



TEACHER LEADERS NEWSLETTER

November 2022



Hi! My name is Loren Klein, and I serve as a Teacher Leader Advisor for science. I teach Academically Gifted Science and Engineering at Paul Breaux Middle School in Lafayette. In my classroom my students are challenged to bring their experiences to make sense of Louisiana-focused phenomena through three-dimensional learning experiences.

Being a [Teacher Leader Advisor](#) is the most influential factor in my development as a professional educator, and I have been honored to collaborate on the development of and present sessions at Teacher Leader Summit for the past three years. This year, the session I presented, entitled [Leveraging Students' Unique Brilliance and Strengths in Science and Engineering](#), engaged participants with several resources designed to be used alongside the [Planning Guide for Science Instruction](#) to further support teachers in planning for and capitalizing on classroom discussions.

These resources include a [Discussion Planning Tool](#) to set the stage for meaningful student discussions, and additional tools designed to surface student experiences and stories as the class makes sense of phenomena. Seeing my students take something simple like the washed-out gutters at our school and turn it into a deep discussion of how erosion and weathering can be observed at scales from the Grand Canyon to the creation of southeast Louisiana to their own schoolyard was exciting, and presenting at Teacher Leader Summit let me share the tools and experiences to all teachers so they could experience these amazing moments for themselves.

The connections that students make and share enrich the science learning experience of both the individual and the wider classroom community. All of these [Science Instructional Planning Resources](#), including decks and handouts from other department-led science sessions, can now be accessed through the [K-12 Science Planning Page](#). As you experience moments like these in your own classroom, consider volunteering to share during teacher collaboration or submitting a proposal to present at a conference so that we can continue to build positive learning experiences for all students in Louisiana together.

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LITERACY

Foundational Skills Lessons for Grades 3-5

The second unit of Foundational Instruction for Reading Excellence (FIRE) lessons for grades 3-5 have been posted in the [Literacy Library](#). FIRE is an instructional resource designed to support teachers in providing students advanced reading foundational skills in grades 3-5. Each unit consists of 40 quick lessons and brief student activities focused on either spelling, grammar, or morphology - skills that are essential for proficient reading and writing. Lessons can be taught concurrently with any ELA knowledge-building curriculum as part of whole-group core instruction. Two units per grade level have been released and the third unit will be released in late fall/early winter.

- Grade 3 Unit 2 - [Teacher's Guide](#) and [Student Activity Book](#)
- Grade 4 Unit 2 - [Teacher's Guide](#) and [Student Activity Book](#)
- Grade 5 Unit 2 - [Teacher's Guide](#) and [Student Activity Book](#)

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Content Literacy Support for Middle and High School

The Literacy Division has released additional resources to support middle and high school teachers in providing targeted literacy support in all content areas. These documents can be found in the [Literacy Library](#) under Instruction, Intervention, and Extensions. The Content Literacy Support documents provide guidance for teachers in all content areas with ways to naturally incorporate best practices that support content acquisition and literacy skills.

Five new support documents have been added to the growing library of resources:

- [Creating a Claim](#)
- [Direct and Explicit Vocabulary Instruction](#)
- [Reading and Writing for a Purpose](#)
- [Summary Writing to Develop Comprehension](#)
- [Writing Frames](#)

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

Capacity Building: State Policy Updates and Projects Affecting Special Education

Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans will be hosting a webinar, in collaboration with the Department's Diverse Learners Division, to provide information and updates on projects in Louisiana that could impact families. [Registration](#) is open for this online event that will be held Tuesday, November 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Please contact sblackmon@fhfofgno.org 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:

- [Professional Learning for School Librarians](#): November 12, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the LITE Center in Lafayette, LA

Additional Resources:

- [October Newsletter](#)

Please contact 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 to the [K-12 Social Studies Resources page](#) and the [Grades 9-12 Social Studies Teacher Library](#). The Department will continue hosting [webinars](#) this fall to support district leaders, school leaders, and teachers to help prepare for the transition to the 2022 K-12 LSSSS. The information for the upcoming webinar is below.

