



## TEACHER LEADERS NEWSLETTER

**May 2021**



My name is Roger Vance, and I work with the secondary math community in Caddo Parish. This is my seventh year as the 6-12 Math Curriculum Specialist and what a ride it has been! I am beyond grateful for the amazing teachers, students, and other district leaders with whom I work.

The Louisiana [Teacher Leader Summit](#) has always provided meaningful learning for me and my fellow Caddo educators. **Opportunities to learn about proven instructional strategies, specific high-quality curriculum guidance, and collaboration with other math teachers from across the state** all make the Summit well worth our time. I am excited to lead a session this year where attendees will reflect on their strategies to [address unfinished learning](#) over the past year and work together to solidify plans for moving forward. I am also eager to attend various other sessions and I look forward to productive conversations with many of you along the way.

In planning for the 2020-2021 school year, we all faced new challenges for which our prior experiences did not give much of a reference point. Because of our passion for student success, however, we pressed on and learned so much related to virtual learning and more! So whether in person or virtual, let's engage in this year's Teacher Leader Summit like never before, be ready to share about what we have learned, and prepare to make the 2021-2022 school year the best ever!

I'm Nathalie Roy. I hail from East Baton Rouge Parish at Glasgow Middle School where I teach Latin and Roman Technology, a STEM integration class in which we reproduce the products and processes of ancient Roman daily life through experimental archaeology and hands-on STEM labs. Integrating STEM and ancient history helps students see themselves in the past AND future. My students love STEM challenges, and in my TLS session, I'll be demonstrating a catapult lesson from my Roman Tech class! Wanna build a mini catapult model and learn how to integrate STEM into YOUR class? Come join me for my TLS session! I'm so excited to [see you there!](#)



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## TEACHER LEADER SUMMIT

### **Deadline To Register: May 10**

The 2021 Teacher Leader Summit is now open to the general public. All educators and administrators across the state are invited and encouraged to join! The 2021 Teacher Leader Summit will take place May 25–27 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Both the Department and the Convention Center are taking measures to promote the health and safety of all participants throughout the week.

General Summit information can be found in the [overview document](#) posted to the [Teacher Leader Library](#).

Description	1-Day Ticket	3-Day Ticket
<b>Regular Registration</b> (March 2—May 10)	\$71	\$140

## The Virtual Series

To maximize the delivery of content and educator development, The Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will take place from June 1 - 11, and sessions will be accessed remotely. The format will be similar to the Virtual Series offered during Spring 2020.

- There will be a max overall registration limitation of 8,000.
- The Department is not allocating seats. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis.
- Paid ticket holders of the Teacher Leader Summit in-person event will receive an access code allowing them to register for and participate in the Virtual Series at no additional cost.
- Each code will be one-time use and must be used only by the original ticket holder. Codes are not transferable.

Ticket Type	Purchasing Window	Ticket Price
Regular Registration	April 26 - sell out	\$65.00

Please contact [LDOEEvents@la.gov](mailto:LDOEEvents@la.gov) for more information, or if issues arise during registration.

## TEACHER LEADER ADVISORS

### 2021-2022 Teacher Leader Advisors

The Department is now accepting applications for 2021-2022 Teacher Leader Advisors. TLAs work closely with Department staff throughout the year to make sure school systems across the state have access to high-quality instructional materials. All interested Louisiana educators should complete the application by 5 p.m., **June 12**.

For an overview of the work planned for 2021-2022 and a link to the application, [see the TLA flyer](#).

Please contact [LouisianaTeacherLeaders@la.gov](mailto:LouisianaTeacherLeaders@la.gov) with questions.

## SCIENCE RESOURCES

### Open Enrollment Summer Professional Development for inquiryHub Biology

Virtual professional development opportunities for inquiryHub Biology will be held this summer. The four day, virtual workshops will focus on resources and routines for using student questions in instruction, ensuring relevance and coherence for students, fostering equitable and productive discussion, and assessing three dimensional learning. Workshops will be offered multiple times throughout the summer. Please see the [Professional Learning landing page](#) for the University of Colorado Boulder for more information and to register.

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

## EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

### Free Summer Environmental Education Workshop Series

The [Summer Environmental Education Workshop Series](#) is designed to provide a framework for understanding, developing, and using environmental phenomena in the classroom. Participants will deepen content knowledge on environmental education topics such as marine debris and water quality through interactive webinars delivered by experts in the field. Participants will also learn strategies and resources for incorporating student stewardship opportunities into units of study.

This workshop series is open to all Louisiana educators. Due to limited capacity, registration is required, and virtual seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

### Summer Environmental Education Workshop Series Schedule

Launching Meaningful Phenomena for Three-Dimensional Learning	Learn how relevant phenomena strengthens standards-based instruction and enhances student understanding.	2 offerings: <a href="#">June 7-8</a> or <a href="#">June 16-17</a>  8 hour workshop
Foundations of Louisiana's Water Quality	Explore water quality, learn about key parameters, and learn how students are helping to monitor the water quality in Louisiana's coastal and marine systems.	<a href="#">June 22</a>  3 hour workshop
Deep Dive into Water Quality Issues	Participants will experience a more in depth exploration of the water quality issues facing Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico.	<a href="#">June 23</a>  3 hour workshop
Marine Debris and Microplastics	Learn how to lead a marine debris survey and why microplastics pose a threat to aquatic life.	2 offerings: <a href="#">July 13</a> or <a href="#">July 14</a>  4 hour workshop

For questions, please contact [environmentaleducation@la.gov](mailto:environmentaleducation@la.gov).

