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School System Planning Call
May 9, 2018

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Agenda

I.   **School System Planning**

II. **Early Childhood**

III. **Teaching and Learning**

IV. **Measuring Results**

V.   **Educator Workforce**

VI. **Graduation Pathways**

VII. **Call Summary**

Suggested participants for this call:

- early childhood supervisors

- district test coordinators and accountability contacts

- curriculum supervisors

- special education supervisors

- Talent supervisors

- high school and career and technical supervisors

School System Planning

2018-2019 School System Planning

In preparation for 2018-2019 school year, school systems have developed plans through the School Redesign process. At this point, every eligible school system has submitted a plan to improve their persistently struggling schools.

School systems will be informed as to which components of their plans are approved and recommended for funding in mid to late May.

In total:
- 87 school systems have submitted plans for school redesign.
- 19 have been approved.
- 68 will be considered by BESE in June.

All school systems, regardless of status, should ensure that they are planning to launch their School Redesign plans for 2018-2019.

Teachers Ready to Implement High Quality Curriculum

The goal across all 271 persistently struggling schools is to ensure that at the start of the 2018-2019 school year, 100 percent of teachers are implementing high quality curriculum in English and math.

To support school systems in achieving this goal, the Department will focus on three phases of support.

Phase	Department Support
Pre-Implementation (Spring-Summer)	The Department provides a pre-implementation checklist, and network staff work with school systems to complete each milestone.
Early Support (Fall)	The Department will provide classroom observation tools for Tier 1 curricula and training on how to use these tools. Department staff will observe classrooms with school systems.
Deep Support (Spring)	The Department may provide for a curriculum or workforce audit from a third-party vendor for school systems that need additional help with implementation.

School Redesign Pre-Implementation Checklist

In order to ensure that 100 percent of teachers are ready to implement high quality curriculum at the start of the 2018-2019 school year, the Department established six pre-implementation milestones:

1. Establish the school system-level team responsible for all aspects of curriculum and teacher professional development purchasing, distribution and scheduling.
2. Submit budgets in eGMS.
3. Purchase curriculum and necessary supporting materials.
4. Establish calendar for curriculum-based professional development.
5. Sign MOUs with teacher preparation providers as appropriate.
6. Distribute curriculum and supporting materials to teachers and remove old curricula.

In addition to completing these six pre-implementation milestones, **school system staff responsible for supporting schools with this work should attend the School Redesign session at the Teacher Leader Summit**. Through this session, schools will prepare for the start of the school year.

Johns Hopkins High School Redesign Cohort

The Department and Johns Hopkins University announced the launch of the Louisiana High School Redesign Cohort, a network of thirty-one traditional, charter and alternative schools who will:

- re-think the core components of high school design;
- collaborate with their peers and national experts on how to prepare students for the 21st century; and
- reimagine high school structures and services to maximize positive student outcomes, and prepare students for postsecondary opportunities and careers.

The redesign cohort will commence with a webinar on May 8, followed by convening at Teacher Leader Summit on May 31.

Additional cohort convening and collaboration opportunities will occur July - October with the goal for each cohort school to submit a final school plan as part of the state's School Redesign Grant application process for the 2019-2020 academic year.

2018-2019 Pupil Progression Plan

Each school system is required to develop a Pupil Progression Plan for review. Each agency may have slightly different procedures related to retention, advancement, promotion, and graduation.

As a result of the delayed release of the 2017-2018 Pupil Progression Plan template and related promotion policy updates, school systems may elect to:

- **Option 1:** Retain the locally approved 2017-2018 Pupil Progression Plan through the 2018-2019 school year; or
- **Option 2**: Submit an addendum outlining any plan updates for the 2018-2019 school year. Addendums shall be submitted no later than **August 31**.

School systems must notify the Department of their decision by submitting the **2018-2019 Pupil Progression Election Form** to **ppp@la.gov** **by June 30**.

For more information, please email your request to ppp@la.gov.

Grants Updates: FY2017-2018 Deadlines

8(g) Amendments

- **May 15 will be the final date to submit SY2017-2018 amendments for 8(g) grants ending June 15.**
- School Systems are to make all final SY2017-2018 program budget changes to ensure proper processing for approval.

