



February 2022



Hello fellow educators! I am Nikki Lavergne, the Assistant Principal at the [Livingston Parish Literacy and Technology Center \(LPLTC\)](#) Virtual/Hybrid Program in Livingston Parish. Previously I served as a technology leader, STEAM Express Director, and teacher for Livingston Parish Public Schools.

The repercussions of the COVID pandemic magnified the need for differentiation in student learning and equitable inclusive experiences for all children. Offering a virtual-hybrid program across our district has allowed us to **remove barriers to construct an innovative learning program that develops student agency and empowerment.**

Our school utilizes technology to allow students to complete schooling at home and in small groups face-to-face supported by our district and state curriculums. Our school employs both asynchronous and synchronous instruction to offer **flexible learning times while still providing structure and accountability.** In addition, we offer sessions for students on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to further support our students in achieving their learning goals.

Virtual learning can leave students feeling disconnected, but our hybrid approach offers opportunities for students to engage on campus in small groups two days a week for hands-on, immersive experiences such as science experiments, nature walks, tetherball tournaments, visits by the Livingston Parish Library bus, crazy sock day to learn about digital footprints, a butterfly release, and an indoor beehive!

The pandemic has presented many challenges to educators across our state. Finding ways to **leverage technology to ensure the progression of student learning** is something we must all do. I know people across this state will rise to that challenge.

NEW: To support educators in leveraging technology, we'll begin sharing tips and resources through the Teacher Leader Newsletter and social media. Stay tuned for more information and check out more [in this issue.](#)

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TEACHER LEADER SUMMIT

Teacher Leader Summit

The 2022 Teacher Leader Summit will be held Tuesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 2 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The Department is celebrating both “Making a Comeback” and our 10th year for this event. The Summit Overview document, registration portal, and presenter and vendor applications can be found on the [Teacher Leader Summit webpage](#). Early Bird registration is now open until **March 2**. Presenter applications and Education Expo applications are now open until **February 4**.

Teachers and teacher leaders representing all content areas, librarians, counselors, early childhood directors, and school and system leaders are encouraged to apply.

Contact LDOEvents@la.gov with any questions.

ACADEMICS

Summer Learning Programs

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.

On January 20, the Department hosted a webinar to provide systems with updated guidance on planning and implementing summer learning programs. A recording of the webinar and copy of the presentation will be available in the [School System Support Toolbox](#) later this month.

In Super App, school systems must create a plan for a summer learning program that includes tutoring for all students at CIR and UIR-A schools this summer.

Please contact markecia.barthelemy@la.gov with any questions.

ELA RESOURCES

ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) Evaluation Plan Webinar

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

The Department is hosting webinars to support school systems in understanding the curriculum-embedded assessments in the ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) unit updates. These revised units include evaluation plans with a coherent system of curriculum-embedded assessments to guide instructional decisions throughout the units.

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Evaluation Plan \(2022\) Webinar](#) for an in-depth look at the assessment updates in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to best support all learners using the updated units.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 11 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94175242532?pwd=WWhEdStuTDRCNTJ1eVFwMEthVGZEUT09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID #:** 941 7524 2532
- **Passcode:** 512811

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) Core and Optional Activities Webinar

The Department is hosting webinars to support school systems with understanding the role of Core and Optional Activities within ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) lessons. The Department will host one call for leaders and another call for teachers.

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Core and Optional Activities \(2022\) Webinar](#) for **Leaders** to learn about the instructional plan updates in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to best support teachers in implementation.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 18 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93370943514?pwd=eVZSRG85dXlZRDN4ZEM2VEg1SS8yZz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID #:** 933 7094 3514
- **Passcode:** 001518

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Core and Optional Activities \(2022\) Webinar](#) for **Teachers** to learn about the instructional plan updates in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to best make instructional decisions using core and optional activities.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 18 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95575299437?pwd=RDZGbgVzbVFInnFTTdu2Vmk3VERadz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552

- Meeting ID #: 955 7529 9437
- Passcode: 829416

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) The Writing Revolution Webinar Registration

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

The Department has partnered with [The Writing Revolution](#) on the ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) revisions to incorporate an explicit writing progression utilizing The Hochman Method® in the ELA Guidebooks. The Writing Revolution’s sequential progression of strategies is integrated throughout the content in the updated ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) units. [The Writing Revolution](#) is hosting a webinar to support school systems in implementing these writing strategies and integrated activities.

