

Louisiana Believes

Special Education Leader Webinar
October 2019

Agenda + Logistics

I. School System Planning

II. Graduation Pathways

III. Teaching and Learning

IV. Data Systems / SER Updates

V. Measuring Results

VI. Closeout

Logistics

If you are experiencing audio difficulties, please make sure that your speakers are on and that your volume is at a suitable level.

The call will be in the listen only mode to ensure we get through the information. Please type questions into the chat box as we go along.

Dial in by phone: 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 836 904 974

School System Planning

Planning: 2020-2021 Super App Launch

The Department will launch the 2020-2021 School System Planning process and Super App in November. The Super App Launch [Overview](#) provides details about the four Super App Launch events.

School system planning teams should attend the same Launch event together. Each participant will have the opportunity to choose **three** sessions related to the Department's Academic Strategy, School System Planning Process, and CIR/UIR strategy.

Registration will be available from October 4—21 in [Eventbrite](#).

When:

November 4, 7, 8 in Baton Rouge
November 12 in Ruston

Who:

School system planning teams should attend as a team on the same dates. Team members should include Chief Academic Officers and leaders of:

- **Special Education**
- Human Resources and Teacher Support
- Curriculum
- High School and Career/Technical Education
- Federal Programs
- Budget/Finance

High Cost Service Update

The High Cost Services fund is established to support school systems and schools who serve Louisiana's students with the most difficult needs by providing additional funding for high-cost special education services for students with disabilities.

An overview of the High Cost Services Fund for the 2019-2020 school year will be provided in an upcoming webinar. SPED Directors or personnel responsible for the HCS application should attend.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Tuesday October 8th at 1 PM
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/786192848>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 16468769923
- **Meeting ID#** 786 192 848

Alternate Assessment Review Process

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires states to ensure that only students with the most significant cognitive disabilities take the LEAP Connect alternate assessment. School systems that exceed 1.0 percent participation in LEAP Connect must participate in an alternate assessment review process. The Department has concluded this review for the 2019 assessment administration and issued final determination letters. Tests for students found ineligible will be voided for accountability purposes.

The Department will submit a participation waiver to the US Department of Education in November. The [notice of intent](#) to submit a waiver is available for public comment.

- Please note, as part of the waiver, the Department must post each school system's justification form to our [website](#).

Alternate Assessment Reminders

As a reminder, school systems must ensure the following actions take place during the evaluation and alternate assessment eligibility determination process

- parents participate, annually, in assessment decisions
- students meet all three alternate assessment eligibility criteria
- instruction is aligned to the Louisiana Connectors for students participating in LEAP Connect
- additional assessments that require parent permission are administered through the evaluation or reevaluation process
- cognitive functioning is assessed by a psychologist and reported as full scale IQ
- assessment scores are reported as a single standard deviation from the mean
- assessment results found in the evaluation or reevaluation report match results entered in the evaluation tab in the SER system

Please see the [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\) guidance document](#) which can assist pupil appraisal and IEP teams with implementation of the BESE-approved alternate assessment eligibility criteria.

Alternate Assessment Eligibility Criteria Bulletin 1530 Updates

Alternate assessment eligibility criteria revisions to Bulletin 1530, *Louisiana IEP Handbook for Students with Exceptionalities* were finalized in April 2019 for implementation in the 2019-2020 school year.

The Department has issued guidance documents reflecting the updated criteria:

- [Bulletin 1530 policy revisions effective for the 2019-2020 school year](#)
- [Criteria for students entering a high school cohort during the 2020-2021 SY or beyond](#)
- [Criteria for students entering a high school cohort on or before the 2019-2020 SY](#)

In addition, SER updates for the 2019-2020 school year are now available. These policy revisions are reflected throughout the IEP forms in SER.

Please note the version of Bulletin 1530 on BESE's website contains a technical error. This will be updated at the end of the month. Until then, use the guidance linked above and the IEP in SER, both reflect the BESE-approved policy changes.