High Costs Services Round 1 and Round 2

- **State funds (MFP) will expire June 30**
- The majority of FY2017-2018 Round 1 High Cost Services allocations are state funds (MFP) and will expire on June 30.
- All of SFY2017-2018 Round 2 High Cost Services allocation are state funds (MFP) and will expire on June 30.
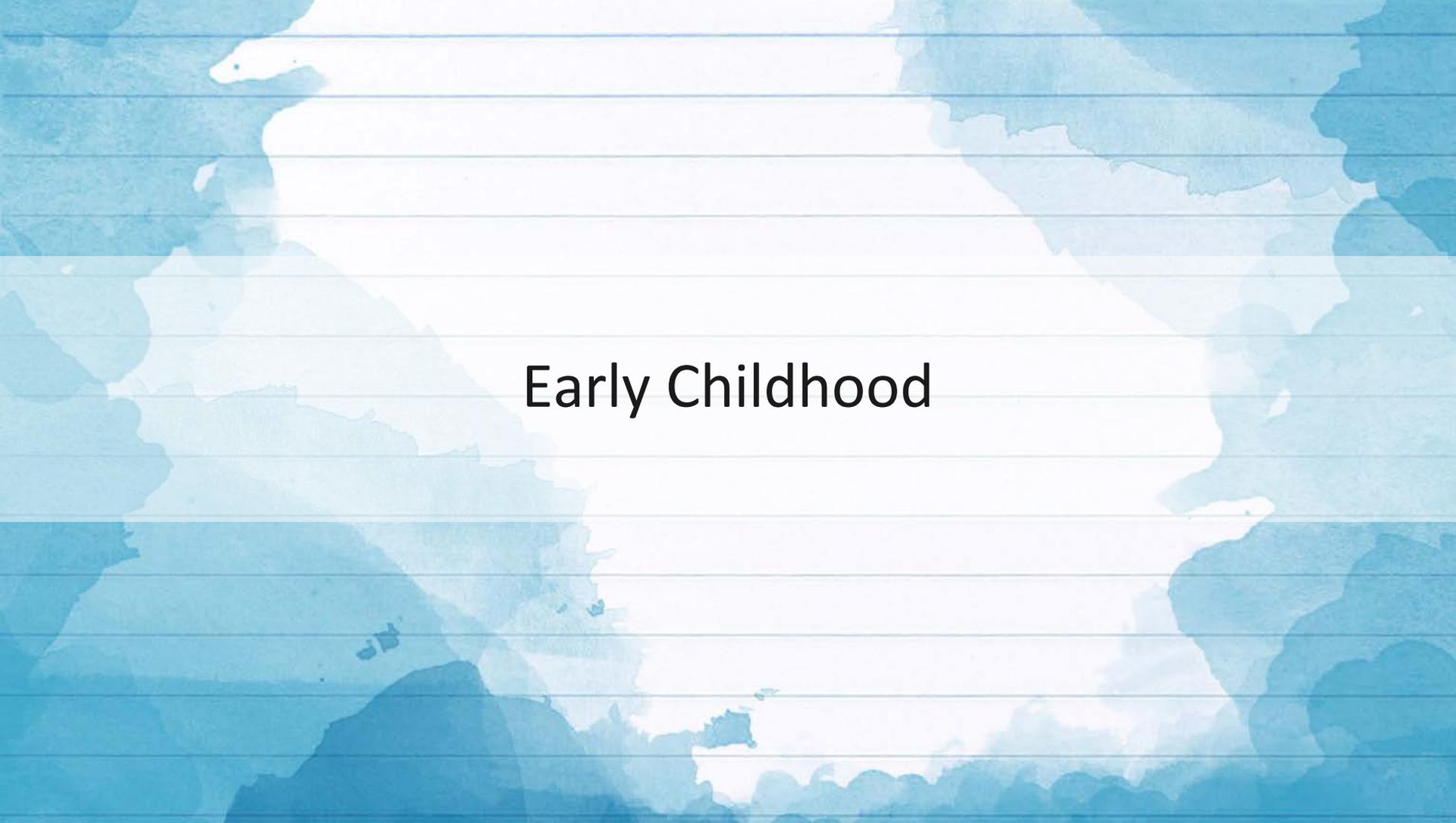
Early Childhood

Key Deadlines for Lead Agencies and Early Childhood Programs

Early Childhood programs and lead agencies are completing their final data collection for the 2017-2018 school year.

For Community Network Lead Agencies:

- **May 15:** All CLASS® observations must be complete and entered in the portal.
- **May 18:** All CLASS® observation error correction requests must be submitted to earlychildhood@la.gov.

For Early Childhood Programs:

- **May 31:** Final GOLD® checkpoint

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with any questions.

Early Childhood Surveys

The Department has released two surveys for early childhood families and teachers.

Early Childhood Family Survey:
- The Department has released the Early Childhood Family Survey in partnership with the United Way of South Louisiana and Louisiana Association of United Ways.
- Surveys have been shared with families that attend early childhood programs through the mail and online and should be completed by May 31.

