



## October 2022



Greetings fellow Teacher Leaders! My name is Meredith Starks and I have taught at Bellaire Elementary in Bossier Parish for the past 14 years. I have proudly been a Teacher Leader Advisor since 2013, working almost exclusively on the [ELA Guidebooks](#). It has been my privilege to help create, write, and teach the ELA Guidebooks units since their initial introduction in 2014.

The Department has set out to provide high-quality instructional materials because Louisiana teachers and students deserve nothing less. With each revision, the ELA Guidebooks curriculum has evolved based on teacher feedback and the needs of students. I am most excited about the latest updates for grades 6-8 that we are currently developing. Not only do the updates include a **streamlined writing progression** across units, but multiple texts have been added that will keep 21st century middle schoolers **engaged** and **excited** about learning.

One thing that has not changed with ELA Guidebooks, however, is the focus on reading, understanding, and expressing understanding of complex texts. When Louisiana students are presented with complex texts and high-quality instructional materials in all subject areas, we are supporting students' success. In my classroom, I have found that the more my students practice with the complex texts, the more adept they are at analyzing sources in social studies and evaluating stimuli in science.

Having teachers prepared and equipped to implement high-quality instructional materials is essential. To support school systems in implementing high-quality ELA curriculum, system leaders, school leaders, and teachers have access to ELA Guidebooks training on the [ELA Guidebooks page](#), the [2022 Teacher Leader Summit sessions](#), as well as from vendors in the [PD Vendor Guide](#).

As a [Teacher Leader Advisor](#), I've seen the benefits of using an ELA curriculum that focuses on building knowledge and supporting the needs of all learners. Having high-quality instructional materials in the classrooms throughout Louisiana is an investment we are making into the futures of our students. That is an investment worth making!

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## LITERACY

### **Professional Learning Series: Content Literacy in Action**

Teachers of upper elementary, middle, and high school grades are encouraged to attend a [webinar series](#) on how to provide instruction and support students in their content areas by building integrated literacy skills. [This Professional Learning series](#) will review the Content Literacy Support documents and experience what each looks like in action, as well as deconstruct the tools so that participants can understand the purposes and how to effectively implement the resources. The webinars will be recorded and posted in the [Literacy Library](#).

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

### **New Look: Literacy Library**

The [Literacy Library](#) has gotten a makeover! To accommodate the growing bank of resources that support the literacy pillars and goals, the Literacy Library has been reorganized to better serve the needs of leaders, teachers, and families who access those resources. Educators can now click on the pillar graphic that matches their needs and find available resources.

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 learning opportunities and to celebrate with Louisiana school librarians. Information is also located on the [LASL Website](#), on [Facebook](#), and on [Twitter](#).

Upcoming Events:

- November 12 - Professional Learning for School Librarians

Additional Resources:

- [September Newsletter](#)

- [Resources for School Library Professionals for Action and Safety During Challenging Times](#)

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

### **ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022)**

The Department conducted a pilot of the ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and collected [feedback](#) on the units from across the state in order to ensure that these materials are of the highest quality and meet the needs of Louisiana teachers and students. ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) updates are underway and they will include more anticipated responses, detailed supports for diverse learners, and the development of a new level three unit for each grade level. The new supports will include strategies for English Learners, as well as specific Literacy supports to be used as just in time supports during instruction. Additionally, the new units will give systems an alternative option for the level three unit. These updates are being made by teachers, for teachers, including educators who participated in the pilot, and will be released for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

### **ELA Guidebooks Grades 6-8 Updates**

The Department is currently updating [ELA Guidebooks 6-8 \(2018\)](#) to incorporate embedded writing instruction that will follow an explicit writing progression. Louisiana teachers and instructional leaders are collaborating on this work utilizing educator feedback from the field.

ELA Guidebook 6-8 (2023) units will be released Spring 2024 for implementation during the 2024-2025 school year. Additional information, including specific unit release dates will be announced in future newsletter communications and at the 2023 Teacher Leader Summit.

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

Join the Grades K-3: Preparing for the Transition and Crosswalks Webinar to learn about implementation of the 2022 K-12 LSSSS for kindergarten through third grade.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 13 at 3:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97047352000?pwd=dVNWTTJlEVm1iM2VBcUNxek15ZWl3QT09>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID #:** 97047352000
- **Passcode:** 529847

Join the Grades 4-5: Preparing for the Transition and Building Content Knowledge Webinar to learn about implementation of the 2022 K-12 LSSSS in for grades four and five.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 27 at 3:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95775961254?pwd=MEVleVlmbmh1TlJwd3F5UzJiL2VFdz09>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID #:** 95775961254
- **Passcode:** 999877

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

## MATH RESOURCES

### **Announcing Louisiana’s Math Refresh**

To support all schools in accelerating math learning, the Department is launching the [Louisiana Math Refresh](#). This initiative will provide funding to support a refresh of math materials. Guidance, resources and professional learning to provide the maximum impact in accelerating students’ math progress are coming soon. Updates will be provided through this newsletter and the new [Louisiana Math](#) page.