Interested teachers and instructional leaders should [register](#) for the webinar to be hosted on **March 3** at 9:00 a.m. A Zoom link to join the webinar will be sent after registration.

Please contact guidebooks@thewritingrevolution.org with any questions.

Resources for School Librarians

LASL (Louisiana Association of School Librarians) will be hosting a professional development opportunity, [Let’s End Literacy Shaming](#), on **February 26** at 6:00 p.m. and an additional [professional development](#) opportunity on **April 30** at 8:30 a.m. at Episcopal School of Baton Rouge.

Please join the LASL [mailing list](#) to receive resources and information on other professional development opportunities and to celebrate with Louisiana school librarians. Information is also located on the [LASL Website](#), on [Facebook](#), and on [Twitter](#).

Additional Resources:

- LASL President’s Program: [School Libraries, Relationship Building & Belonging](#)
- [LASL January Newsletter](#)
- LASL 5 Minute Tips: [Grants, Donors Choose, & Fundraisers](#), [The Benefits of Graphic Novels](#), [Building a PLN](#)

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

MATH RESOURCES

Asynchronous Learning Modules for Math Teachers and Leaders

The Department partnered with the Charles A. Dana Center to publish a series of five asynchronous video-based learning modules for teachers and math leaders to support best practices for using acceleration to address unfinished math learning. The [Acceleration in Math: Self-Paced Professional](#)

[Learning Modules](#) are now posted. Each module includes a recorded presentation and accompanying handouts. These resources are designed to fit flexibly in a variety of professional learning formats. Modules may be accessed asynchronously for an “at your own pace” style of PD. The materials can also be utilized to facilitate collaborative learning and conversations during common planning.

Topics include

- Classroom Strategies to Scaffold Math learning;
- Formative Assessment Processes for Acceleration in Math;
- Critical Mindsets for Math Educators; and
- The two part series, Planning to Address Unfinished Learning.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Accelerate Math Updates

[Accelerate Math](#) resources are built for teachers and tutors as proactive support for upcoming classroom content in order to ensure students’ readiness for grade level mathematics. The complete suite of math resources for kindergarten through high school will be posted by the end of the month.

[Accelerate Math](#) tutoring resources for use during the academic year include

- Acceleration Tools, which function as screeners to diagnose unfinished learning ahead of a topic of instruction;
- Google Slides for teachers and/or tutors to plan for and deliver individualized supports; and
- Tutoring Exit Tickets to monitor student understanding.

For systems implementing tutoring as part of a Summer Learning Program, please see the [Accelerate Math Summer Learning](#) guidance.

In an effort to continually improve [Accelerate Math](#) resources, updates will be made this summer. Complete the [Accelerate Math feedback](#) form to help shape future updates and improvements. The Department is seeking content-strong math educators interested in contributing to this work, and [applications](#) are now open.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Summer Learning Partnership with Zearn

Summer learning programs should support students in building and exploring positive math identities while developing the essential knowledge and skills that will accelerate their access to grade level content in the upcoming academic year. To achieve this, the Department is partnering with Zearn to support systems with custom professional learning for implementation of [Zearn Math’s Summer Intensive Series](#) as a high-dosage tutoring program for summer.

The [Zearn Summer Intensive Series](#) is based on a high-quality math resource that includes 4-6 weeks of daily lessons that are designed for summer acceleration. Effective implementation by a skilled educator can yield strong results for students and accelerate access to grade level instruction for the upcoming academic year.