Join the **Grades 6-8: Preparing for the Transition and Building Content Knowledge Webinar** to learn about implementation of the 2022 K-12 LSSSS for grades six, seven, and eight.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** November 14 at 3:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92285097894?pwd=UzFyK2t6MmxGTkxwR2dydnBkaUtDQT09>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID #:** 92285097894
- **Passcode:** 048051

Please contact 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 systems with funding to support a refresh of math materials. Additionally, the Department will provide a suite of guidance, resources, and professional learning to support a refresh of high leverage instructional practices for accelerating math learning for all students. Resources will be added to the [Louisiana Math](#) resource library as they become available.

As part of the [Math Refresh](#), the Department is partnering with [Zearn](#) to provide school accounts to all public schools serving K-8 students. School accounts will be activated in January. Registration is now open for [Launching Zearn Math training](#) which will explore Zearn's acceleration approach to and support teachers in successful implementation. [Registration](#) for this free two-hour virtual professional learning is now open to all K-8 Louisiana public school teachers whose role includes core math instruction or supporting students with math learning. [Professional learning details](#) and the invitation to register and participate should be shared with all eligible educators.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Session Two Registration Now Open: ASSISTments Professional Learning for Math Teachers

[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 a second set of free virtual workshops in which participants will build understanding of interpreting and analyzing data within ASSISTments to support student learning. [Registration](#) is now open for interested educators to choose from one of three workshop dates for Maximizing ASSISTments Data to Support the Accelerate Cycle.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

SCIENCE RESOURCES

New Self-Paced Science Professional Learning Resources Available Now

To assist teachers, schools, and systems with implementation of [high-quality science curricula](#), the Department has released new self-paced learning modules. These resources were adapted from professional learning sessions originally delivered at the 2021 and 2022 Teacher Leader Summits and include guidance for using the [Planning Guide to Science Instruction](#) to unpack high-quality science instructional materials.

Modules are designed to fit flexibly in a variety of professional learning formats and may be accessed individually for an “at your own pace” style of professional learning or delivered by science leaders to drive professional learning and facilitate collaborative conversations. [Learning modules](#) focused on the topics below are available now.

- Unit Launch Deep Dive
- Finding and Using Assessment Moments in Science Instruction
- Leveraging Students’ Unique Brilliance and Strengths in Science and Engineering
- Analyzing Student Work to Inform Instruction

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

STEM RESOURCES

STEM Teacher Leader Advisor Application Closing Soon

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

- creating STEM resources and tools for K-12 educators;

- developing and delivering 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 with questions.

EDTECH

New EdTech Teacher Leader Advisor Application Closing Soon

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 now 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 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 with questions.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

The Division of Assessment Content is preparing to convene educator committees in January–March for the following assessments:

- LEAP Social Studies Grades 3–8 and Civics
- LEAP 2025 Science 3–8
- LEAP Connect

Interested educators can access the [Assessment Content Educator Review Committees document](#) for committee details and links to apply. The deadline to complete the interest surveys is **November 20**.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

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 8: Building Relationships with Louisiana's New Teacher of the Year Jordyn Vicknair

We chat with Louisiana's very first New Teacher of the Year, Jordyn Vicknair. A graduate of Louisiana State University's GeauxTeach program, she shares her journey through her first year of teaching, her love of teaching math, and the relationships she grew with her students. The graduates of Louisiana's 2022 Aspiring Principals Fellowship makes Em Cooper smile this week.

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 with questions.

Affinity Group Leader Application

The Department has partnered with Louisiana Tech University to create collaboration opportunities for new teachers by establishing Affinity Groups that new teachers may join virtually.

The Department is looking for outstanding educators to lead these virtual sessions. The Affinity Group Leader (AGL) [job description](#) and [application](#) were released on November 1. The application deadline is **November 8**. Visit the [New Teacher Experience](#) webpage for more information.

