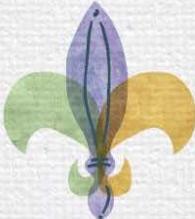




News for Louisiana



CHARTER SCHOOLS

Dec 15, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you're making the most of the final school days before the Christmas break. It's hard to believe we are already at this time of year.

Today we gave our [2022 Fall Reading Report presentation](#). As I shared with you last week, we recently released [statewide data from the reading screeners](#) given to K-3 students during the first 30 days of school. Along with the most recent data, the presentation includes an implementation timeline of our comprehensive literacy strategy and key supports currently in place for Louisiana educators.

Among these resources are FIRE and the LIFT kit. I encourage you to spend some time with each.

- [Foundational Instruction for Reading Excellence \(FIRE\)](#) lessons provide a systematic, explicit reading foundations program for all students in grades 3-5. Short daily lessons are intended to complement, not replace, the work of a high-quality knowledge-building curriculum.
- The [Literacy Interventions and Foundational Tools \(LIFT\) Kit](#) helps teachers pinpoint specific gaps in foundational skills for students in grades 3-12.

I've heard from many of you who have been listening to Sold A Story by Emily Hanford. Last week, I shared with you a [reading list compiled by Hanford](#) for those seeking to learn more beyond her podcast. Louisiana is among a number of states adopting laws that support the science of reading. This [article from one of Hanford's colleagues](#) includes how our state has been "held up as a national model" for how we review reading materials.

There is a clear movement taking place across our nation around how we teach kids to read, and Louisiana is at the forefront.

Have a great week,

Dr. Cade Brumley

In This Issue

- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Office of School Choice](#)
- [School System Financial Services](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [Assessment, Accountability and Analytics](#)
- [School System Relations](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - [Educator Development](#)
 - [Diverse Learners](#)
 - [Literacy](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- [Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: December 15 at 3 p.m.](#)
- [Assessment and Accountability Office Hours](#): December 20 at 3:45 p.m.
- BESE-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call: [January 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
 - Topic: State Testing and High School Diplomas with Jennifer Baird
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [January 24, 2023 at 3 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Zearn [Contact Form update](#): December 16
- Registration for [New Teacher Experience Affinity Groups](#) closes: December 19
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [December 29 at 9 a.m.](#)
- High Cost Services Round 1 Application closes: December 30
- [Registration](#) closes for [New Teacher Experience PD Module 2](#): January 5, 2023
- [2023-2024 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application](#) closes: January 27, 2023
- Teacher and Principal of the Year Candidate Call: [January 9, 2023 at 4 p.m.](#)
- K-12 Computer Science Education [listening sessions](#): January 9 – 18, 2023

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.

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

BESE SIT Committee Meeting Dates	Material Amendment Requests & Supporting Documentation Due to Charter Accountability Team
March 7, 2023	January 9, 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		
Annual Independent Audit	December 31, 2022	Audit must be submitted to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) Louisiana Legislative Auditor and 1 copy to the LDOE Internal Audit team Dudley Garidel Dudley.Garidel@la.gov
Charter Schools are required to annually submit an independent audit conducted by a certified public accountant in accordance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R.S. 24:513 et seq. And 17:3996(F) BESE Bulletin 126, §2507(A) 		If you have any questions or require further information, contact Louisiana Legislative Auditor’s office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main: 225-339-3800 Fax: 225-339-3870 Louisiana Legislative Auditor

<p align="center">Complete COMPASS Evaluation Ratings</p> <p>Final Evaluations: - Complete observations - Assess student outcomes ratings (BESE Bulletin 130, §301)</p>	<p>Opens January 1, 2023</p>	<p>Compass Information System (CIS) If you have any questions or require further information, contact: compass@la.gov</p> <p>For additional support, please contact your school's Director of Charter Accountability or reach out to the Charter Inbox: charters@la.gov</p>
<p align="center">Super App</p> <p>Super App enables LEAs to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. establishing priorities; 2. budgeting of federal formula funds; and 3. applying for competitive funds. 	<p>Opens January 1, 2023</p>	<p>Submission Location: eGMS Submission Support: Ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov</p> <p>For additional support, please contact your school's Director of Charter Accountability or reach out to the Charter Inbox: charters@la.gov</p>
<p align="center">Quarter 2 Financial Report</p> <p>Includes budgeted data for the fiscal year along with the YTD actual data through December 31. The 3 Quarterly and Annual Financial Reports include a statement from the Charter Operator's lead executive and Board President certifying the accuracy of the reports and the adherence to the Operator's Internal Control procedures. The Charter Operator must maintain records in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.</p>	<p>January 31, 2023</p>	<p>This information should be submitted to charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov</p> <p>For additional support, please contact your school's Director of Charter Accountability or reach out to the Charter Inbox: charters@la.gov</p>
<p align="center">School Tuition Organization (STO) Reports/Tuition Donation Tax Credit</p> <p>The Tuition Donation Credit Program empowers Louisiana families with the financial resources to choose the school that best prepares their child for college and careers. This program, established by the Louisiana Legislature, authorizes School Tuition Organizations (STOs) to collect and use taxpayer donations to provide scholarships to students that meet the program's income requirements to attend nonpublic schools. All School Tuition Organizations are tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status. Taxpayers earn a credit toward their Louisiana state taxes for the year in which they make a donation. This report provides an annual report re: donors and amounts donated.</p>	<p>Due annually, March 1. STO's are to report to LDOE no later than Jan. 1 annually and LDOE sends electronic format of report to Dept. of Revenue no later than Feb. 1, annually. LDOE may give a 30 day extension to STO's.</p>	<p>Ethan Melancon ethan.melancon@la.gov</p> <p>For additional support, please contact your school's Director of Charter Accountability or reach out to the Charter Inbox: charters@la.gov</p>
<p align="center">Annual Report on T2, T4 and T5 Charter Schools</p> <p>Evaluation for BESE-Authorized Charter Schools</p> <p>The performance of type 2, type 4, and type 5 charter schools will be reviewed and/or evaluated annually in the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Academic performance; 	<p>January BESE Meeting (tentative date; confirmed date to be published in Charter Newsletter)</p>	<p>Ethan Melancon ethan.melancon@la.gov</p> <p>Ashley Townsend ashley.townsend@la.gov</p> <p>Nikki Landry nikki.landry2@la.gov</p>