BESE Bulletin 1706 Technical Changes

In October, the Department will bring proposed revisions to Bulletin 1706: *Regulations for Implementation of the Children with Exceptionalities Act*. These changes will:

- **Clarify time limits for formal written complaint and due process hearing procedures.** Bulletin 1706 includes procedures to resolve written complaint and to request a hearing to resolve a dispute. To provide clarity to school systems, schools and families, the Department proposes revisions to confirm the timelines begin after the Department receives the request.
- **Remove the Louisiana Special Education Center (LSEC) as a BESE Special School.** Act 411 of the 2019 Louisiana legislative session transfers the LSEC from the SSD to the Louisiana Department of Health. The proposed policy changes reflect Act 411's removal of the LSEC as a BESE Special School.

For additional information, please check BESE's Committee and Board Meeting [agendas and materials](#), which are posted in advance of the meeting.

Graduation Pathways

Jump Start Convention Save the Date

The **2020 Jump Start Convention** is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 28** at the Baton Rouge River Center.

Attendees of the convention will include district administrators, high school principals, Career and Technical Education Leaders, regional economic development, and workforce development organizations.

Additional information will be provided in future Special Education Leader Webinars, the School System Planning Call, and the newsletter.

Teaching + Learning

Every day, all **students** are in schools that treat them with dignity and respect and where they have the opportunity to...



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build knowledge
of the world,

read
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solve
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Partnerships for Success Guide

Students with disabilities have unique needs that must be addressed to ensure they have every opportunity to build knowledge, read complex text, express understanding, and solve complex problems.

To address this, the Department has developed the [Partnerships for Success Guide](#), a vendor guide of organizations that can deliver

- high-quality professional development in areas of specialized supports (communication, assistive technology, executive functioning, etc).
- certified providers who can fulfill direct service requirements (speech therapy, occupational therapy, etc) as outlined in individualized education plans (IEPs).

The Partnerships for Success Guide will be incorporated into the 2021 Super APP application under the Specialized Supports & Related Services tab within the Students with Diverse Needs domain.

Partnerships for Success Guide Webinar

Additional information about the [Partnerships for Success Guide](#) will be provided in an upcoming webinar. School system leaders involved in planning the educational programming for students with disabilities should attend.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Thursday, October 24th at 10 AM
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/633590477>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#** 633 590 477

If you have any questions regarding the Partnerships for Success Guide please reach out to SpecialEducation@la.gov.

ELA Instructional Support: Grades 3–5 Foundation of Reading Supports

The foundational skills supports aligned to the **3–5 ELA Guidebooks** will be released on a rolling basis this year. These support documents will include foundational skills mini-lessons, decodable texts, and practice from the Guidebook anchor text.

The purpose of these supports is to:

- support teachers in determining where students might be struggling;
- provide foundational skills instruction; and
- provide direct practice that relates to unit texts.

The first set of supports is available for immediate download. The materials are located in the 2019-2020 Revisions (Section 1 “Additional Materials” folder) for each unit.

Grade 3

[Cajun Folktales
Because of Winn-Dixie](#)

Grade 4

[American Revolution](#)

Grade 5

[The Birchbark House](#)

Math Instructional Support: Grade 6 Eureka Remediation Tool Enhancements

The Department is currently working to enhance the [Grade 6 Eureka Remediation Tools](#). These enhancements will provide teachers with additional resources for supporting students who have unfinished learning in accessing grade level math content.

Grade 6 Eureka Remediation Tool	Projected Material Updates
Module 2, Topic A	Available now
Module 2, Topic B	October 3
Module 2, Topic C	October 10
Module 4, Topic A	November 14
Module 4, Topic D	December 5
Module 4, Topic G	January 16

Family Resources to Support Students Who Struggle

Louisiana's State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) provides professional development opportunities to educators with a focus on improving literacy outcomes for students with disabilities in grades three through five.

