



January 2023



My name is Belinda Cambre, and I teach AP US Government and IB History of the Americas at the LSU Laboratory School in Baton Rouge. This is my second year as a Teacher Leader Advisor, and I have enjoyed expanding my role to work with teachers creating course frameworks aligned to the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies](#) for high school Civics and U.S. History. This work is critical for our students who deserve high-quality instruction and the most complete history experience, as well as our teachers who deserve the support and access to the best instructional materials available.

We are excited to share the course frameworks at the Teacher Leader Summit this summer (registration information coming soon). Our sessions will discuss the new standards and the transitional planning required for teachers as the new standards take effect. The new course frameworks, which include articles and sources created in partnership with the Louisiana Endowment for Humanities, will provide **sample framing and supporting questions**, as well as **primary and secondary sources** that teachers can use to facilitate meaningful engagement in their classes. Social Studies of all grades will benefit from learning these strategies early in the summer, providing plenty of time to prepare for the new school year.

The Teacher Leader Summit is the best place to collaborate and share ideas with other teachers! Teachers of all content areas will find sessions that will support and continue to develop their instructional practices. We look forward to seeing you there!

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LITERACY

READBowl

PreK-8 schools are encouraged to sign up for the READBowl. [READBowl](#) is the FREE global reading competition where PreK-8 aged teams around the globe compete to read for the most minutes. The competition begins the day of the American College Football National Championship, January 9, and culminates with a live crowning of the World Champions of Reading on the morning of the National Football League's (NFL) Super Bowl Sunday, February 12.

The top Louisiana school will get a special surprise. Shout out to Rapides Parish for already signing up schools!

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Summer Literacy Support Policy Guidance

The [Guidance for Revisions to Bulletin 1566 Regarding Literacy Support Standard for Grades 3 & 4](#) is available on the [Literacy web page](#) under Hot Topics. Leaders and teachers 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.

SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

Diverse Learner Monthly Office Hours

The Diverse Learner Division will be hosting monthly office hours to discuss topics related to supporting diverse learners. The first call is scheduled for January 24.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** January 24 at 3:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99463888239>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID #:** 994 6388 8239
- **Passcode:** 311142

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans Resource Information Workshop

[Registration](#) is open for an online two-hour workshop being held January 18 at 10:00 a.m. Workshop facilitators will be highlighting behavioral health services available in Louisiana as a part of the Coordinated System of Care. This provider education is geared toward health care professionals, educators, mental health professionals, therapists, students, and any other discipline working with children and youth who have special health care needs. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

Please contact snguyen@fhfofgno.org with questions.

Tactile Communication Workshop

Louisiana Accessible Education Materials (AEM) will be hosting a workshop in the use of tactile symbols to support communication with students who are non-verbal. The session will cover designing and implementing tactile symbols in everyday curriculum and in all educational settings. [Registration](#) is now open for the workshop on January 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the AEM Center, 2888 Brightside Drive, Baton Rouge.

Please contact nabiha.mujahid@la.gov with questions.

ELA RESOURCES

Grades 3-5 ELA Guidebooks (2022)

Beginning March 2023, the anchor text in the 3rd grade ELA Guidebooks (2018) and (2022) unit, *Stories Julian Tells*, *Stories Julian Tells* by Ann Cameron, will be published with revisions to the first chapter. The current version of the text that is used in the ELA Guidebooks (2018) and (2022) unit will not be reprinted and will only be available as long as the current stock lasts.

For successful implementation during the 2023-2024 school year, teachers should ensure that all class sets are the same version of *Stories Julian Tells*. Additionally, the Department will begin revising the unit to align with the new version of the text. The updated unit will be available through a new unit icon on the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#). Additional information about the availability of the revised text and the updated unit will be shared in future communications.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks Let's Set the Context Videos

Teacher Leader Advisors are currently updating the 2018 Let's Set the Context Videos to align with the 2022 updates of the ELA Guidebooks units for grades 3-5. These instructional videos will provide additional background knowledge to support students as they engage with the unit content. The videos will be released in summer 2023 on the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#) for use in the 2024-2025 school year.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Teacher Survey

The Department is partnering with the Johns Hopkins' Institute for Education Policy to analyze teachers' classroom practices and utilization of instructional materials. The information gathered in [this survey](#) will demonstrate how ELA teachers in grades 3-8 understand and utilize their curricula. Survey results will remain confidential. The survey is now open and will close **January 27**.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

Social Studies Curriculum Development

The Department is excited to announce that we have partnered with Core Knowledge® to create Bayou Bridges: A Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum for Grades K-8. Materials for grades 4-5 will be available by Spring 2023 for piloting in Fall 2023. The complete Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum for grades K-8 will be available for implementation by June 30, 2024. More details about this partnership and future release dates will be announced in future newsletter communications.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

MATH RESOURCES

Last Chance to Register for Winter Professional Learning to Support Implementation of Free Statewide Zearn Access!