2. Financial performance; and
3. Organizational performance.

For additional support, please contact your school’s Director of Charter Accountability or reach out to the Charter Inbox: charters@la.gov

Additional information can be located in the Charter School Library on the [Comprehensive Reporting Calendar](#)

School System Financial Services

FY2022-2023 Second Quarter Financial Report

Please share with business managers and financial officials of Type 2 and Type 5 Charter Schools.

The First Quarter Financial Report for FY2022-2023 is due **January 31, 2023**. The quarterly report template is included in the workbook used to submit the annual operating budget. You are required to submit the entire workbook with updates to the Quarter 2 Budget tab. For more details see the Instructions for Quarterly budgets tab in the Workbook. The financial workbook, inclusive of 2nd Quarter updates, and the [Statement of Affirmation](#) should be submitted via email to CharterFinanceHelpdesk@la.gov.

If your organization operates more than one charter school, you must submit the financial report for each individual school.

If you have any questions or require further information, email CharterFinanceHelpdesk@la.gov or call 225-342-3617.

Career and College Readiness

House Bill 548 - Digital Devices Guidelines

Please share with school system leaders, school administrators, and school staff.

The prevalence and use of digital devices (e.g. computers, laptops, tablets, chromebooks, smart devices, project screens, smartboards, and smartphones) by students and educators is an everyday component of the school day and our individual lives. As such, [guidelines](#) were developed in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health and other stakeholders as a result of [House Bill 548](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session.

These [guidelines](#) have been developed to provide school systems with health and safety resources relative to best practices for the effective integration of digital devices in public schools. The resources are not exhaustive but are intended to provide school systems with the age-appropriate time and usage guidelines regarding various digital devices.

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

LEAP 2025

Please share with test coordinators.

- December 16: Test voids due from LEAP fall high school Window A
- December 21: Coordinators can set up test sessions and print test tickets for LEAP fall high school Window B
- January 5: LEAP fall high school Window B opens

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Energy Grant Opportunity through the U.S. Department of Energy

Please share with school system leaders.

The U.S. Department of Energy recently announced first-of-its-kind investments to make clean energy improvements at K-12 public schools.

- Schools can now apply for the first round of the Renew America's Schools grant, up to \$80 million of the \$500 million program, to make energy improvements especially in the highest-need districts across the country.
- The Energy Champions Leading the Advancement of Sustainable Schools Prize (Energy CLASS Prize) program is also accepting applications for up to 25 local education agencies to receive \$100,000 to staff and train select administration and facilities personnel as energy managers.

For more information about these opportunities, please visit the [Grants for Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities](#) website; contact The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Tactile Communication Workshop

Please share with assistive technology supervisors, special education administrators and educators.

Louisiana Accessible Education Materials (AEM) will be hosting a workshop on the use of tactile symbols to support communication with students who are nonverbal. The session will cover designing and implementing tactile symbols in everyday curriculum and in all educational settings.

- Date and Time: January 20, 2023, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Workshop Location: AEM Center, 2888 Brightside Dr., Baton Rouge

Please [register online](#); contact nabiha.mujahid@la.gov with questions.

2022-2023 Annual Dyslexia Reporting

Please share with special education leaders and 504 coordinators.

Per Act 419 (2021), school systems are required to annually report the number of students with dyslexia currently enrolled in their system or the number of students newly identified with dyslexia in the prior school year (2021-2022).

Act 622 (2022) updated the annual reporting deadline [requirements](#) from October 31 to December 15. All school systems should submit the [dyslexia reporting form](#) by December 15.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Teacher Leader Lagniappe: New Episode Released

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

Teacher Leader Lagniappe Season 2, Episode 10: Louisiana Is on the Rise with Superintendent Brumley

By popular demand, Dr. Brumley is back to chat about Louisiana's State priorities, assessments, and the 2022 NAEP results. Em Cooper is also super excited to smile about Northshore Charter School, Hurst Middle School, George Washington Carver High, DeSoto, Point Coupee, and West Feliciana Parishes for their speedy implementation of literacy resources.

Educators can [submit pictures and stories](#) to be highlighted on the podcast. Subscribe through [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Play](#), and [Spotify](#). Please email em.cooper@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Summer Literacy Support Policy Guidance

Please share with school and system leaders.

The [Guidance for Revisions to Bulletin 1566 Regarding Literacy Support Standard for Grades 3 and 4](#) is available on the [Literacy webpage](#) under Hot Topics. System and school leaders are encouraged to review the guidance, as well as the revisions to Bulletin 1566, to determine implementation next steps.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.