Louisiana Department of Education

Charter Weekly Newsletter: January 17, 2024

In This Issue

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

Louisiana is in the beginning stages of adopting the state's first K-12 student standards for computer science. As our world and our workforce continue to advance, Louisiana students must have the skills to use technology and understand its implications.

We're now accepting applications for the standards writing committee. The online application is open until February 5. All interested Louisiana teachers, district staff, administrators, parents, students, community members, and computer science professionals are encouraged to apply. Our goal is to have a wide range of experts and perspectives from every corner of our great state.

Louisiana's computer science standards will ensure graduates can apply analytical and critical thinking skills to real-world situations, demonstrate digital literacy and digital citizenship skills, and utilize technology skills as employable citizens to meet workforce needs. We look forward to expanding on the work of our legislature to ensure our state is a leader in preparing students for the innovative world that awaits after graduation and helping them understand how to remain safe in a digital environment.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: January 17 at 2 p.m.
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: January 18 at 10 a.m.
- Data Coordinator Office Hours: January 18 at 1 p.m.
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: January 18 at 3 p.m.
- Certification Monthly Call: January 22 10:30 a.m.
- P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours: January 23 at 10 a.m.
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: January 23 at 2 p.m.
- Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours: January 23 at 3 p.m.
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: January 23 at 3:45 p.m.
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: January 24 at 1 p.m.
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: January 24 at 2 p.m.

- eScholar Office Hours: January 25 at 2 p.m.
- Healthy Communities Monthly Call: January 25 at 2 p.m.
- Monthly Practicing Principal Webinar – EdLink Workforce Dashboard: January 29 at 1 p.m.
- 2024-2025 School Choice Program – School Application Webinar: January 30 at 2 p.m.
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: January 31 at 10 a.m.
- 2024-2025 School Choice Program – Family Application Webinar: January 31 at 2 p.m.
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: February 1 at 8 a.m.
- Monthly Principal Webinars – Math and Literacy: February 5 at 1 p.m.
- Federal Nutrition Support Monthly Call: February 6 at 1 p.m.
- Overview Webinar for Data Managers, EdTech Directors, and LEA Security Coordinators: February 7 at 1 p.m.
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: February 8 at 9 a.m.
- Alternative Education Monthly Call: February 8 at 10 a.m.

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Deadline for SCA spring reporting (private providers): January 22
- Deadline to upload leader evaluations: January 22
- School Support Institutes Session 3: January 23 - 26
- Jump Start Convention and CWA Summit: January 23, Lafayette
- Deadline for New Teacher of the Year state-level submissions: January 26
- Deadline to complete counselor evaluation survey: January 30
- Deadline to complete Act 567 school system actions: January 31
- Deadline to submit high school diploma and seal orders: February 2
- ACT Data Workshop: February 29, Baton Rouge
- Deadline for Computer Science Standards Writing Committee applications: Feb. 5

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

ACT
Please share with school leaders and testing coordinators.

The deadline to request ACT-authorized accommodations and/or support for eligible examinees through the Test Accessibility and Accommodations System (TAA) is January 19. This is also the deadline to associate your test date with the request in TAA for students previously authorized for an accommodation. First-time users must create an account using the email address associated with their previous TAA user account. See the TAA User Guide for more information.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP Connect/ELPT/ELPT Connect
Please share with school leaders and testing coordinators.

- January 19: Testing schedules for LEAP Connect, ELPT/ELPT Connect are due to assessment@la.gov.
- January 19: LEAP Connect test setup available in DRC INSIGHT.
- Week of January 29: ELPT/ELPT Connect materials shipped to school systems.
- February 1: LEAP Connect materials, including manuals, delivered to school systems.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content
ELA Guidebooks Text Update
Please share with content supervisors, ELA teachers, and school leaders.

Due to shifts in text permissions, a text critical to the implementation of the 2018 Grade 6 ELA Guidebooks unit titled "Steve Jobs" will no longer be accessible in the XanEdu unit readers. The ELA Guidebooks Licensing Updates document provides additional information regarding this update.

School systems that have additional copies of the current unit reader may continue to implement the unit; however, new unit readers purchased from XanEdu will not contain all of the texts required for unit implementation.

The ELA Guidebooks 6-8 (2024) units will be released this spring. Additional information regarding these units, including the overview, writing progression, and introduction webinar, are now available.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

K-12 Computer Science Standards Writing Committee Application
Please share with content supervisors, school leaders, system leaders, and teachers.

The LDOE is now accepting applications for volunteers who wish to serve on the Computer Science Standards Writing Committee. Parents, school leaders, school system leaders and students in grades 7-12 may apply.

The LDOE's vision for K-12 Computer Science Education is to increase digital literacy skills in all students through actively engaging with progressional computer science experiences that prepare students for success in society and with future career opportunities.

Participants will agree to:

- volunteer their time and effort without compensation, per diem, or reimbursements,
- attend in-person meetings at a location to be determined,
- provide for or arrange for their own transportation to and from meetings, and
- complete asynchronous work outside of the scheduled convenings which will require independent work time periods.

