Louisiana School Redesign Summit Needs Assessment

In recent years, Louisiana educators and students have made great progress towards reducing the number of struggling schools in our state, and, therefore the number of students who attend a failing school. Since 2012, 24,000 fewer Louisiana students attend an F-rated school as determined by our state-wide accountability system. At the same time, there remain schools in our state whose challenges are significant.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that Local Education Agencies (LEAs) create a plan grounded in evidence-based strategies to improve the performance of students in each of their persistently struggling schools, and the law designates funds to support schools in implementing these improvement plans. In order to aid LEAs in the building of such plans, the Department issued a [Request for Information](https://webmail.la.gov/owa/redir.aspx?C=kFojXM7uJO-xQrdXUSAnJ2jXHI2wfrsnCfjWa3pSjKRFu01aXA_UCA..&URL=http%3a%2f%2fr20.rs6.net%2ftn.jsp%3ff%3d001lQKReEuiAgGREbNum0DHyY43tocUUqD0BQ8Y-nQbrHwz16i9WCogxWh7k_338El87BsiUZQ11Bwgv_26JroNFY65Zcn7fyrBRg3xnu8wB-l2D8hylC3r_4JPJSXsbOxv3KM3BQSjOWhgHQO8f4GpL8Ugpoc8ZG6KaKb456fbXMO47Y3B0xidgStWHNOFB-YNYvbNk72l5I_8YrGmFMLClxlndSHnDcIY9bclcdI3niAht6gqxQesX5CNbZglhZiZtzh251gzZ6ORgJHc9r1zZ2o6PXHMmao-%26c%3daz434vrgTFbnBYQChwdACvVwfyadNR-I4-Pp3yIiFVVHkOKYgN2flQ%3d%3d%26ch%3dXE8_5wOod9Dbx1neJMfUQux5lKpQGmQMhDGSByVxblKNluLKPqiuig%3d%3d) to dozens of school redesign organizations across the state and the country, inviting them to share their vision for assisting Louisiana districts with school turnaround. The most promising of these organizations, each with a proven track record of success, will be invited to a School Redesign Summit, held on January 19, 2017 in New Orleans.

The School Redesign Summit will be an opportunity for LEAs and school redesign organizations to begin brainstorming strategies to improve the achievement of each persistently struggling school. Ultimately, districts can choose whether to incorporate these organizations into their plans to improve student learning.

After the Summit, each district may then choose to submit their school redesign plans as part of a competitive grant process. Per ESSA, the Department will competitively award these funds to districts with the strongest evidence-based plans. These diverse plans will, in due course, make up Louisiana’s school turnaround component of our state’s ESSA plan.

**Preparing for the School Redesign Summit**

The School Redesign Summit will provide LEAs with an opportunity to brainstorm strategies regarding improving student achievement in struggling schools by partnering with organizations that have demonstrated success in turning around failing schools. In order to prepare for the summit, LEAs should address four preparation questions by completing this form:

1. For which schools will our LEA seek support at the Summit?
2. What are the most important reasons our areas of growth persist?
3. With which partners would our LEA most want to meet?
4. Who from our LEA will attend the Summit?

**Registering for the School Redesign Summit**

**This form will also constitute each LEA’s registration for the School Redesign Summit.** Please submit your completed form to Hunter Brown at [hunter.brown@la.gov](mailto:hunter.brown@la.gov) by **Thursday, December 15th, 2016 by 3pm**. The Department will take the information provided by districts and use it to make matches with providers.

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| --- | --- |
| **Local Education Agency Name** |  |
| **Primary contact for LEA** |  |
| **Position title of primary contact** |  |
| **Email address of primary contact** |  |
| **Phone number of primary contact** |  |

**Question 1: For which schools will our LEA seek support at the Summit?**

ESSA requires states to allocate school turnaround funds, through a competitive process, to schools that meet the criteria to be considered a ‘Comprehensive Support School.’ The criteria for this list of schools will be finalized as part of the state’s ESSA plan. In the meantime, LEAs should at minimum prioritize their ‘F-rated’ schools in either of the previous two school years.

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| **School Name** | |
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**Question 2: What are the most important reasons our areas of growth persist?**

The table below has been modified from the District Planning Guide; districts will use a similar process as you begin to formulate district-wide plans. Complete this table for **each school** identified in response to Question 1, including the following steps, and copying and pasting a new table for each school:

**Step 1:** Use the information from the School Report Card and/or School Profile for Principals to identify strengths and areas for growth.

**Step 2:** By reflecting on the data collected in Step 1, identify the most important reasons that led to these areas for growth

**Step 3:** Identify the desired improvements in each Focus Area for the 2017-18 school year.

| **School Name:** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Step 1** | | **Step 2** | **Step 3** |
| **Focus area** | **What, in the data, indicates areas of strength or progress?** | **What, in the data, indicates areas for growth?** | **What are the most important reasons that these areas of growth persist?** | **What do you expect to be different at the school by the end of the 2017-18 school year?** |
| **High Quality Classroom Teaching Sample Responses** | 8th grade LEAP ELA results show 56% of students Basic +, compared with 36% last year. | 8th grade LEAP Math results show 38% of students Basic+, compared with state average of 51% Basic+ | -2 out of 3 6th-8th math teachers struggle to deliver content due to knowledge and practice gaps | 8th grade LEAP Math results will show 10% growth or more over this year’s results |
| **Early Childhood:** *Prepare every child for high school*   * Lead Agency * Program |  |  |  |  |
| **High Quality Classroom Teaching:** *Develop high-quality teaching in every classroom*   * Curriculum, Assessment, & Professional Development |  |  |  |  |
| * Leadership development & talent management: Believe & Prepare, principal support, Teacher Leaders |  |  |  |  |
| **High School Pathways:** *Create a path to prosperity for every student*   * High schools |  |  |  |  |

**Question 3: With which partners would our LEA most want to meet?**

The Department is committed to ensuring your district is able to meet with the partners that are the most promising for your schools. Profiles of each partner will be posted on the Louisiana Department of Education’s website no later than Monday, December 5th at [this link](https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/school-redesign-summit/partner-profiles). Additionally, a Partner Preview Guide which summarizes the services provided by each potential partner, will be posted at the same link no later than Friday, December 9th. In the table below, list at least 10 partners, in order of preference, which your LEA would most like to meet. Please add more rows if you’d like to preference more than 10 organizations.

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| **Partner Preferences** | |
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**Question 4: Who from our LEA should attend the summit?**

LEAs should bring a team of 4-6 individuals. The Department recommends that your team include:

* Superintendent
* District academic lead
* Manager of the principals
* Principals

Your district will choose who should attend, but please include at least one school-based leader. Complete the table below for each team member, adding rows as necessary.

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| **Name** | | **Title** |
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**Registering for the School Redesign Summit**

Once you have answered all of these questions, submitting this form to Hunter Brown at [hunter.brown@la.gov](mailto:hunter.brown@la.gov) will serve as registration for the School Redesign Summit. Please only submit one form per LEA **by Thursday, December 15th, 2016 by 3pm**. If you have any questions, please contact Hunter Brown at [hunter.brown@la.gov](mailto:hunter.brown@la.gov).