Early Childhood Lead Teacher Survey:
- Early childhood teachers received a survey through their email linked to TS GOLD®.
- Lead teachers are requested to provide feedback on the training and supports they have received this school year by May 31.
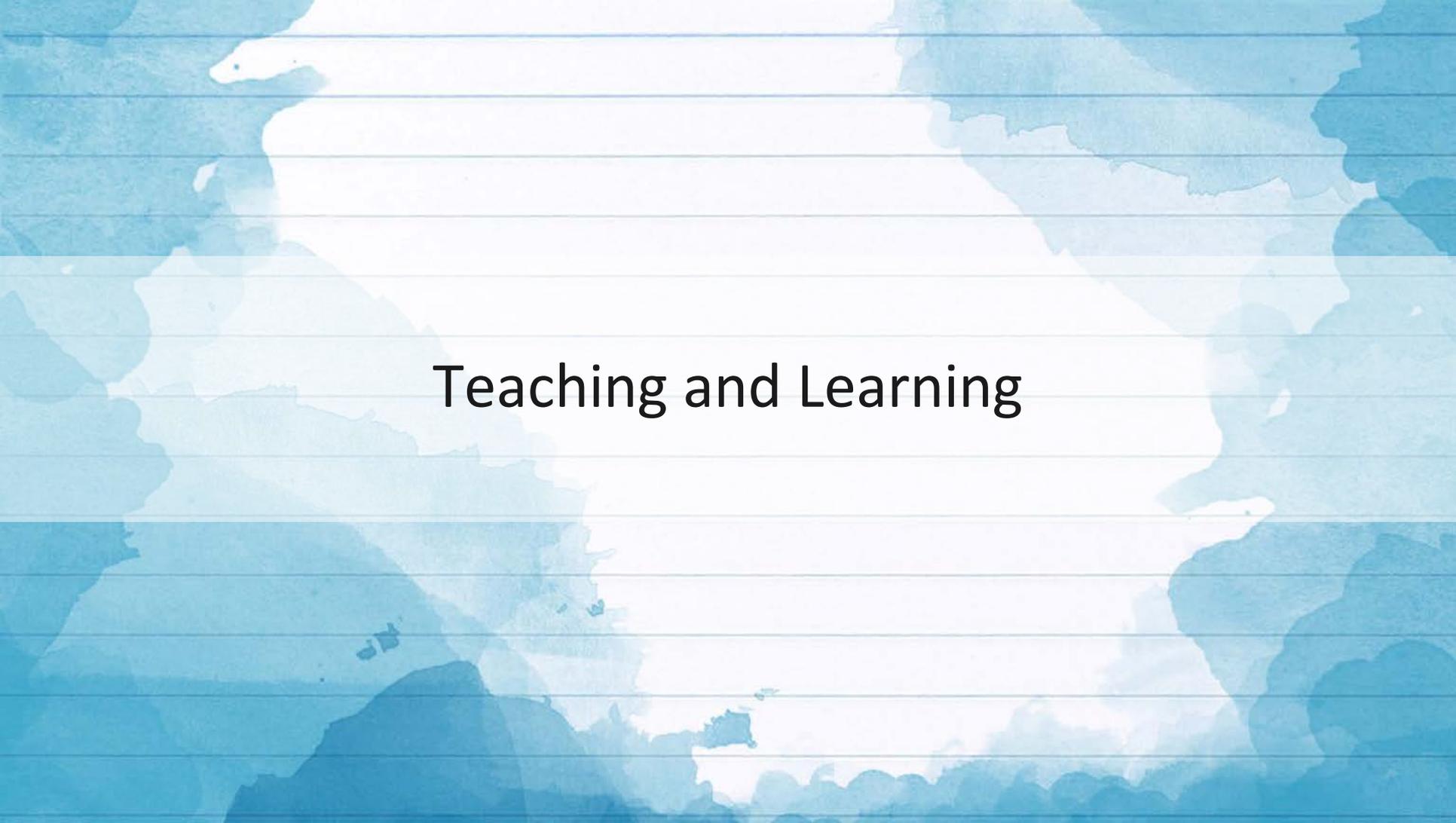
Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with any questions.

Teaching and Learning

Professional Development:
Teacher Leader Summit

The 2018 Teacher Leader Summit will take place May 30-June 1 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. This inspiring event, held annually, will bring together 6,500 educators and content experts who are focused on creating **meaningful growth for every student, every day**. Educators will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2018-2019 school year.

Registratration opened on April 23, and so far, more than 5,000 Louisiana educators have signed up to attend.

The Department will release additional information about the Summit, including an updated schedule list and the schedule of sessions, via the Teacher Leader app in mid-May.

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Professional Development: Summit "Ed Talks"

New to the Summit this year is **"Ed Talks"**, **a series of thought provoking sessions designed to start conversations about how schools and school systems can ensure meaningful growth for every child, every day.**

"Ed Talks" will be:
- offered on Wednesday and Thursday;
- led by nationally recognized speakers Daniel Willingham and Chris "Citizen" Stewart; and
- accompanied by a track of sessions that build upon their central theme and provide school and system leaders with more in-depth knowledge, tools and resources to support student achievement.

Details about these sessions and session tracks will be released by next week in the school system newsletter and a special edition of the Teacher Leader newsletter.

Please contact louisianateacherleaders@la.gov with any questions.

Professional Development:
Content Leader and Mentor Teacher Cohort 2

- **The Department received over 1,400 nominations from school systems for both Mentor Teacher and Content Leader training for 2018-2019**. Thank you for your submissions.

- Nominees received an email acknowledging their acceptance into training and inviting them to an introductory webinar. Please make sure that they attend.

- **Training will begin for Mentor Teachers and Math Content Leaders at this year's Teacher Leader Summit and will begin in July for ELA Content Leaders.**

For questions regarding Content Leader training please contact louisianateacherleaders@la.gov.

For any questions regarding Mentor Teacher training please contact believeandprepare@la.gov.

Professional Development: Mentor Teacher Cohort 2

To kick off 2018-2019 Mentor Teacher training, the Department will host an informational webinar for all nominees. The webinar will provide an overview of the training and prepare participants for the first day of training. Training will begin for Mentor Teachers at this year's Teacher Leader Summit or during the week of June 5. School system leaders are also welcome to join the webinar. No pre-registration is required.

Introduction to Mentor Teacher Webinar
- Option 1: May 9 at 4:00 p.m.
- Option 2: May 10 at 4:30 p.m.