Please consider applying for this opportunity and sharing it with others. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on February 5.

Please contact stem@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development
Counselor Evaluation Survey
Please share with school counselors.

Following an RFP process, the LDOE contracted with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) to assist with reimagining the Louisiana evaluation system based on research and best practice, along with developing resources to support professional learning. Counselors are asked to provide feedback by completing the Counselor Evaluation Survey by January 30.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year Summer Training
Please share with all school leaders and system leaders.

All schools will participate in the 2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year. Training on the Louisiana Educator Rubric and the Louisiana Leader Rubric will take place this summer for designated observers, school leaders and system leaders. Registration for the training will open on January 31.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

2022-2023 Leader Evaluation Data Entry
Please share with data managers, human resource directors, school leaders, and system leaders.

The deadline to upload 2022-2023 leader evaluations into the Compass Information System (CIS) has been extended to January 22. Data cannot be entered or edited following this date. The deadline has passed for all other evaluation types.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

LDOE Releasing Professional Learning Platform for all Educators
Please share with all school system employees.

The LDOE will release the Professional Learning Platform this spring for all school system employees at no cost to school systems. This user-friendly, statewide platform will house all professional learning and the Professional Learning Partner Guide in one platform. Professional learning modules and webinars will no longer live on the LDOE website. The Professional Learning Platform Overview includes additional information on creating EdLink credentials, requesting Canopy permissions, participating in Canopy informational webinars, and completing online training in the Professional Learning Platform.

School systems can continue providing their employees EdLink credentials and Canopy permissions. Trainings for school systems will begin in March.

Please contact amanda.slaughter@la.gov with questions.

PL Platform Webinar for Data Managers, EdTech Directors, and LEA Security Coordinators
Please share with all data managers, EdTech directors, and LEA security coordinators.

The LDOE will host an informational Professional Learning Platform webinar. Please see the details listed below.

- **Webinar Date/Time**: February 7 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Zoom Link**: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99847688288?pwd=cFRBTzZOK1BMVjd6NGltbEt1aDNhdz09
- **Webinar Phone Number**: 470 250 9358
- **Webinar Meeting ID**: 998 4768 8288
- **Webinar Passcode**: 466583

Please contact amanda.slaughter@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement
School Support Institutes Session 3
Please share with school leaders and system leaders.

Session 3 of the 2023-2024 School Support Institutes will be held January 23-26. The SSI logistics page provides information for venue and logistics such as updated parking, room assignments, lunch options and pre-work for each venue and pathway. Pre-work information and zoom links can also be found on the logistics page.

Registered participants will receive an email reminder. Attendees are reminded to have the information from Session 2 deliverable on hand for this session.

Please contact ldoessisupportteam@tntp.org with questions.

Level Up: Best Practices at Teacher Leader Summit 2024
Please share with school leaders and system leaders.

Level Up: School Improvement Best Practices, required for CIR schools, will be delivered at Teacher Leader Summit 2024. Each system with CIR schools has been contacted and provided directions for submitting the names of three ILT members from each CIR school. These Level Up attendees should not use the regular TLS registration, only submitted in the form that was shared via email.

Once names have been submitted via the form, Level Up attendees will receive a confirmation email from Emergent Method within one week. Level Up sessions will be pre-loaded on these participants' TLS Cvent app. When TLS session selection is open on April 12, registrants will be able to register for other TLS sessions not conflicting with their Level Up sessions.

Please contact schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov if you have any questions.

Career and College Readiness

Apprenticeship Quarterly Call
Share with counselors, CTE supervisors, principals, and secondary supervisors.

The postsecondary readiness team will host a quarterly apprenticeship call on the third Tuesday of the month beginning in February. The calls will address apprenticeship opportunities and updates related to enrollment reporting, funding, and the development of programs.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 20 at 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92183263782?
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312 626 6799
- **Webinar Meeting ID:** 921 8326 3782
- **Webinar Passcode:** 936910

Please contact caronda.bean@la.gov with questions.

2023-2024 Graduate Diploma to Include New BESE President's Signature
Please share with counselors, data coordinators, and principals.

Diploma orders will include the signature of the new BESE President, Ronnie Morris. Diplomas utilized from this point forward should include the new signature. All other diplomas should be shredded, as they are no longer valid. Any diplomas that are issued without the new signature will not be valid.

Please contact suzette.rabalais@la.gov with any questions.

School Choice

Charter Accountability
BESE-Authorized Charter Monthly Call
Please share with school leaders and system leaders.

These calls are held every second Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

- **Webinar Date/Time:** December 14, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
- **Webinar Link**: BESE-Authorized Monthly Call
- **Webinar Phone Number**: 312-626-6799 US
- **Meeting ID#:** 982 6291 1767

Please contact Charters@LA.GOV with questions.

Charter School Monthly Submissions
Please share with school leaders and system leaders.

Please refer to the 2023-2024 Charter School Reporting Calendar for your December and January submission.

Please contact your Director of Accountability for inquiries and guidance.