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.

## EDTECH

### **New EdTech Teacher Leader Advisor Applications Now Open!**

The Department is seeking K-12 teachers to join the first EdTech [Teacher Leader Advisor](#) cohort. EdTech Teacher Leader Advisors play an instrumental role in:

- the creation of educational resources and tools for K-12 educators;
- professional learning needs for future work;

- supporting schools and systems to facilitate parent communication; and
- providing subject matter specific technology integration support.

[Applications](#) are open and will close **November 7 at 5:00 p.m.** Interested educators can access the application and learn more about the role by visiting the [Teacher Leader Advisors](#) page.

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

### **Cybersecurity Awareness Month**

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month. The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) supports schools and the public in fostering cybersecurity awareness by providing information and resources to help educate and ensure all individuals and organizations make smart cyber decisions whether on the job, at home or at school.

This year’s campaign theme is “See Yourself in Cyber” and [CISA](#) has provided a wealth of resources on how teachers and schools can launch their own campaigns to increase cybersecurity awareness.

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

### **2022 LACUE Conference**

The Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators (LACUE) 2022 Annual Conference will be held November 29 - December 1 at the Hyatt New Orleans. [Registration](#) is now open and will close November 19.

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

## **EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast: New Episode Released**

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You’ll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.

Season 2, Episode 6: Legislative Lowdown with Ethan Melancon

Ethan Melancon, Executive Director of Governmental Affairs, talks about the legislative process, impactful workforce bills, and the excitement from the past legislative session. Hear the Teacher Hacks segment to learn about apps that make a difference in the classroom.

Share Your Stories: Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What’s Making Me Smile segment.

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

**STEM Professional Learning and Resources from Louisiana Transportation Research Center Now Available**

STEM professional learning and resources are now available through an in-person learning opportunity being offered by the Louisiana Transportation Research Center, a Division of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. The [TRAC and RIDES programs](#) are used to 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 activities designed to align with standards and used to facilitate problem solving skills and higher order thinking. The TRAC (TRANsportation and Civil Engineering) program is intended for use in grades 7-12 and RIDES (Roadways Into Developing Elementary Students) 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 December.

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

**STEM Teacher Leader Advisor Applications Now Open!**

The Department is seeking K-12 STEM teachers to join the 2022-2023 [Teacher Leader Advisor](#) cohort. STEM Teacher Leader Advisors play an influential role in:

- the creation of STEM resources and tools for K-12 educators;
- professional learning needs for future work; and
- supporting schools and systems to broaden STEM education.

[Applications](#) are open and will close **November 7 at 5:00 p.m.** Interested educators can access the application and learn more about the role by visiting the [Teacher Leader Advisors](#) page.

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

**Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Listening Sessions**

The Department, in partnership with the Region 14 Comprehensive Center, will be hosting an additional series of facilitated listening sessions across the state to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to describe their experiences and perceptions as well as offer suggestions on issues related to teacher recruitment, recovery, and retention.

To join a session, stakeholders should select a session below and complete the registration form. Once registration is complete a webinar link will be shared.

Stakeholder Group	Registration Links
Teacher Stakeholder Sessions	<a href="#">Thursday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m.</a> <a href="#">Monday, October 17 at 12:00 p.m.</a> <a href="#">Tuesday, October 18 at 9:00 a.m.</a> <a href="#">Thursday, October 20 at 3:00 p.m.</a>

Principal Stakeholder Sessions

[Monday, October 10 at 9:00 a.m.](#)  
[Friday, October 14 at 11:00 a.m.](#)  
[Tuesday, October 18 at 8:00 a.m.](#)  
[Wednesday, October 19 at 12:30 pm.](#)

The Department has partnered with the Region 14 Comprehensive Center, an outside organization, to conduct these sessions. Participant names will not be shared with the Department or associated with specific comments.

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

### **New: Louisiana's Teacher/Principal + New Teacher of the Year Application Process Opening Soon**

On October 11, the Teacher and Principal of the Year application process for the 2022-2023 school year will open. At that time, the application materials, and timeline will be available in the [Library](#) on the [Awards](#) page.

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers, three principals, and three new teachers (with less than one year teaching experience), one per division (elementary, middle, and high) as their local-level honorees and submit these selections to the state process. If interested in this opportunity, talk with your school or school system leaders to learn more about your local-level process.

State-level applications will close on **January 11** and must be submitted via an online application portal which will open later this year.

The Department will host two optional informational webinars to share details regarding this year's Teacher and Principal of the Year process. Interested stakeholders should select one of the following webinars to attend.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 11 at 9:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98106387818>
- **Phone Number:** 470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID#:** 981 0638 7818
  
- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 13 at 11:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92561219996>
- **Phone Number:** 470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID#:** 925 6121 9996

Please contact [excellenteducators@la.gov](mailto:excellenteducators@la.gov) for additional information regarding the Teacher or Principal of the Year and [laurie.carlton@la.gov](mailto:laurie.carlton@la.gov) for additional information regarding the 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>