### Coming Soon! Louisiana Coastal Fellowship Program

This summer, the Department is launching applications for the Louisiana Coastal Fellowship Program, open to certified K-12 educators who currently teach in a [key coastal parish](#). Fellows selected into this program will:

- have access to personalized coaching and professional development through participation in virtual community of practice workshops;
- develop an educational phenomenon resource featuring a Louisiana environmental topic to be published by the Department; and
- develop a student outdoor experience to accompany the phenomenon.

Although participation is not required, preference will be given to applicants who participate in one or more of the [Summer Environmental Education Workshop Series](#) workshops. Selected fellows will receive compensation for successful completion of project deliverables. Details will be provided during fellowship onboarding. Applications open **June 23**.

For questions, please contact [environmentaleducation@la.gov](mailto:environmentaleducation@la.gov).

### **STEM Teacher Micro-Credentialing Opportunity for High School Educators**

The Department has received an Education Innovation and Research grant from the U.S. Department of Education to research and develop a new mechanism to provide high-quality professional support and one of the nation's first credentialing systems to recognize the expertise of STEM teachers. The Department is currently recruiting Louisiana high school teachers to be a part of this development and study. This opportunity is open to teachers who are currently teaching or plan to teach coursework within the Pre-Engineering or Digital Design and Emergent Media high school [STEM Pathways](#). In addition to a stipend for participation, teachers selected to participate in the study will:

- receive additional support on the execution of best practices for facilitating project-based STEM learning;
- create a virtual portfolio to reflect on their practices, analyze and critique lessons they have taught, examine and try new teaching practices, and use data driven instruction to maximize student outcomes; and
- have opportunities to strengthen expertise through collaborative online cohorts and individual feedback from experienced STEM educators.

Interested educators should complete [this brief survey](#).

Please visit the [research project information page](#) for additional information or contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

### **High School STEM Pathways Summer 2021 Trainings**

In order to better meet workforce demands, the Louisiana Department of Education, the Louisiana Board of Regents, the LaSTEM Council and the Governor's office have teamed up to ensure Louisiana's students have exposure to STEM courses and credentials starting in middle school and continued through college. The STEM Pathways better prepare students to seek a STEM degree in college or enter the workforce having earned certifications in high-wage career sectors. [STEM Pathways](#) are designed for students seeking either a TOPS Tech Diploma or University Diploma. STEM Pathways providers offer summer trainings to prepare attendees to teach the specialized coursework. A list of trainings and links to registration information and further details is available as part of the [Jump Start Summer Institute Catalogue](#).

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

## **STEM and Art Competition for Grades 5-12: Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP)**

The National Center for Earth and Space Science Education has announced the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program ([SSEP](#)) Mission 16 to the International Space Station. Students have the opportunity to design and propose microgravity experiments to fly in low-Earth orbit on the International Space Station (ISS), constrained by the engineering and technology limitations imposed by the flight certified mini-lab that must be used, and the nature of flight operations to and from Low Earth Orbit. Students may also participate in mission patch art and design competitions, with two patches selected to fly with the flight experiment. Launch of the Mission 16 flight is currently projected for Spring 2022.

For complete program details visit the [SSEP Home Page](#).

## **EDUCATOR RECOGNITION**

### **Teacher and Principal of the Year Announcements at the Summit**

On May 25, the Department will name the *2022 Teacher and Principal of the Year Finalists* and the *State Teacher of the Year Public Interest Fellowship* recipient(s) LIVE at the plenary at the Teacher Leader Summit.

To learn more about the Teacher and Principal of the Year awards programs, visit the [Awards page website](#). To learn more about the fellowship opportunity, [read further](#).

Following the plenary announcements, winner information will be posted on the [Awards page website](#).

Please contact [excellenteducators@la.gov](mailto:excellenteducators@la.gov) with questions.

## **CONTACT US**

<b>For questions related to...</b>	<b>Contact:</b>
AP Courses and Exams Contact	<a href="mailto:collegereadiness@la.gov">collegereadiness@la.gov</a>
Assessments and Related Supports	<a href="mailto:assessment@la.gov">assessment@la.gov</a>
Collaborations	<a href="mailto:districtsupport@la.gov">districtsupport@la.gov</a>
Compass	<a href="mailto:compass@la.gov">compass@la.gov</a>
Educational Leader Licensure Policy Update	<a href="mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov">believeandprepare@la.gov</a>
ELA Guidebooks	<a href="mailto:elaguidebooks@la.gov">elaguidebooks@la.gov</a>
Environmental Education	<a href="mailto:Environmentaleducation@la.gov">Environmentaleducation@la.gov</a>
Financial Aid Assistance	<a href="mailto:ldefinancial@la.gov">ldefinancial@la.gov</a>
Graduation Requirements	<a href="mailto:highschoolacademics@la.gov">highschoolacademics@la.gov</a>

Instructional Support and Resources including Leap 360 and Eagle	<a href="mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov">classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov</a>
Jump Start	<a href="mailto:jumpstart@la.gov">jumpstart@la.gov</a>
PD Vendor Guide	<a href="mailto:louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov">louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov</a>
Pupil Progressions	<a href="mailto:ppp@la.gov">ppp@la.gov</a>
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit	<a href="mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov">ldoeevents@la.gov</a>
STEM	<a href="mailto:STEM@la.gov">STEM@la.gov</a>
Teacher Certification	<a href="mailto:certification@la.gov">certification@la.gov</a>
Teacher Leaders, Content Leaders, Mentor Teachers, and Teacher Leader Advisors	<a href="mailto:louisianateacherleaders@la.gov">louisianateacherleaders@la.gov</a>