To join the webinar:
- go to https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/ldoeprofdev/;
- enter the meeting room as a guest and provide your name; or
- dial 1-855-240-2575 and enter participant PIN # 8914765.

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Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Professional Development:
Compass 2017-2018 End of Year Webinar

The Department is hosting a webinar to provide Compass guidance to close out the 2017-2018 school year. The webinar will include information related to completing final evaluations and expectations for entering data into CIS. This includes how CIS will calculate VAM data and what is required of CIS users.

The Department will also share more information about Compass related sessions that will be offered at the Teacher Leader Summit and more information about training opportunities for new evaluators over the summer.

The webinar will be held on May 10 at 1:00 p.m.

To join the webinar (no pre-registration is required):
- go to https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/cis/;
- enter the room as a guest and provide your name; and
- dial 855-240-2575 and enter PIN # 89147656.

Please email compass@la.gov for more information

Measuring Results:
2017-2018 Reporting

Results of the Class of 2017

The Class of 2017 is the state's most successful graduation class to date. This week and next week, the Department will celebrate their success with a series of releases.

- **Today, May 9:** This evening, Superintendents will receive school system and school-level cohort graduation data via email from Jessica Baghian.

- **Tomorrow, May 10:** Superintendent White will hold a briefing call with media to discuss Louisiana's statewide graduation rate and results. School system and school-level results posted to the LDOE website.

- **Next week:** The Department will release college enrollment data for the Class of 2017.

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2017-2018 Reporting: Communicating Assessment Results

Below is the timeline for the release of the 2017-2018 school- and school system-level assessment results. School systems should develop a plan for communicating these results to principals, teachers, and families.

Assessment	Student Report Timeline and Location	School System-Level Results Time and Location
ELPT	May in AIR Portal	May in AIR Portal
LAA 1/LEAP Connect	May in eDIRECT	May in eDIRECT
LEAP Online Cleanup	not applicable	June in eDIRECT
LEAP 2025 (3-8, HS)	Grade 3-8: June in eDIRECT HS: 5-level ELA and math at end of testing window	June in eDIRECT
EOC (Eng III, Bio, US History) Final Reports	HS 4-level all subjects: In window	summer in eDIRECT
ACT	spring, state administered student and school results from ACT sent to schools	summer iCD and district profile from ACT in summer; additional reporting in FTP
Advanced Placement	summer, sent to schools	early fall in FTP
LEAP 2025 US History	early fall in eDIRECT	early fall in eDIRECT

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

2017-2018 Reporting:
Parent Guide to the LEAP 2025 Student Reports

The Parent Guide to the LEAP 2025 Student Reports for grades 3-12 is now available in the Family Support Toolbox Library.

- This guide helps parents read and interpret the LEAP 2025 student reports, with accompanying online resources.
- **The guide should be sent home with the student reports.**
- Translated versions are available in Spanish, Vietnamese and Arabic in the Toolbox library.

Translated versions of the student report text and performance levels for all subjects and grade levels are also available to support non-English speaking families in reading their child's report.

2017-2018 Reporting:
LAA 1/LEAP Connect and ELPT Results

The English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) and LEAP Connect tests were administered for the first time this spring.

- The ELPT measures English learners ability to meet the increased language expectations required by grade-level content standards.
- The LEAP Connect assessment measures the progress that students with significant disabilities are making while engaging in high-quality, standards-based content.

Results will be released this month.

Resources: LAA 1 Parent Guide, LEAP Connect Parent Guide, ELPT Parent Guide, and the 2018 Teacher Leader Summit

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

2017-2018 Reporting:
# Revisions to Louisiana's Accountability System

The 2017-2018 school performance score (SPS) formulae will represent two critical shifts in the design of Louisiana's accountability system as a result of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

1. **Ensuring an "A" in Louisiana's letter grade system signals mastery of fundamental skills.** This will be achieved by raising expectations for what is required in order for a school to earn A-level points based on student achievement and growth.

2. **Adjusting school rating calculations to value more the progress of every individual child, including (a) measuring whether students are on a path to master fundamental skills; and (b) measuring how effectively students are advancing relative to their peers.** This progress index replaces progress points.

# 2017-2018 Reporting: SPS Formulae

Elementary Schools

- 25% Student Progress
- 75% State Assessment Performance
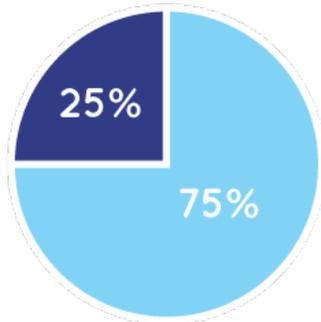
Legend:
- State Assessment Performance
- Student Progress

Elementary/Middle Schools
(with Grade 8)

- 5%
- 25% Student Progress
- 70% State Assessment Performance
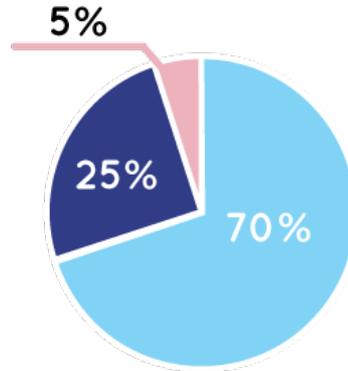
Legend:
- State Assessment Performance
- Student Progress
- Credit Accumulation