A key component of this work is ensuring the families of students with disabilities have access to resources to support their child's literacy at home. As part of SPDG grant, the Department's "[What to Do if Your Child Struggles in School](#)" guide was recently published on the Exceptional Lives Louisiana's website. The guide provides information for parents on learning challenges, literacy skills, and resources to drive student success.

Feel free to use use and share this information with families in your school systems.

TS GOLD OSEP Reminders

TS GOLD is the formative child assessment used by Louisiana to meet federal requirements for reporting the progress of Pre-K children ages 3-5 who receive special education services.

To protect student privacy, TS GOLD Administrators should only use a child's LASID when initiating transfer requests. For example:

- “As the person authorized by the superintendent of my school system to request TS Gold data assistance from the Louisiana Department of Education, I request that you transfer student <INSERT LASID HERE> from my school system to <INSERT RECEIVING SCHOOL SYSTEM HERE>.”

If there are any changes to TS GOLD Administrators, please contact Brittany.braun@la.gov with updated information.

SER/Data System Updates

Special Education Reporting System (SER)

Other Upcoming Deadlines

Date	Action Item
Tuesday, October 08, 2019	Deadline for resolving all Federal Eval errors
Friday, October 18, 2019	Deadline for Cross Check & Cross Check (Child Count Compare) Reports should be blank
Wednesday, October 31, 2018	<p>Deadline for verifying data for all IDEA Reports (Count Date as of October 1)</p> <p><u>Reports to run and verify:</u> IDEA Not Counted, IDEA Counted and Summary, New FAPE Counted, Not Counted, and Summary, Fed Eval Listing Pub/Private and Summary Pub/Private, SER/SIS, SER/SIS (Child Count Compare), SIS/SER Cross Check Reports</p>
Wednesday, October 31, 2018	Deadline for verify SER Personnel Table 2 Detail and Summary Report (Count Date as of October 1)

Special Education Reporting System (SER)

October 1 IDEA Collection

Oct 1: The count for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) collection is as of October 1. The collection of this data is used for funding and federal reporting.

IDEA Count Deadline: October 31, 2019

IDEA SER Data Criteria: Students with disabilities must have the following in SER to be included in the IDEA Child Count

- a current Evaluation,
- a current IEP,
- and receiving services as of October 1 to be included in the IDEA Child Count.

Cross Check Child Count Compare Report Run Date: October 18, 2019

IDEA Reports to run and verify

- IDEA - IDEA Counted, Not Counted, NEW FAPE Counted, Not Counted, and summary, FED Eval Listing Pub/Private and summary, SER/SIS, SER/SIS (Child Count Compare), SIS/SER Cross Checks
- Personnel Table - Personnel Table 2 Detail, Personnel Table 2 Summary, and IDEA Services Listings

SIS/SER Validation Reports and Rosters

SIS/SER combined Validation Reports and Rosters will be dropped to the [DM FTP](#) during the weeks of 9/30, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28 and 11/11 ***Check with your Security Coordinator or DM FTP contact to retrieve this document from your LEA [DM FTP](#)**

SER Validation Report Elements	SER Validation Roster Elements
<p>Funding - SER IDEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● IDEA Counted● IDEA Not Counted <p>SER without SIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● SER/SIS Cross Check (Child Count Compare) Report● SIS/SER Cross Check Report● SER/SIS Cross Check Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Roster of student in SER but not in SIS

SIS/SER Oct 1 Validation Reports

Funding - SER IDEA Section - SAMPLE page

FUNDING – SER IDEA					Why Verification Matters	How to Verify Data
IDEA Enrollment:	10/8/18	10/15/18	10/22/18	11/5/18	ALL unresolved SER counted without corresponding SIS enrollment are removed from MFP counts and will be audited by LDOE Finance.	SIS and SER Coordinators should work together to run and make sure the following Cross Check reports are blank (no discrepancies). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SER/SIS Cross Check (Child Count Compare) Report (select IDEA) • SER/SIS Cross Check Report • SIS/SER Cross Check Report
SER OCT 1 IDEA Counted	3200	3300	3310	3320		
2017-18 OCT 1 IDEA Counted (FOR COMPARISON)	4101	4302	4295	4279		
SER OCT 1 IDEA Not Counted	300	100	96	98		
SER without SIS:						
OCT 1 Number of SER without SIS Enrollment	1600	528	173	77		

The SER information is included in a separate section on the SIS/SER Oct 1 Validation Report.