This custom-for-Louisiana training, [Learning Acceleration with Zearn Math](#), will prepare math instructional leaders and teachers for effective implementation of high-dosage tutoring as part of a summer learning program.

Priority registration for CIR/UIR-A sites opens on **January 31** and open registration begins **February 14**. The cost of registration is \$200 per seat. Interested teachers should contact their system-level summer learning coordinator.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

SCIENCE RESOURCES

Implementation Guides for High Quality Science Instructional Materials

To assist teachers with the implementation of high-quality science materials, the Department provides guidance regarding correlation with the Louisiana Student Standards for Science (LSSS). While all high-quality materials provide ample instructional guidance for teachers, the [implementation guides](#) go a step further to add additional context for Louisiana and point out places in which teachers may need to make strategic decisions considering student needs and time availability.

The Department creates guidance in response to updates to [High Quality Science Curricula](#). Guidance for Amplify Grade 8 is coming soon.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

EDTECH

Google Docs Updates

Recent updates to Google Docs include some features that educators will find helpful to maximize their time. See more details and short video GIFs demonstrating the features in this [Life Hacks with Google Docs](#).

Stay tuned for more edtech tips in the upcoming newsletters!

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

STEM Professional Development and Resources Now Available

STEM professional development and resources are now available through an in-person learning opportunity being offered by the Louisiana Transportation Research Center. The [TRAC and RIDES programs](#) introduce students in grades K-12 to the work world of transportation and civil engineering and inspire them to consider careers in those fields. This workshop offers teachers hands-on training through standards based activities used to facilitate problem solving skills and higher order thinking.

The TRAC (**TR**ansportation and **C**ivil Engineering) program is intended for use in grades 7-12 and RIDES (**R**oadways **I**nto **D**eveloping **E**lementary **S**tudents) is intended for grades K-6. Each attendee will receive a manual that consists of over 100 activities and each school will leave with one “trunk” of materials to use in classrooms. Interested teachers should [register](#) now for sessions being offered in June.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Quality Science and Mathematics (QSM) Grant Opportunity Round 2

The [QSM Grant Program](#) was established for the purpose of providing Louisiana public school teachers with non-consumable instructional materials and equipment in math, science, and STEM.

- Full-time classroom teachers assigned to teach math, science, or STEM courses in a PreK-12 public regular education program including public charter schools are invited to apply.
- Applications may be submitted via the QSM [grant portal](#) beginning January 24.
- The application deadline is **March 7** at 11:59 p.m.
- \$1,000 grants are available for Pre-K-3 teachers and up to \$1,500 grants for 4-12 teachers.
- Applications must demonstrate that the grant materials will enhance the quality of instruction for regular education students enrolled in mathematics, science or STEM classes within the normal school day. After-school, Talented & Gifted, and Special Education (SPED) programs are not eligible.

Please contact Spencer Roby at qsminfo@lsu.edu with questions.

CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
AP Courses and Exams	collegereadiness@la.gov
Assessments and Related Supports	assessment@la.gov
Collaborations	districtsupport@la.gov
Compass	compass@la.gov
Content Leaders and Mentor Teachers	believeandprepare@la.gov

Educational Leader Licensure Policy Update	believeandprepare@la.gov
ELA Guidebooks	elaguidebooks@la.gov
Environmental Education	environmentaleducation@la.gov
Financial Aid Assistance	ldefinancial@la.gov
Graduation Requirements	highschoolacademics@la.gov
Instructional Support and Resources	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
Jump Start	jumpstart@la.gov
Language Acquisition and World Languages	language.acquisition@la.gov
Literacy	louisianaliteracy@la.gov
PD Vendor Guide	louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov
Pupil Progressions	ppp@la.gov
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit	ldoeevents@la.gov
Math, Science, and STEM	STEM@la.gov
Teacher Certification	certification@la.gov
Teacher Leaders and Teacher Leader Advisors	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
World Languages	language.acquisition@la.gov