As part of the [Louisiana Math Refresh](#), the Department is partnering with [Zearn](#) to provide school accounts to all public schools serving K-8 students. Training registration is now open to support teachers and leaders in successful implementation.

- The final [Launching Zearn Math](#) sessions are scheduled January 18 - 25. In this session, participants will explore the interventions integrated through Zearn's digital lessons that provide students with just-in-time foundational support on the grade-level content. Participants will deepen their understanding of how to interpret student productivity, progress, and misconception data captured in Zearn Class Reports to maximize growth through intentional decision making. Finally, the session will conclude as participants apply learnings to their own classrooms, schools, and districts and leave with a data-driven action plan to ensure every

student gets the celebration and support needed. [Registration](#) for this free two-hour virtual professional learning is now open to all K-8 Louisiana public school teachers whose role includes core math instruction or supporting students with math learning.

- In [Professional Learning for Leaders: Accelerating Impact with Zearn](#), leaders will build on their familiarity with Zearn and refine how they will support school sites as they prepare to implement and monitor progress. In this four-hour, in-person session, participants will explore Zearn's flexible instructional materials, features of the educator and administrator accounts, and how to utilize the embedded reports that capture real-time data to accelerate math learning for all students. Leaders will walk away with materials to turn-key and leverage at their school sites as they launch Zearn. Three additional [sessions](#) are scheduled for January 19, 23, and February 7.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

SCIENCE RESOURCES

New Tier 1 Science Program and Louisiana Guide for PhD Science Grades K-2

To assist teachers, schools, and systems with science planning, the Department has released a [Louisiana Guide to Implementing PhD Science](#), a newly identified high-quality instructional materials science program for grades K-2. This resource provides guidance regarding how K-2 PhD Science modules correlate with the Louisiana Student Standards for Science (LSSS). All Louisiana Guides to Implementing identified high-quality science instructional materials are located on the [K-12 Science Planning](#) webpage.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

OpenSciEd K-5 Pilot

As part of an effort to increase statewide access and opportunity for students to engage with [high-quality science instructional materials](#) aligned to standards, the Department is seeking elementary educators to pilot [OpenSciEd](#) science materials for grades K-5 during the development phase. Participating teachers will have the opportunity to represent Louisiana and help shape the curriculum's design by field testing and providing feedback on the units. Professional learning for teachers selected to participate in the pilot for the first round of field test units will begin in the summer of 2023. Anyone interested in nominating an individual teacher or cohort of teachers for participation in the pilot should secure the necessary approvals from school and system leadership and complete this short [form](#).

The Department will host an informational webinar to outline the expansion of the freely available [OpenSciEd science curriculum](#) to grades K-12. School and system leaders will receive details regarding participation in the upcoming K-5 pilot and hear success stories of implementation in grades 6-12. For additional information, please complete this short [form](#).

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 1 at 9:00 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91862304359>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799 US
- **Meeting ID #:** 918 6230 4359
- **Passcode:** 348496

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

EDTECH

Cyber.org Technology Grant Program

[Cyber.org](#)'s technology grant program is designed to support teachers and qualified extracurricular programs to provide cyber education to K-12 students across the United States. While [grant applications](#) can be submitted continuously throughout the year, the Spring application period's deadline is **March 15**, and awards will be given in April.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

Doodle for Google

The submission portal for Google's annual [Doodle for Google](#) will open January 11. Winners are chosen from each state with the opportunity to be recognized on Google's home page, Google hardware, and a college scholarship.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

Figma for Education

[Figma](#) is a whiteboard and design application that is available to all students and educators for free. Features of Figma include FigJam whiteboard and Figma design. FigJam whiteboard is an online whiteboard space for meetings, activities, and brainstorming. Figma design is a design tool for UX design, graphic design, and digital illustration. Figma also has the ability to create virtual classroom spaces which can be managed and utilized to facilitate classroom discussions.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast: New Episode Released

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

Season 2, Episode 10: Louisiana is on the Rise with Superintendent Brumley
Dr. Brumley is back to chat about Louisiana's State priorities, assessments, and the NAEP results. Em Cooper is excited to smile about Northshore Charter School, Hurst Middle School, George Washington Carver High, DeSoto, Pointe Coupee, and West Feliciana Parishes for their speedy implementation of literacy resources.

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

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

CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
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