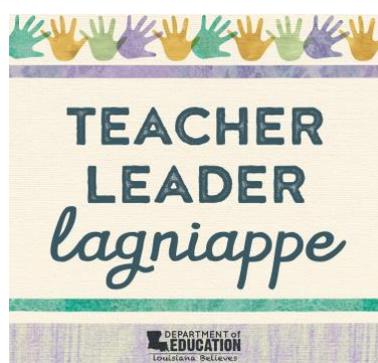




## August 2021



Welcome back, teacher leaders! I am Em Cooper, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Development, and I am eager to share with you an exciting new way the Department is celebrating teachers. We are kicking off the new school year with a weekly podcast series, [Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#).

As educators, you are leaders—leaders of your families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. This platform will allow you to hear from innovators, change agents, and experts who will empower you to grow in your profession. It will keep you connected to what is going on outside of your building so that you are learning best practices and hearing what's working in our state and country.

Not only will you hear our theme song written and performed by Louisiana's own Grammy-winning artist Mickey Smith, Jr., you will hear highlights of the great things our educators are doing during the "What's Making Me Smile" segment, so [submit pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school.

I hope this little something extra makes you feel connected to what is going on in education and the people doing this incredible work.

## In This Issue

- [ELA Resources](#)
- [Social Studies Resources](#)
- [Math Resources](#)
- [Science Resources](#)
- [Educator Opportunities](#)
- [Educator Recognition](#)
- [Student Opportunities](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

## ELA RESOURCES

### **ELA Guidebooks Text Analyses for Grades 3-5 and 9-12**

Updated text analysis documents for selected ELA Guidebook units in grades 3-5 and 9-12 will be released in September. These updates include additional text complexity analyses and the addition of text ratings for the 9-12 ELA Guidebook units. These updated documents will be available through the Curriculum Hub which is accessible to educators, students, and their families.

Additionally, work to complete text analysis for all grades 6-8 texts will begin Fall of 2022, and the release date of these text analysis documents will be communicated at a later date.

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

### **ELA Guidebooks Updates for Grades 3-5**

In collaboration with The Writing Revolution, updated Guidebook units for grades 3-5 will be released in April 2022. The units will include core and optional activities to support diverse learners and progressive writing strategies to strengthen students' writing skills. These new units will be accessible for implementation on the Curriculum Hub.

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

### **ELA Guidebooks Updates for Grades 9-12**

New ELA Guidebooks 9-12 (2020) units will be released in Spring of 2022 for implementation during the 2022-2023 school year. The following units will be included in this update: Photojournalism (Grade 9), Bioethics (Grade 10), Film In America (Grade 11), and In the Time of the Butterflies (Grade 12). Professional development and additional guidance for these units will be available at the 2022 Teacher Leader Summit.

Additional information, including specific unit release dates and purchasing information, will be announced in future communications.

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

### **Accelerate ELA Updates**

[Accelerate ELA](#) resources are built as proactive support for upcoming ELA classroom content so that students can be more successful in engaging with the grade-level, complex texts in their ELA Guidebooks unit or with other high quality instructional materials. Resources were updated in July and will continue to be released through the 2021-2022 school year.

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

## SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

### **Updated World Geography Sample Scope and Sequence**

An updated sample scope and sequence for the high school World Geography course will be released on August 30 for the 2021-2022 school year. The new World Geography materials will be in the same format as the updated scope and sequences for Civics, U.S. History, and grades 3-8 found on the [K-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page.

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

## MATH RESOURCES

### **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. Resources were updated in July and will continue to be released through the 2021-2022 school year. Complete the [Accelerate Math feedback](#) form to help shape future updates and improvements.

