



## September 2022



Hello fellow educators! I am Elizabeth Romaine, and I am happy to be entering my 14th year in education as the 6th grade dean and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Coordinator at Westdale Middle School in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

As technology has become an integral part of instruction, increased parent support with using that technology is essential. The Department's newly revised [Educational Technology Plan](#) highlighted this need. At Westdale, we wanted to make this support a focus for the 2022-2023 school year.

Making a deliberate effort to offer more parent support in technology and differentiating that support will be essential to reach as many parents as possible. Consider what information is important for parents to know to be able to support their child and how that information will be shared with parents. Our first step is to create **parent resource centers on campus** to facilitate access for every parent.

Offering a specific station for parents to ask questions about classroom technology and technology use will be another way that we share information with parents. To ensure all parents are able to receive technology support, consider hosting **parent nights after school hours to offer training to parents on the devices and tools their students** are using in the classroom. We recognize that these parent nights will allow us to support those parents who are not available during school hours. To ensure that the parents of our diverse student body all receive support, we recognize the importance of **offering translated resources to support and welcome all parents.**

Parent support has always been a cornerstone of education, but the pandemic highlighted the need for parent support and inclusion, specifically, with educational technology. Finding innovative ways to provide this support to best help students and parents is essential. Consider how you will share this technology support information and how partnerships, such as your [Parent Teacher Organizations](#) can support these efforts. I know other schools are going to do amazing things, and I look forward to learning from them as well!

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## LITERACY

### **Resource: Universal Screener Data Analysis Templates**

The Literacy Division has released updated templates for analyzing universal screening data and making data-based decisions based on specific student needs. The templates are structured to cover beginning-, middle-, and end-of-year data collection so that a comprehensive plan can be developed. There is an analysis template available for each level of analysis and planning including small group planning for [interventionists](#), student grouping templates for [teachers](#), school-wide data analysis tables for [school sites](#), and [system-level](#) data analysis.

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

### **PD Series: Science of Reading and Literacy Intervention Tools for Paraprofessionals and Support Staff**

**Please share with paraprofessionals and support staff.**

In an effort to support staff members who are positioned to assist teachers and provide additional instruction to struggling students, a [series of webinars](#) will be held in September to provide time and space for questions and on-demand support. Topics will include an introduction to the science of reading, supporting classroom literacy, and using literacy resources to support instruction. Recordings of the sessions will be posted in the [Literacy Library](#).

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

### **PD Series: Step-by-Step Foundational Supports for Grades 3-12**

Teachers of upper elementary, middle, and high school grades are encouraged to attend a webinar series on how to support foundational skills for struggling readers. [This PD series](#) will highlight available resources, tools, and activities that can improve reading instruction and interventions for all students. Topics will include using data, conducting a fluency screener, administering the skills probe and the phonemic and phonological awareness probe. [The webinars](#) will be recorded and posted in the [Literacy Library](#). Additional sessions will begin in October and November to support content literacy development. Additional information for the additional sessions will be released in next month's newsletter.

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

## ELA RESOURCES

### **Resources for School Librarians**

Please join the [LASL mailing list](#) to receive resources and information on additional 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:

- [August Newsletter](#)

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

### **ELA Guidebooks 9-12 (2020)**

The Department has partnered with teachers across Louisiana to develop an additional ELA Guidebooks 9-12 unit per grade level, Development 6. These new units will provide schools and school systems with an additional unit option that will be aligned with high school social studies standards. Additional information regarding the availability of units and purchasing materials will be provided in future communications.

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

### **Accelerating Learning in ELA**

The Department has developed resources to support school systems committed to using the statewide tutoring strategy, [Accelerate](#), to provide additional learning time for students through high-dosage tutoring during the school day at CIR/UIR-Academics schools. Accelerate ELA resources for students in grades [K-2](#) and [3-10](#) are now available. Accelerate ELA materials for grades K-2 include foundational skills and knowledge building lessons while the materials for grades 3-10 include knowledge building texts and activities. The Department plans to continue to develop resources during the 2022-2023 school year, and they will be released on a rolling basis.