High Schools

- 25%
- 25%
- 25%
- 25%
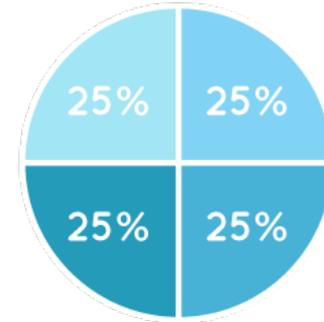
Legend:
- State Assessment Performance and Progress
- ACT/WorkKeys
- Strength of Diploma
- Graduation Rate

Louisiana Believes NOTE: The interests and opportunities measure will not be included within annual results until 2019-2020.

2017-2018 Reporting: Letter Grade Scale

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year (2018 SPS), the overall grading scale will be adjusted to allow schools time to respond to higher expectations in each index.

Letter Grade	2017-18 through 2020-21	2021-22 through 2023-24	2024-25 and beyond
A	90.0 - 150.0	95.0 - 150.0	100.0 - 150.0
B	75.0 - 89.9	80.0 - 94.9	85.0 - 99.9
C	60.0 - 74.9	65.0 - 79.9	70.0 - 84.9
D	50.0 - 59.9	50.0 - 64.9	50.0 - 69.9
F	0.0 - 49.9	0.0 - 49.9	0.0 - 49.9

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2017-2018 Reporting: School Report Cards

2017-2018 school report cards and early childhood performance profiles will be released in the fall on the Louisiana School Finder (www.louisianaschools.com). School Finder will report an overall School Performance Score and Letter Grade, as well as a score and letter grade equivalent for achievement and progress.

HOW IS THIS SCHOOL PERFORMING ON PERFORMANCE SCORE METRICS?

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

D   54.9

View Details

STUDENT PROGRESS

A   90.9

View Details

2017-2018 Reporting: Reporting Student Progress

By **early August**, schools and school systems will have the following progress data:

- 2017-2018 teacher-level VAM results (CIS) and preliminary student progress index results (MMCS La. Data Review)
- 2018-2019 student growth to Mastery targets (MMCS La. Data Review)

Additionally, final progress index results will be released in the fall with the School Performance Score release.

2017-2018 Reporting:
Teacher Leader Summit Sessions

What's New in Louisiana's School and School System Accountability Policies – This session will provide educators with an overview of the critical shifts in the design of the 2017-2018 school and school system performance scores.

Using Measures of Student Progress to Strengthen Practice and Increase Learning - This session is designed for school system and school personnel who support school accountability and teacher goal setting. It is also suited for managers of assessment data, student enrollment data, or CIS. Participants will be encouraged to engage in discussion and ask questions about the models used to assign points in the school performance score progress index and to calculate value-added results for educators.

DRC Online Cleanup

- **The final opportunity for schools/districts to clean up impending zeroes prior to the calculation of the new progress index and value-added results is during DRC Online Cleanup, which will open on June 11 and close on June 15** (rather than typical July timeline).

- Student records from LEAP 2025, EOC, LEAP Connect, and LAA 1 will be available to correct state ID numbers, birthdates, and impending zeroes.

- Accountability codes 1-44, 97 can be applied if there is a matching exit code in SIS that indicates student exited from enrollment prior to or during the testing window.

- For all other codes, schools should maintain documentation to verify use of codes that will be audited by the Department.

- Code 81 for EL students cannot be applied to a test not taken.

- **Schools should not wait until the August assessment data certification to request corrections for impending zeroes.**

Measuring Results: 2018-2019 Administration

Assessment Updates: AEPS to TS GOLD® Transition

As of July 1, Teaching Strategies GOLD® (TS GOLD®) will replace AEPS as the assessment tool used to measure the progress and growth of 3-5 year old children with disabilities.

Here are steps school systems should take to ensure a smooth transition:

1. Special Education Directors should complete this form by **May 30**, using information for the 2018-2019 school year.

2. Educators (especially those who work with students with disabilities ages 3 to 5) should consider attending one of the AEPS to TS GOLD® transition sessions at the Teacher Leader Summit.

A webinar was also held on May 7 for school system staff responsible for managing data and reporting data in AEPS and will be posted to the Assessment library next week.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with any questions.

Assessment Updates:
ESSA Changes to LEAP Connect Participation

Background: The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) made changes to rules regarding LEAP Connect (alternate assessment) participation. ESSA limits the total number of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are assessed statewide with an alternate assessment to 1.0 percent of the total number of students in the state who are assessed in that subject.

ESSA establishes a **state cap**, **not a school system cap** and requires states to monitor school systems that have high alternate assessment participation rates.

Next Steps:
- School systems who participated in the 2017-2018 alternate assessment monitoring process should retrieve their monitoring correspondences from the FTP.
- This fall the Department will consider policies, procedures and enhancements to the special education reporting (SER) system to support school systems with appropriate identification of student who should take the alternate assessment.

Contact specialeducation@la.gov with any questions.

Assessment Updates: LEAP 360

During the first year of LEAP 360 implementation, feedback was collected from focus groups, school system and school leaders, and teachers. This feedback was used to plan enhancements across usability, administration, and reporting for the 2018-2019 school year.

