

TEACHER LEADERS

ENGAGE. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.

April 2018



Hi! My name is Terrie Hasten-Fleming and I am a math teacher at Starship Academy in Iberville.

My colleagues would describe me as a rock-solid educator who believes every assessment must be aligned to the depth and breadth of the standards and content being assessed. In fact, I think of assessment as my super power—and it helps me to guide students to reach heights previously unimaginable.

The [LEAP 2025 Assessment Guide](#) is my roadmap for success. By studying the standards, released items, and evidence tables, I learn what students need me to do to teach to the rigor of each standard.

Likewise, my students set personal learning goals. I teach them to love a challenge and that motivation becomes the backbone for success. We learn our grade level standards, we connect assessment questions to our standards, and then we ROCK those standards. EAGLE, released-test items, and LEAP 2025 Practice Tests become familiar warm-ups, tools for small group support or acceleration, and guide the development and content of my classroom assessments. Everything is strategic and no time is wasted.

That goes for [LEAP 360 interims](#) too. Students experience the testing environment and rigor they can expect on the LEAP 2025 assessments while I am monitoring progress toward our end-of-year goals.

At the end of the year when my students finish their LEAP tests, they always say something like, “That was easier than the tests you’ve been giving us all year.” I smile and say, “All that work was worth it!” (As I quietly adjust my invisible cape.)

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Instructional Support

ELA

ELA Guidebooks for 2018-2019: Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, school systems will have choice around [format, supports, and professional development](#) when using [ELA Guidebooks](#). Free access to digital editions of ELA Guidebooks will continue to be offered, even as new choices become available.

2018 Teacher Leader Summit ELA Sessions: To adequately prepare to support all students, teachers should be on the lookout at the upcoming Teacher Leader Summit for sessions focused on the Diverse Learner Supports (DLS). These sessions will focus on the theoretical foundation of DLS as well as how to access, plan for, and implement the released updates for the 2018-2019 school year.

Please contact holli.jessee@la.gov with any questions.

Social Studies

2018 Teacher Leader Summit Social Studies Sessions: Social Studies sessions will focus on implementation of high quality Social Studies instructional materials. Key sessions include:

- Using the Social Studies Weekly program in grades K-2 and 4-5
- Using inquiry based units from The DBQ Project in grades 4-7 and 9-12
- Using the Choices Program in grades 9-12
- Lesson Planning using the updated Social Studies Scope and Sequences

Please contact emily.parker@la.gov with any questions.

Math

2018 Teacher Leader Summit Math Sessions: At the most recent round of Supervisor Collaborations, the three biggest barriers to student success in mathematics, curriculum, classroom practice, and content knowledge were discussed and explored; also discussed was the limited impact of focusing time, energy, and professional development around one of these disconnected from the others. The greatest return on investment comes from connecting these for teachers.

The upcoming Teacher Leader Summit will provide sessions that integrate learning around curriculum, classroom practice, and content knowledge. Sessions will include learning around Tier 1 curriculum options such as Agile Minds, Eureka Math, Illustrative Math, Jump Math, Springboard, Statistical Reasoning, and Intensive Algebra I. All Wednesday and Thursday sessions for math will be pre-registered.

Please contact louisianastandards@la.gov with any questions.

Science

2018 Teacher Leader Summit Science Sessions: A variety of science sessions addressing the [Louisiana Student Standards for Science](#) will take place during the Teacher Leader Summit. These sessions will focus on the connection between standards, instruction, and assessment. Teachers will have an opportunity to dive deep into high-quality instructional resources and develop an understanding of how to implement the resources into their teaching and learning practices. Participants will also have an opportunity to understand how to implement phenomenon-based instruction into science instruction and how culturally relevant phenomena can be used to support equity in science classrooms.

Key sessions include:

- Louisiana Phenomena: How to Identify Them and Use them in Your Classroom
- Using the Science Scope and Sequences to Plan Daily Instruction for: K-2;3-5; 6-8; Biology; and Physical Science

Please contact louisianastandards@la.gov with any questions.

Nominations open for the 2018 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST): The PAEMST awards are the nation's highest honors for teachers of mathematics and science. [Nomination applications](#) are now available. Teachers of grades K - 6 mathematics and science are encouraged to sign up to apply. Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education. The nomination window will close April 1, and the application window will close on May 1.