Special Education Reporting System (SER) Post School Transition Survey

All states must now include elements of competitive integrated employment into required post school transition (PST) surveys. In response, the Department is adding enhancements to the SER system to integrate the new federal definition of Competitive Integrated Employment into the Post-School Transition (PST) Survey. These enhancements include:

- PST Survey questions will appear on the Post-School Transition page, when Exit Year Follow-up is selected
- Each question will contain a dropdown box to select the answer offered by the student
- Work Type will populate based off of the answers from the PST Survey

Update: the vendor is finalizing updates, and the new PST survey should be released in mid-October.

Measuring Results

WorkKeys Assessment

The ACT WorkKeys assessments measure foundational skills required for success in the workplace, and help measure the workplace skills that can affect job performance. WorkKeys is included in the ACT index for accountability.

The WorkKeys state administration includes two windows for students who receive accommodations. Unless the student has only extended time, which can be provided as part of the regular online assessment, all students with disabilities who require other accommodations must be tested with their accommodations during one or both of the two accommodations testing windows.

Beginning next year, the scores from assessments that were given to students without their accommodations as specified on an IEP, IAP or ILP will not be used for accountability purposes.

New and Updated Assessment Resources: LEAP Connect

Recently Updated [LEAP 2025 and LEAP Connect Assessment Guides](#):

- **LEAP 2025** grades 3 and 4 assessment guides (all content areas) now include 2019-2020 paper-based testing schedule
- **LEAP Connect** assessment guides now include
 - information and sample items for the 2019-2020 science field tests in grades 4, 8, and 11
 - ELA and math vocabulary lists for American Sign Language (ASL) translation, object replacement, tactile graphics, word boards or word banks, and AT/AAC devices