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

## SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

### **2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies Implementation Information**

The [2022 K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies](#) (LSSSS) will be implemented in the 2023-2024 school year. The [K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies FAQ](#) is posted to the [K-12 Social Studies Resources page](#) and [Grades 9-12 Social Studies Teacher Library](#). The Department will continue hosting [webinars](#) this fall to support district leaders, school leaders, and teachers as they prepare to transition to the 2022 K-12 LSSSS. The information for the upcoming Grades K-3 webinar is below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 13 at 3:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97047352000?pwd=dVNWTTJlEVm1iM2VBcUNxek15ZWl3QT09>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799

- Meeting ID #: 97047352000
- Passcode: 529847

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

### **Louisiana Council for the Social Studies Annual Meeting**

The Annual Conference for the Louisiana Council for the Social Studies will be held in Monroe, Louisiana, on October 17. [Registration](#) is now open until **September 15**. On site/same day registration will also be available.

Please contact [louisianacouncilsocialstudies@gmail.com](mailto:louisianacouncilsocialstudies@gmail.com) with questions.

## **MATH RESOURCES**

### **Self-Paced Math Professional Learning**

To assist math teachers, leaders, schools and systems with implementation of best practices in mathematics, the Department has released [self-paced professional learning modules](#). These resources are designed to fit flexibly in a variety of professional learning formats. Modules may be accessed individually for an “at your own pace” style of professional learning. Content Leaders or other math leaders may also choose to utilize materials to drive professional learning and facilitate collaborative conversations. Additional modules will be posted to the Department’s [math planning page](#) throughout the school year.

New topics include

- [The Shifts in the Standards](#); and
- [Rigor in Mathematics](#).

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

### **Accelerating Learning in Mathematics**

The Department has developed resources to support school systems committed to using the statewide tutoring strategy, [Accelerate](#), to provide additional learning time for students through high-dosage tutoring during the school day at CIR/UIR-Academics schools. The [Accelerate Math](#) resources provide proactive support to upcoming classroom content in order to ensure students’ readiness for grade level mathematics. Math tutoring resources are designed to provide support on the most essential prerequisite knowledge and skills to support success in upcoming lessons. Materials include small scale formative tools to identify unfinished learning in relation to upcoming instruction, correlations to grade level lessons, links to Google slide presentations, and exit tickets designed specifically for each set of tutoring sessions.

Teachers and leaders who want to learn more about accelerating math learning should view the [Acceleration in Math Self-Paced Learning Modules](#).

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

### **Reminder: ASSISTments Professional Learning Opportunity for Math**

[ASSISTments](#) is a free math practice and assessment platform that supports the Department's [Pre-K through High School Tutoring Strategy](#) and streamlines the [Acceleration Cycle](#). Teachers can assign all of the [Accelerate Math Diagnostics and Tutoring Exit tickets](#) online and get immediate data to use for planning just-in-time supports and monitoring student progress. ASSISTments is hosting free virtual workshops in which participants will discover how the Acceleration Cycle works to transform learning through a full demonstration of the features of ASSISTments designed uniquely for Louisiana educators. [Registration](#) is now open for interested educators to choose from one of three workshop dates.

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

### **Now Open: Math Teacher Leader Advisor Application**

The Department is seeking math teachers to join the 2022-2023 [Teacher Leader Advisor](#) cohort. Math Teachers are needed to participate in the Department's [Instructional Materials Review](#) process. Math Teacher Leader Advisors play an influential role in

- evaluating the quality of publisher submitted instructional materials; and
- supporting school systems in making local, high quality curricular purchasing decisions.

Interested educators should [apply](#) by **September 16**.

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

## **SCIENCE RESOURCES**

### **Now Open: Science Teacher Leader Advisor Application**

The Department is seeking high school science teachers to join the 2022-2023 [Teacher Leader Advisor](#) cohort. Science Teacher Leader Advisors play an influential role in

- creating instructional tasks and resources in science;
- expanding the library of teacher-developed formative assessment resources designed for the Louisiana Student Standards for Science; and/or
- developing and facilitating science professional learning sessions.

Interested educators should [apply](#) by **September 16**.

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

## EDTECH

### **LACUE Call for Proposals**

The Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators (LACUE) is calling for proposals for the [2022 LACUE Conference](#). The conference will be held November 29 - December 1 at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans. The deadline to submit is **October 1** and acceptance notifications will be sent by October 21. The LACUE conference is a wonderful opportunity for educators from around the state to share knowledge and expertise.

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

### **Microsoft Flip**

Flipgrid has a new name and a new look, but it is still the same free video recording software used with students or fellow teachers.

