 - June 2, 2022** at the **New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (NOENMCC)**.

[Registration](#) opened on **January 10** and will be on a first come, first served basis. As space is limited, we encourage teachers and leaders to register early.

Additional dates are listed under the [event milestones](#). The implementation of [safety protocols](#) will ensure a healthy and safe environment for all participants.

[Presenter applications](#) and [vendor applications](#) are currently being accepted until **February 4**.

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy School System Webinar

Please share with school system supervisors.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) provides individualized support for students in pre-K through grade 3 to make progress in their literacy development. REAL provides tutoring services to eligible students in pre-K through grade 3 attending a CIR/UIR-A school.

The Department will host a spring REAL School System webinar on **January 18 at 2 p.m.** to provide school systems with updated information on the REAL tutoring program.

Webinar Date and Time: January 18 at 2 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95940138841?pwd=cjJlZkVXMU02TDhpVmpFY3N6T2VsUT09>

Meeting ID: 959 4013 8841

Passcode: 452206

Phone: 1-346-248-7799

Please contact April.Davis2@la.gov with any questions.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy Tutoring Service Providers Webinar

Please share with tutoring service providers.

The Department will host a webinar for REAL Tutoring Service Providers on January 25 at 2 p.m. School systems serving as Tutoring Service Providers should plan to attend the webinar.

Webinar Date and Time: January 25 at 2 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96702694193?pwd=ZE9uamtYYktqc3dZQ1lxeVNzMGh3QT09>

Meeting ID: 967 0269 4193

Passcode: 475043

Phone: 1-346-248-7799

Please contact April.Davis2@la.gov with any questions.

Summer Learning Programs

Please share with school system supervisors.

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

The Department will host a Summer Learning Program Overview [webinar](#) on **January 20 at 2 p.m.** to provide systems with updated guidance on Summer Learning Programs.

Webinar Date and Time: January 20 at 2 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98166613579?pwd=TTYrY2puc0dST0lBMjZ5ZHNTaThoZz09>

Meeting ID: 981 6661 3579

Passcode: 866676

Phone: 1-346-248-7799

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.

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

School Improvement Best Practices

Please share with school system supervisors.

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 CIR and UIR-A schools are required to participate in particular aspects of the School Improvement Best Practices strategy: the Instructional Leadership Team Support and Teacher Collaboration Support training sessions, as well as the accompanying online portal and two days of on-site and/or virtual coaching as follow-up support to the training.

- If a CIR or UIR-A school participated in ILT support or Teacher Collaboration support trainings in Summer 2021, then it is required that they complete the “next level” training in that area in Summer 2022.
- If a CIR or UIR-A school did not participate in ILT support and Teacher Collaboration support trainings in Summer 2021, then it is required that they complete the “foundational” training in those areas in Summer 2022.

Registration Procedures

All schools in Louisiana can [register](#) to attend this professional development [opportunity](#) during Summer 2022. School systems should complete this [form](#) to indicate the training they anticipate their schools will participate in. Upon receipt of the form, NIET will connect with the school system contact to begin planning. Completing the form does not commit you to selecting these trainings, but it helps to inform the conversation and planning with NIET.

Tasks and Timeline for Success

The required components for CIR & UIR-A schools (ILT training, Teacher Collaboration training, EE PASS portal subscription with two support days) are mandatory and registration for these trainings should be finalized with NIET as soon as possible.

Below are some of the actions and recommended timelines for all school systems to consider in your plans for success.

Task	Timeline
Complete Louisiana Best Practices Interest Inventory .	Immediately
Planning meeting with NIET regarding potential selected training(s).	Upon receipt of the Louisiana Best Practices Interest Inventory , NIET will contact school systems to schedule a planning meeting.
Discuss plans for this work with all schools selected and required to attend.	At least a week after finalized discussion with NIET
Finalize a statement of work with NIET.	February 2022
Ensure that all of your targeted schools have registered for the contracted, required trainings.	April 2022
Verify attendance of School ILT members in all of the contracted trainings.	At least two days following the training session

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.

Louisiana New Teacher of the Year

Please share with TOY coordinators.

This program will recognize the outstanding contributions of a *first year* teacher. Therefore, on the application deadline, *the new teacher must have less than one year of full time teaching experience.*

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three overall *New Teacher of the Year* finalists, one per division (elementary, middle and high), to send to the state-process. Once those district level winners are chosen, those candidates will submit their applications in an online application portal.

The Department will host an optional call to support teachers as they prepare their state-level application and navigate the online application portal.

Webinar Date and Time: January 12 at 4 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93874533969?pwd=cmZ0Sm5OeGV3UTc1UjhgSjBSL0VyZz09>

Meeting ID: 938 7453 3969

Passcode: 240876

Phone: 1-312-626-6799

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with any questions.