School systems that signed a LEAP 360 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the 2017-2018 school year may choose to continue using LEAP 360 through June 30, 2019, under the same terms and conditions.

LEAP 360 will be available to school systems in the 2018-2019 at no cost.

Year two provides school systems with an opportunity to:
- re-evaluate existing practices,
- reduce duplicative testing, and
- transition to a more comprehensive assessment system that yields valid and reliable information on student performance throughout the school year.

Assessment Updates: LEAP 360

Next Steps

- The Department is continuing to gather feedback from school systems and school level users through focus groups, site visits, and assessment@la.gov. Enhancements across usability, administration, and reporting will be implemented for the 2018-2019 school year.

- To opt in and amend your school system's existing agreement, each Superintendent must sign an amendment to the original agreement.

- Please click here to download the **LEAP 360 MOU Amendment (2018-2019)** form. Complete, sign, and return an electronic copy to assessment@la.gov by **July 7**.

School systems should anticipate a cost for the 2019-2020 school year.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Measuring Results: Data Collection

Data Systems: Closing Out 2017-2018

Key data coordinator action items in May include continuing to submit data to close out the school year and providing feedback/updates to the Department for next school year.

End-of-year data is important to:
- Students (demographic updates, final enrollment, attendance, discipline, dropout corrections, meeting graduation, TOPS, and/or post secondary enrollment requirements);
- Career/Tech work;
- Staff (final teacher data); and
- Funding (updates to October and February enrollments).

Superintendents should encourage collaboration between their data managers and other impacted groups (high school program managers, finance, Accountability, and CTE staff, etc.). Since this is the final data collection for the school year, it is important that school system program teams work with data managers to ensure submissions are error-free, accurate and complete.

Data Systems: Closing Out 2017-2018

Reminder:

- Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, end-of-year Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) data collected on staff absences will be publicly shared in the School Finder site, with the release of 2017-2018 academic results.

- Superintendents should confirm with HR directors and staff data managers that this information is collected and submitted accurately to the PEP data system.

Data Systems: Preparation for 2018-2019

School systems may begin submitting requests to the Department for changes to their district and school information.

- Online Sponsor Site (SPS) forms are now available for submitting Sponsor Site (SPS) new school, closure, and/or change requests. Note - Forms are not needed for changing information on school/LEA administrator, social media links, or clubs/sports. Those can be made directly in the system by local sponsor site coordinators.

- Deadline for submitting SPS forms for school closures is **June 29.**

- Deadline for submitting SPS forms for all other new school/update requests is **July 20.**

- Please refer to the 2018-2019 Sponsor Site System (SPS) User guide posted on INSIGHT for guidance regarding the new electronic forms and how to certify.

2017-2018 Teacher Roster Verification for VAM and TSG

- The Curriculum Verification and Results (CVR) Reporting Portal roster verification process ensures that teachers are assigned to the correct courses and classroom rosters for the purposes of value-added (VAM) and transitional student growth data (TSGD) analyses.

- In 2017-2018, VAM results will account for 35 percent of the Student Growth component of the teacher's final evaluation. Teachers in grades 4-8 in ELA, Math, and Social Studies will receive VAM results.

- Teachers in Algebra I, Geometry, and English I will receive TSG results in 2017-2018 because these assessments are in transition to new achievement levels. These TSG results are for information purposes only and will not count in the teacher's final evaluation.

- **Roster Verification is now open through May 18:** During this time, **users can view the roster data for accuracy and make changes in the system**. Please review the CVR user guide for specific instructions.

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Updated CVR Report: Verification Status Reports

Superintendents and Data Managers have access to the Verification Completion Report to view which schools have/have not completed verification of rosters.

- Under the Verified Data tab, select Report, and Verification Counts
- Select the School Year (2017-2018), the district, and select Run Report
- A PDF document will show the verification status of each school

Data Managers and principals have access to the Verification Status Report to view which teachers have/have not completed verification of rosters.