AGLs will be required to attend an in-person training on December 1 and lead nine virtual sessions with up to twenty participants. Leaders will be compensated \$2,500 for their work.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

Computer Science Education Feedback Opportunity

The Department is seeking K-12 teacher feedback on Computer Science. All K-12 teachers are invited to take this brief [survey](#) to help guide and inform the Department's work with Computer Science.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

Teacher Leader Advisors Selected

Congratulations to all of the Louisiana educators who have been selected as [2022-2023 Teacher Leader Advisors!](#)

[Teacher Leader Advisors](#) play a critical role in ensuring fellow Louisiana educators have access to high-quality instructional materials and resources. Teacher Leader Advisors support the Department's Instructional Materials Review process, create tools to support educators in curriculum implementation, and develop and lead professional learning for other Louisiana educators. Currently, [applications are open for EdTech and STEM TLAs](#) and will close **November 7** at 5:00 p.m.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

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 with questions.

Science Collaborative Cohort Selected

The Department is excited to announce the educators who have been selected to participate in the science collaborative. The Science Collaborative is designed to bring together the best minds from both teacher preparation and K-12 to design teaching methods syllabi for elementary and secondary science courses that, in turn, will be available for public use. Congratulations to these outstanding science educators!

- Amanda Brady, Jefferson
- Jessie Church, Natchitoches
- Dr. Bianca Deliberto, Central
- Dr. Nathan Dolenc, University of Louisiana Lafayette
- Dr. Lakiesha Domingue, East Baton Rouge
- Lindsay Duet, University View Academy
- Dr. Aimee Hollander, Nicholls State University
- Dr. Christine Hypolite, Holy Cross

- Dr. Emily Jackson-Osagie, Southern University
- Loren Klein, Lafayette
- Melinda McCleskey, Ascension
- Jaimie McQuarn, Ascension

- Dr. Erica Smith, Tulane University
- Jill Sutton, Lincoln
- Dr. Sandy Watson, University of Louisiana Monroe
- Dr. Susan Zimlich, Southeastern University

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

TEACHER EVALUATION RESOURCES

New and Updated Resources for Evaluation Available Now

There are new and updated resources for teacher evaluations available in the [Compass Library](#). These resources support teachers in understanding the Louisiana evaluation components, tools, and processes, setting meaningful student learning targets (SLTs), and how the value-added measure (VAM) score is calculated. The new and updated resources include

- [2022-2023 Teacher Evaluation Guide](#)
- [SLT Assessment Identification Guide](#)
- [Teacher SLT Guidance and Sample Templates](#)
- [Student Learning Target Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Value-Added Frequently Asked Questions List](#)

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Bulletin 130 Updates

[Bulletin 130](#) has been updated to require that a meeting take place between evaluators and evaluatees to discuss student learning targets (SLTs). The student learning target templates have been updated to include a signature line to acknowledge this meeting. The [Compass Information System \(CIS\)](#) has also been enhanced to include a reminder on the SLT submission screen. This meeting assures that student learning targets can be used in evaluation, ensuring that the evaluation can be complete.

CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
AP Courses and Exams	collegereadiness@la.gov
Assessments and Related Supports	assessment@la.gov
Collaborations	districtsupport@la.gov
Compass	compass@la.gov
Content Leaders and Mentor Teachers	believeandprepare@la.gov
EdTech	digitallearning@la.gov
Educational Leader Licensure Policy Update	believeandprepare@la.gov
ELA Guidebooks	elaguidebooks@la.gov
Environmental Education	environmentaleducation@la.gov
Financial Aid Assistance	ldefinancial@la.gov
Graduation Requirements	highschoolacademics@la.gov
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Language Acquisition	language.acquisition@la.gov
Literacy	louisianaliteracy@la.gov
PD Vendor Guide	louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov
Pupil Progressions	ppp@la.gov
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit	ldoeevents@la.gov
Math, Science, and STEM	STEM@la.gov
Teacher Certification	certification@la.gov

Teacher Leaders and Teacher Leader Advisors	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
World Languages	language.acquisition@la.gov