New and Updated Assessment Resources: LEAP Connect Webinar and OTT

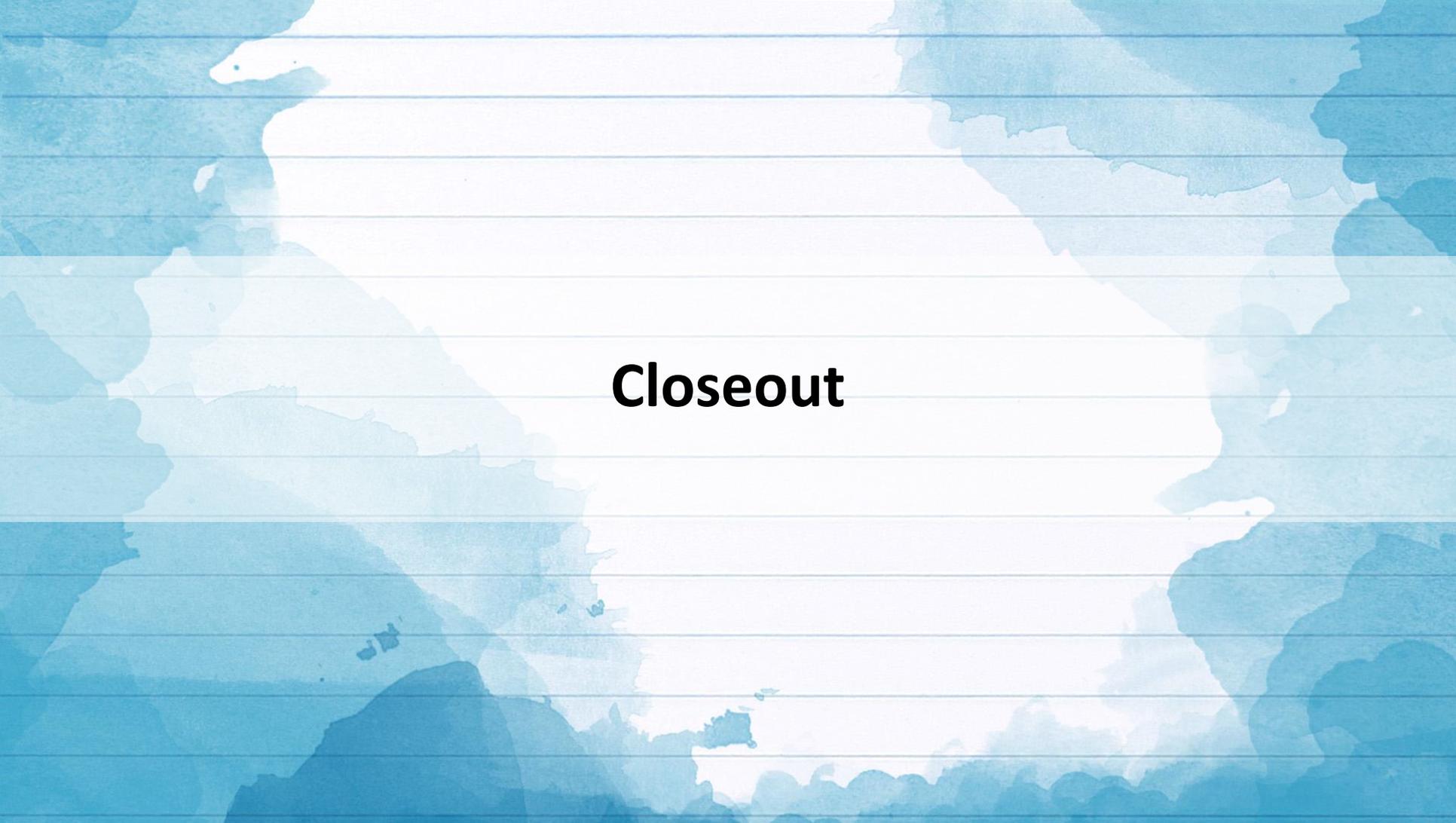
- In the LEAP Connect Sample Math Constructed-Response Tasks Webinar, participants will learn how to administer, score, and use the [LEAP Connect Sample Math Constructed-Response Tasks](#) and [Directions for Administration](#).
 - **Webinar Date and Time:** October 16 at 3:30 p.m.
 - **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/448611621>
 - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
 - **Meeting ID#:** 448 611 621
- The LEAP Connect OTT is now available by content area (ELA and math) and grade band (3—5, 6—8, high school). Directions for Administration and Reference Materials are available in [eDirect](#) and the [Assessment Guidance](#) library

SEAP Vacancy Announcement

The Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) advises the LDOE on the provision of free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for children with disabilities and provides guidance on special education programs and services.

The SEAP is seeking [applications](#) for membership for the role of a **parent of a child with a disability**. Interested applicants can email applications to specialeducation@la.gov. Mailed applications will also be accepted.

The deadline for submitting an application is Thursday, **October 24**.



Closeout

Summary: Key Actions

- ✓ [Register](#) for a Super App Launch event with your school system planning team between **October 4 - October 21.**
- ✓ Attend the [HCS Webinar](#) on **October 8.**
- ✓ Encourage teachers and LEAP Connect administrators to attend the [LEAP Connect Sample Math Constructed-Response Tasks Webinar](#) on **October 16.**
- ✓ Attend the [Partnerships for Success Guide Webinar](#) on **October 24.**
- ✓ Encourage parents of children with disabilities interested in becoming a member of the SEAP to [submit an application](#) by **October 24.**

Newsletters

LDOE has a series of weekly newsletters to keep you informed. Of particular interest,

For School Districts - click [here](#) to subscribe



For Charters - click [here](#) to subscribe