- Under the Verified Data tab, select Report, and Verification Status
- Select the School Year (2017-2018), the district, the school, and select Run Report
- A PDF document will show the verification status of all teachers at the school
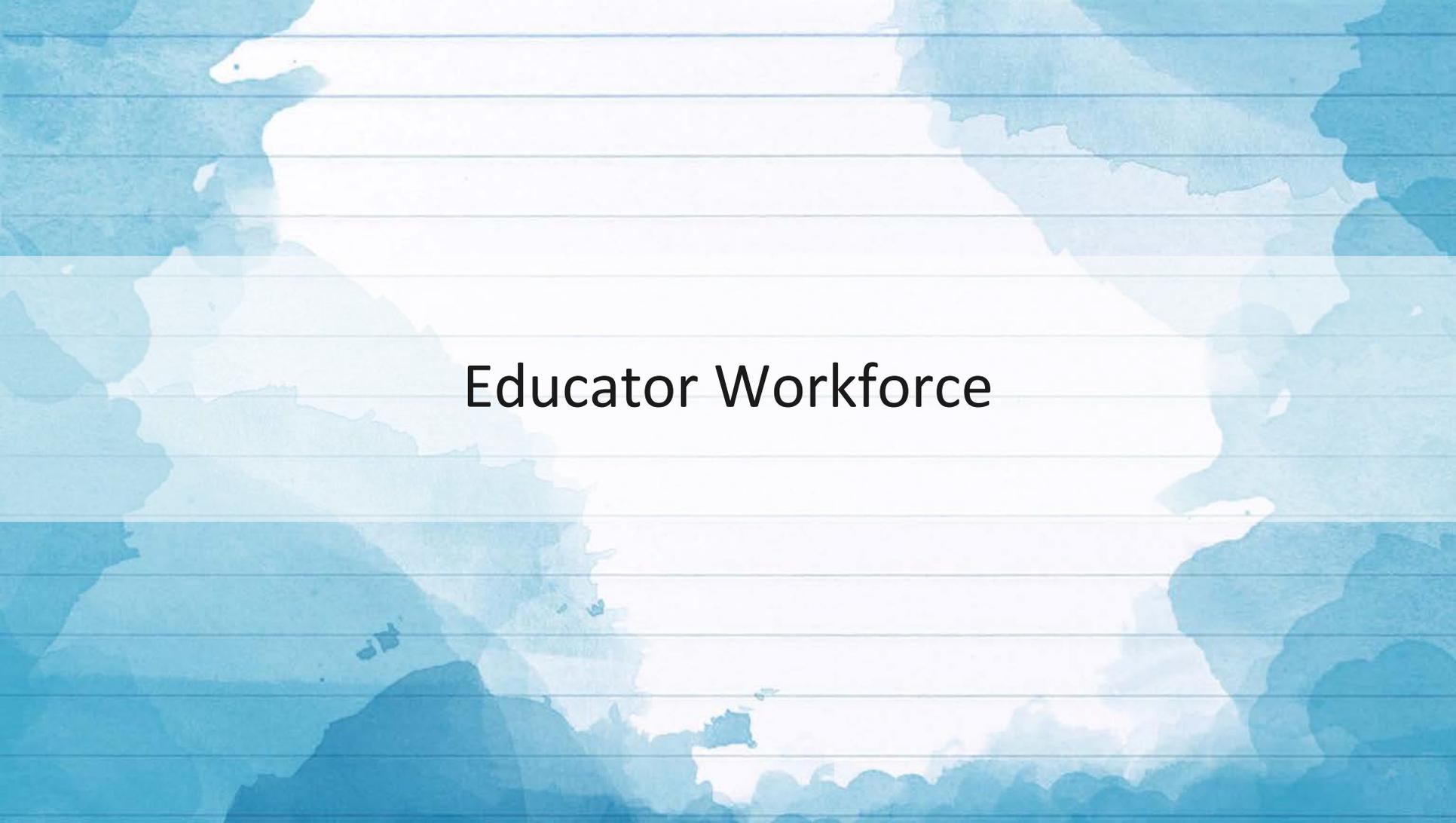
Educator Workforce

Teacher Leader Summit:
Educator Workforce Sessions

Partnerships with School Systems	Mentor Teachers	Curriculum	Innovative Programs	Using Data to Drive Improvement	Support for Residents and New Teachers
Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Maximizing Partnerships between Preparation Providers and School Systems	Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Becoming an Effective Mentor Teacher	The Role of High-Quality Curricula in Teacher Preparation	Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Engaging High School Students in the Teaching Profession	Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Understand and Use Educator Workforce Data	Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Developing School Leaders
	Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Leveraging Mentor Teachers		Innovative Approaches to Sheltering and Supporting New Teachers: Initial Lessons from Pilots in Rural School Systems	Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System	

Support for Teachers: Building on a Strong Foundation

Over the past five years, Louisiana's Legislature, BESE, and the Department have made important shifts in expectations and supports for students and teachers, yet challenges still exist.

1. Louisiana adopted **new standards and aligned assessments** for students. Over the past five years, many school systems have transitioned to using a **high-quality curriculum** aligned to those standards.

   Challenge: Few teachers report having access to ongoing training that helps them use their curriculum effectively.

2. Louisiana adopted **new expectations for teachers** and **strengthened teacher preparation** through the Believe and Prepare pilot program. Starting in July, all teacher preparation programs in Louisiana will include a **yearlong classroom residency coupled with a competency-based curriculum**.

   Challenge: As residencies expand statewide, undergraduate and post-baccalaureate candidates need skilled mentors to support their growth.

3. Louisiana established **Jump Start**, a critical component of career and technical education (CTE) that allows students to obtain **industry-based credentials and workplace-based learning opportunities to prepare for high-wage, high-demand careers.**

   Challenge: As K-12 Jump Start pathways grow statewide, students need educators and industry experts to be the next generation of CTE leaders.

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Opportunities for Professional Growth in Louisiana

Expanding School Leadership Roles

Mentor Teachers, Content Leaders, and CTE Leaders can play an important role by providing ongoing, school-based, curriculum-specific training to teachers while also creating a leadership pipeline for top talent.

Moving forward, the Department will engage in ongoing discussions with school and school system leaders, as well as teacher preparation partners, to continue exploring opportunities to grow Louisiana's cadre of school-based leaders.

During the 2018 Teacher Leader Summit, the Department will lead sessions on Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Developing School Leaders to continue this conversation.