Recent updates to [Flip](#) include new backdrops including video options, sticky notes, gifs, and a photo mode with the option to voice over. As always, templates are available in the [Discovery library](#), and the library includes topics from Discovery Education, the National WWII Museum, LEGO Education, Scholastic, and Yellowstone National Park.

Add to the [Flip topic](#) to share how Flip can be utilized in the classroom.

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

### **Microsoft Updates**

Microsoft Teams recently rolled out two new features. [Reflect](#) is a tool embedded into Teams that allows students to provide feedback and reflect on their learning using check-ins, emojis, and characters. Also, Teams now has a home page feature that allows educators to create a feed for students and teachers to organize and catch up on class topics at a glance.

Many teachers are already taking advantage of the [Live Captions](#) feature in Microsoft OneNote. Teachers can initiate a conversation with students enabling live automatic translation of everything a teacher says. Students will see a transcript on their screen in addition to a translated version.

Learn more about these and other topics at the [Microsoft Educator Center](#).

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

## EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

### **Quality Science and Math (QSM) Grant Program**

The [Quality Science and Math Grant Program](#) awards grants of up to \$2,000 to Louisiana Pre-K-12 public school teachers for the purchase of non-consumable materials and equipment to be used in science, math, and STEM courses. The [application portal](#) is now open and will close on **September 11**. [Grant writing resources](#) and full program details are available on the [QSM website](#).

Please contact [qsminfo@lsu.edu](mailto:qsminfo@lsu.edu) with questions.

### **Grow with Google and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture Fellowship Opportunity**

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture and Grow with Google have teamed up to launch the [Farm Bureau Foundation Fellows Program](#). This 8-month opportunity supports educators as they create [Applied Digital Skills](#) lessons and serve as ambassadors, while providing training for other educators and stakeholders. Applications are due **September 8**.

Fellows will receive a stipend, Chromebooks for their classroom, and 1:1 engagement with teams at Google.

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

### **Educator Evaluation Review**

**Please share these surveys with all school leaders and teachers.**

As part of Louisiana's Recruitment and Retention Plan, the Department is reviewing the current Louisiana educator evaluation system that was created over ten years ago, to identify areas for improvement.

The Department is asking for the input of educators that are evaluated and educators that are evaluators. The [leader survey](#) and [teacher survey](#) provide educators an opportunity to share opinions and ideas on the current evaluation system. The surveys close on **September 30**.

Please email [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov) with questions.

## EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

### **Nominations for the 2023 Presidential Awards for Mathematics and Science Teaching**

[Nominations](#) are now open for the 2023 [Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching](#). This award is the highest and most prestigious honor bestowed by the United States government specifically for K-12 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teaching. This year's cycle will recognize teachers of grades 7-12. Nominations close on **January 9**.

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

## Searching for Louisiana’s Next State Teacher and Principal of the Year and New Teacher of the Year

**Please forward to stakeholders, including principals and teachers.**

The Department recognizes great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. Annually, the Department honors some of the state’s most successful educators through the Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year programs, as well as the New Teacher of the Year program. (Candidates for the New Teacher of the Year program must have less than one year teaching experience.)

Part of the selection process for naming the district and state-level winners includes recommendations from teachers, principals, district employees, parents, colleagues, and community members. To assist with the process, a nominations portal was created.

The [nominations portal](#) is open now and will close on **September 30**. Multiple nominations are accepted, as well as self-nominations. The portal may also be accessed by visiting the [Award’s page](#). Upon portal close, the nomination information will be shared with school systems for their consideration.

Please contact [excellenteducators@la.gov](mailto:excellenteducators@la.gov) for questions regarding Teacher/Principal of the Year and [laurie.carlton@la.gov](mailto:laurie.carlton@la.gov) for questions regarding New Teacher of the Year.

## CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
AP Courses and Exams	<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>
EdTech	<a href="mailto:digitallearning@la.gov">digitallearning@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	<a href="mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov">classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov</a>

Jump Start	<a href="mailto:jumpstart@la.gov">jumpstart@la.gov</a>
Language Acquisition	<a href="mailto:language.acquisition@la.gov">language.acquisition@la.gov</a>
Literacy	<a href="mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov">louisianaliteracy@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>
Math, Science, and 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>
World Languages	<a href="mailto:language.acquisition@la.gov">language.acquisition@la.gov</a>