Please contact jam05@bellsouth.net with any questions.

Special Education

Planning to Ensure Successful Transitions for Students With Disabilities: The [Strategies for Success: A Guidebook for Supporting Students With Disabilities](#) outlines [key transition points](#) essential for high achievement of students with disabilities. Strategy four of the guidebook includes resources on [student-centered post-secondary transition planning](#), which support students with disabilities who are enrolled in high school.

Now is the time to ensure that students with disabilities will not lose momentum as they enter new classrooms and school contexts next school year.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with any questions.

Assessment

LEAP 360

As spring testing approaches, remember that LEAP 360 Interim assessments can be used to better understand the expectations of the LEAP 2025 assessments.

In **ELA**, the interims focus on an integrated approach that reflects instruction in an effective ELA classroom. LEAP 360 Interim assessments provide examples of task-driven assessments that integrate reading, writing, and language skills.

In **Math**, LEAP 360 Interim assessments align to the approach of LEAP 2025 Summative Assessments but in smaller chunks of learning. LEAP 360 Interim assessments provide item type examples associated with assessable content to provide clarity.

More information about LEAP 360 can be found in [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#).

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Assessment Resource Refresher

The [Assessment Guidance library](#) includes ELA, math, and social studies assessment guides, science field test guides, social studies checklists, math reference sheets, math equation builder guides, and sample social studies task sets.

The [Practice Test library](#) includes paper-based practice tests for grades 3 and 4, answer keys for all practice tests, practice test guidance documents, and a practice test quick start guide.

INSIGHT™

- Computer-based practice tests
- Online Training Tools

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

The Department is currently recruiting for *LEAP 2025 Assessment Development Educator Review Committees* which convene from May through September. Selected educators will review potential LEAP 2025 assessment items or provide recommendations for scoring extended-response and constructed-response tasks.

Interest survey links, specific information about the different committees, and contact information for the assessment coordinators can be found at [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#) in the [Assessment Guidance](#) library.

An Assessment Development Educator Review Committees webinar will take place on **April 10 at 9:30 a.m., with a repeat at 2:30 p.m.** Any supervisors who were not able to attend the committee's session at the March collaborations and all teachers who may be interested in serving on any educator review committee should plan to attend. The webinar will be recorded and posted in the [Assessment Guidance](#) library.

To join the meeting:

- go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/assessmentdevelopment2/>; and
- dial 1-855-240-2575 and enter participant pin code: 60265090.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Professional Development

New: Coming Soon - Teacher Leader Summit Registration

The [2018 Louisiana Teacher Leader Summit](#) will take place **May 30 - June 1 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans**. The deadline to register is May 18.

This event brings together approximately 6500 educators and content experts from across the state to share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2018-2019 school year.

Educators must register for each day they plan to attend the Teacher Leader Summit. Registration is

open to all and no LEA code is required; however, some sessions at the Teacher Leader Summit require pre-registration. **All sessions, including those that require pre-registration, will be available for registration the week of April 23.** All general sessions are first come, first served.

As a reminder, the registrant needs to coordinate with their district's Teacher Leader Coordinator if requiring their district to cover travel expenses.

Please contact louisianateacherleaders@la.gov with questions related to the Teacher Leader Summit.

Order your Teacher Leader T-Shirt

Looking for a way to show your Teacher Leader pride? Teacher Leader t-shirts are now available for purchase.

Order [here](#) by **May 15 to receive your t-shirt before the Teacher Leader Summit.** A limited supply of t-shirts will also be available for purchase at the Teacher Leader Summit.

Other Opportunities

Participate in Teacher Appreciation Week

Everyday, Louisiana teachers change the world by influencing the young minds of our state. During **Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-11**, we invite you join the Department in elevating the most noble of professions, and show your love for your fellow educators on social media!



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You can join in the fun by:

- posting pictures or videos of fellow teachers thanking them for what they do; or
- posting a picture or video saying “Thank You” to a teacher that made a difference in your life, or inspired you to find your calling as an educator.

Be sure to tag the Department in your posts using the hashtags [#ThankATeacher](#) and [#BeATeacherLA!](#)

Together we can make an impact on the teaching profession, by changing the way the world, and most importantly our youth, see it! Social media graphics promoting Teacher Appreciation Week are available on the Department's [website](#), along with other materials for the statewide teacher recruitment campaign.