To learn more about the specific resources available and best practices for maximizing their use, join the Accelerate Math Resources Overview [webinar](#) on September 1 at 9 a.m. Details are below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 1 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98942599373>
- **Phone Number:** 470-250-9358 US
- **Meeting ID:** 989 4259 9373
- **Passcode:** 356468

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

## SCIENCE RESOURCES

### **New Resource: Grade 6 Louisiana Guide to Implementing Amplify Science**

To support school systems, schools, and teachers in implementation of high quality instructional materials, the Department is releasing the Louisiana Guide to Implementing Amplify Science for grade 6. This document provides guidance regarding how Amplify Science grade 6 units correlate with the [Louisiana Student Standards for Science](#) (LSSS). The Amplify Science grade 6 curriculum provides ample instructional guidance for teachers. This Louisiana Guide for Implementing Amplify goes a step further to point out places in which Louisiana teachers may need to make strategic decisions considering student needs, time availability, and the local context. The Grade 6 Louisiana Guide to Implementing Amplify can be found on the [K-12 Science Planning](#) page.

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

### **NEW Science Resource: Louisiana Student Standards for Science and NGSS Crosswalks**

To assist high school teachers, schools, and systems with determining alignment to Louisiana Student Standards for Science (LSSS) for resources designed for the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), the Department is developing crosswalks that show connections and differences between the two sets of standards. Crosswalks for Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physical Science, Earth Science and Environmental Science will be posted in August on the [K-12 Science Planning Page](#). Crosswalk documents for kindergarten through grade 8 are in development and will be released later this year.

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

### **Chemistry Sample Scope and Sequence Updated with New Resources**

To assist Chemistry teachers, schools, and systems with planning for the upcoming school year, the Department has updated the [LSSS Chemistry Sample Scope and Sequence](#) to include links to full, freely available Chemistry units. The revised document still includes information on choosing and using anchoring and investigative phenomena, a standards overview, and sample units with information about the phenomena, standards addressed, and links to resources.

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

### **Louisiana Guides to Piloting OpenSciEd Updated**

To assist teachers, schools, and systems with planning for the upcoming school year as revised OpenSciEd units are published on a rolling schedule, the Department has updated the guides for implementing OpenSciEd for grade 6, grade 7, and grade 8 on the [K-12 Science Planning Page](#). The updates include

- pacing guidance for the first complete units in grades 6 and 7;
- updated unit release information; and
- implementation guidance for Grade 8 including two sample calendars to consider.

The Department holds a monthly support call open to leaders of schools and/or systems piloting OpenSciEd on the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m.

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions or to be added to the monthly call.

## **EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES**

### **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](#) by August 27. Please visit the [research project information page](#) for more information.

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

### **Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast**

The Department is excited to announce the launch of the [Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) podcast, which offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. Teacher leaders will hear inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country, including innovators, change agents, and experts who will empower them to grow in their profession.

The [preview episode](#) and [episode 1](#) featuring Dr. Brumley's interview, are currently available. The Department would like to give a shout out to St. Landry Parish and Caddo superintendent Dr. Goree, and Redesign Schools of Louisiana ([episode 2](#)).

The podcast will release episodes weekly. Interested teacher leaders should subscribe to the [podcast](#) and share it with colleagues.

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

### **Mentor Credential Policy Updates**

At the April 2021 BESE meeting the board approved changes to Bulletin 746 regarding mentor credential requirements. These updates include honoring previous training and experiences. Teachers who hold any of the following are currently eligible for the mentor credential:

- EDL or previous administrative certifications
- NIET trained evaluator certification
- CLASS trained evaluator certification
- Supervision of Student Teacher certification

In addition, BESE removed the content- specific assessments reducing the Mentor Assessment Series down to two assessments instead of four. These policy changes were approved by emergency rule and are currently in effect.

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

### **Louisiana Coastal Fellowship Program**

The [Louisiana Coastal Fellowship Program](#) is structured to engage participating educators, known as fellows, in rich professional learning as a cohort of like-minded educators who are committed to championing environmental literacy for the students of our state.

What are the benefits to becoming a fellow?