Reminders

- **Operations**
 - *Federal Support and Grantee Relations*
- **Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics**
- **Equity, Inclusion and Opportunity**
- **Career and College Readiness**
- **School System Relations**
- **Teaching and Learning**
 - *Educator Development*
 - *Literacy*

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

Title I, Part A Excess Funds Waiver Application is Available in eGMS

Please share with District Federal Programs Directors, Business Managers, and Financial Officials.

Upon submission of the 9/30 Periodic Expense Report your school system may have received notification that it exceeded the 15% Title I, Part A carryover limitation, it can request a waiver via the [Electronic Grants Management System](#) (eGMS).

The Title I Waiver application is located with your FY 2022 applications in the Non Funded Section of the GMS Access Select page. The deadline to submit a Waiver Application is January 14.

As a reminder, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, LDOE can grant waivers to school systems even if a waiver has been granted in the last three years.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions and comment submissions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

2021-22 School District Boundary Review & Verification Survey

Please share with Data Coordinators, District Mapping Coordinators, and Federal Programs Coordinators.

Annually, the Census Bureau requests review and update of school district boundaries through the [School District Review Program](#) (SDRP). The updated school district boundary information submitted through this program, estimates of the number of children aged 5 through 17 in families in poverty for each school district. These estimates are the basis of the Title I allocation for school districts in each state. It is important that each school system review and verify boundaries due to the impact on Title I allocations.

Traditional public school systems are asked to complete the [School District Boundary Review and Verification Survey](#) and submit changes to LDOE by **January 14, 2022**. Charter schools or other state special schools are not required to verify school district boundaries.

Please contact crystal.wilkinson@la.gov with questions regarding school district boundary verification.

Equity, Inclusion and Opportunity

Charter Authorizer Monthly Call

The Charter Authorizer Monthly Call originally scheduled for January 12, 2022 has been moved to January 19, 2022 at 11 am.

Zoom Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95521812563?pwd=QVIYQ2RaUSStEYzdZnWU2WFJZVGVFQT09>

Please contact charters@la.gov with any questions

Career and College Readiness

Spring 2022 Counselor Institutes

Please share with middle and high school counselors.

Each fall and spring, the Office of Career and College Readiness hosts regional Counselor Institutes, which are an opportunity for the Department to engage school counselors across the state. Our Spring Institutes are taking place on February 8-10th during National School Counseling Week.

	8-11 a.m.	1-4 p.m.
February 8	Ouachita Parish	Bossier Parish
February 9	Rapides Parish	Lafayette Parish
February 10	TBD	Livingston Parish

Please contact leslie.gilliland@la.gov with questions.

Child Welfare and Attendance (CWA) Call

Please share with CWA directors, supervisors and attendance specialists.

Child Welfare and Attendance directors, supervisors, attendance specialists, and all attendance stakeholders meet every first Wednesday of the month. The next monthly call will be Wednesday, January 12 at 8 a.m.

Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 8 - 9:30 a.m.

Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92924999619>

Phone: 312-626-6799

ID: 929 2499 9619

Passcode: 451491

Please contact shelneka.adams@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Teacher and Principal of the Year Informational Webinars

State-level Teacher and Principal of the Year (TPOY) applications are due on **January 12, 2022**. All applications and materials may be found in the [resources library](#) on the [Awards page website](#).

To assist with the Teacher and Principal of the Year process office hours will be held January. On these calls, information will be shared about the timeline/process, as well as steps for using the online portals and there will be time for questions. See [here](#) for information regarding the times and dates of these informational calls.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions

Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. Therefore, the Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program was created to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight exceptional teachers, teacher specialists, and school leaders who exemplify Louisiana's education profession. If selected as an Exemplary Educator, the educator will receive a certificate of recognition and may be invited to participate on advisory boards and task forces, as well as be considered for recognition programs. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and state because of their expertise.

To learn more about this exciting new opportunity for educators and your school system, two informational Zoom sessions will be held. Please select the date/time that works best for you and save the call details to your calendar.

- [January 13 at 1 p.m.](#)
- [January 14 at 10:30 a.m.](#)

The Nomination Portal for the Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program will be open January 18, 2022-February 18, 2022.

Please contact ExemplaryEducator@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Educator Development

Louisiana New Teacher of the Year

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Meeting ID: 938 7453 3969

Passcode: 240876

Phone: 1-312-626-6799

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with any questions.

Literacy

CLSD Technical Assistance Updates

Please share with federal programs coordinators and system leaders.

The monthly technical assistance office hours for the CLSD CIR/UIR-A recipients will transition to an as-needed basis for the remainder of this school year. Please watch the newsletter for upcoming office hours times. The technical assistance office hours for the UIN recipients will transition to bi-monthly calls with the next one occurring on March 4 at 11:00 a.m. Schools and systems are encouraged to contact the CLSD Project Directors at the email addresses listed below for assistance and support any time.

Please contact shanna.beber@la.gov with any request for CLSD CIR/UIR-A support.

Please contact catasha.edwards@la.gov with any requests for CLSD UIN support.