Applicants have multiple ways in which to engage with the fellowship

- participate in a “book club” style professional learning series led by local and national experts on environmental and science education
- contribute to the development of educational resources featuring environmental phenomena
- receive coaching and engage collaboratively with other fellows to design a student outdoor experience

Selected fellows will receive classroom supplies to support environmental learning as well as compensation for participation and successful completion of project deliverables. Details will be provided during fellowship onboarding. The [application](#) deadline has been extended until Friday, August 15.

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

## **EDUCATOR RECOGNITION**

### **Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)**

Congratulations to Margaret Acree and Paula Callender for receiving the [PAEMST](#), the nation's highest honor for teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics!

Margaret, from Monroe, received the award for Grades 7-12 Math. She has been teaching for 19 years and currently teaches Algebra II, Precalculus, and Calculus to 10th-12th grade students. Margaret is a Department Head at her school and has also served in various roles at the district, state, and national level. Margaret is passionate about teaching and learning and willingly implements new strategies in her classroom to support deep conceptual understanding for her students and create a student-centered environment.

Paula, a recipient of the award for Grades 7-12 Science, hails from Natchitoches. A 20-year veteran who currently teaches 9th grade Biology, Paula has focused on the societal and cultural impacts of STEM education. Through her work with the National Writing Project, she works to engage students with reading and writing opportunities in the context of STEM education. Paula believes that all students need STEM education to engage as local, state, and national citizens and supports equitable opportunities for students in STEM education.

Please contact Jean May-Brett ([jam05@bellsouth.net](mailto:jam05@bellsouth.net)) or Jan Graff ([jlgraff@bellsouth.net](mailto:jlgraff@bellsouth.net)) with questions.

### **Department Names 2022 Teacher and Principal of the Year State-Level Winners**

On Friday, July 16, the Department, in partnership with [Dream Teachers](#), celebrated the 2022 Teacher and Principal of the Year state-level honorees at the 15th Annual Cecil. J. Picard Educator Excellence

Awards Gala, which was held virtually this year. On this evening, the Teacher and Principal of the Year division-level and statewide winners were also named.

Congratulations to the outstanding educators named the [2022 Teacher and Principal of the Year honorees and state-level winners](#).

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

### **Teacher Leader Advisors Selected**

Congratulations to all of the Louisiana educators who have been selected as [2021-2022 Teacher Leader Advisors](#)!

Teacher Leader Advisors play a critical role in creating tools and facilitating professional development for fellow Louisiana educators by creating instructional and assessment resources, such as the ELA Guidebooks and EAGLE items, participating in the Department's Instructional Materials Review process, and leading sessions at the annual Teacher Leader Summit.

Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions, or visit our [website](#).

## **STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Opportunity**

The Louisiana Department of Education and the [William Randolph Hearst Foundation](#) are pleased to announce the launch of the 2022 United States Senate Youth Program. Two outstanding students from Louisiana will be selected to participate virtually or in-person in a series of meetings from March 5 through March 12 in 2022. Upon participation in all of the required meetings, each delegate will receive a \$10,000 college scholarship from the Hearst Foundation. The Department requests your assistance selecting these students.

Juniors or seniors who hold elected or appointed offices in school or community groups listed in the [national program brochure](#) may submit a Louisiana [application packet](#). Applicants should hold a leadership position as outlined in the brochure. Ensure that students understand the rules and regulations governing this competition. For test security reasons, the secure essay topics will only be released to school systems and will not be available on our website. High school personnel should contact [marian.johnson@la.gov](mailto:marian.johnson@la.gov) as soon as a student request is made for the essay topics.

The names of the students selected by each high school and their application portfolios must be emailed to the program coordinator no later than October 5. Finalists will be notified by October 27, for the final phase of selection process on November 9.

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

## CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
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>
Content Leaders and Mentor Teachers	<a href="mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov">believeandprepare@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 and Teacher Leader Advisors	<a href="mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov">classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov</a>