We look forward to receiving your input on potential shifts in policy that can help to establish and expand these school leadership roles statewide.

2017-2018 Educator Workforce Reports

On March 12, several sections of the 2017-2018 educator workforce data were released in the secure reporting site, including an overview of workforce data, evaluating results, and information on recruiting and hiring.

This month, the Department will release data on retention, promotion, tenure, compensation, and equity. Included in this release is an appendix that lists all classes taught by out-of-field or uncertified teachers, which will be added to each school system's FTP. Please coordinate with your data manager to access this information.

Additional updates on the 2017-2018 workforce data will be shared in the LDOE Weekly Newsletter and discussed at the 2018 Teacher Leader Summit (see Building a Strong Educator Workforce: Understand and Use Educator Workforce Data).

This spring, school system leaders will continue to meet with network leaders to review the 2017-2018 workforce data in order to:
- make decisions regarding teacher placement for the 2018-2019 academic year,
- establish or strengthen partnerships with teacher preparation providers, and
- discuss how workforce data can be used in the 2018-2019 school redesign grant application.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Teach LA Live: Teacher Certification Portal

In response to feedback from school system leaders, **the Department launched Teach LA Live**, a new educator certification portal designed to improve customer service and that will enable digital submission of certification requests on April 26.

The portal will allow for:
- direct, tracked communication between the Department, personnel directors and their teams, and educators;
- electronic submission of fillable PDF certification applications; and
- online payment of fees for certification applications.

For guidance on navigating the portal, please refer to the following user guides, which are posted in the Educators Preparation Library.
- Teach LA Live! User Guide for Educators
- Teach LA Live! User Guide for Preparation Providers
- Teach LA Live! User Guide for School System Personnel (HR)

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year
Next Steps

Finalists for Teacher and Principal of the Year will be announced on May 30, during the Teacher Leader Summit at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

The overall state Teacher and Principal of the Year will be announced at the 12th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Symposium and Celebration in Baton Rouge on July 27.

All school systems are encouraged to attend the gala and join the Department in celebrating the incredible work of our 2019 semi-finalists and finalists.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Appreciation Week

The Department invites school systems and educators across the state to elevate the teaching profession on social media this week!

Way to participate:
- post pictures or videos of your teachers thanking them for what they do;
- post a picture or video saying "Thank You" to a teacher that made a difference in your life; and
- tag the Department in your posts using the hashtags #ThankATeacher and #BeATeacherLA.

Together we can make an impact on the teaching profession, by changing the way the world, and most importantly our youth, see it.

Social media graphics promoting Teacher Appreciation Week are available on the Department's website, along with other materials for the statewide teacher recruitment campaign.
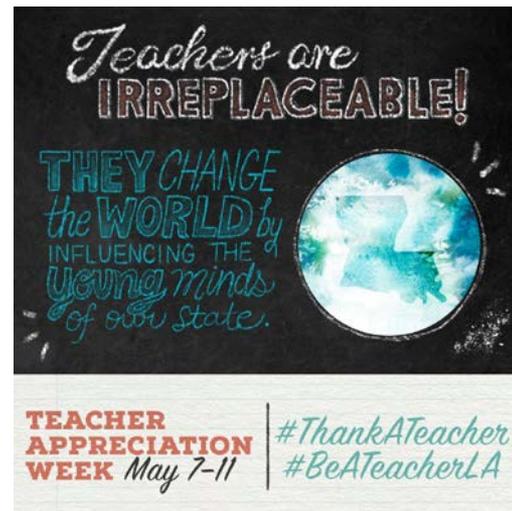
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Graduation Pathways

Countdown to Graduation: FAFSA Update

This Friday, May 11, will be 50 days out from the July 1 priority submission deadline.

Here are the FAFSA submission rates as of April 20.

Several resources are available on the Financial Aid webpage to support schools in ensuring students meet this graduation requirement.

Parish	Rate	Parish	Rate	Parish	Rate
East Carroll Parish	98%	East Baton Rouge Parish	72%	DeSoto Parish	66%
St. Bernard Parish	96%	Rapides Parish	72%	Vermillion Parish	65%
Iberville Parish	91%	Union Parish	72%	LaSalle Parish	65%
Grant Parish	89%	Bienville Parish	71%	Natchitoches Parish	64%
St. John Parish	87%	Lafayette Parish	71%	St. Martin Parish	64%
Catahoula Parish	85%	Lafourche Parish	71%	Webster Parish	64%
West Baton Rouge Parish	83%	Beauregard Parish	71%	Pointe Coupee Parish	63%
St. Charles Parish	82%	City of Monroe	71%	Morehouse Parish	63%
Winn Parish	82%	City of Baker	71%	Cameron Parish	62%
Washington Parish	81%	Ouachita Parish	70%	West Carroll Parish	62%
St. Tammany Parish	80%	Allen Parish	70%	Assumption Parish	61%
Central Community	79%	East Feliciana Parish	70%	Jackson Parish	60%
St. Mary Parish	78%	Tangipahoa Parish	70%	Acadia Parish	60%
Madison Parish	76%	Vernon Parish	70%	Tensas Parish	60%
Ascension Parish	76%	Zachary Community	70%	Iberia Parish	59%
Sabine Parish	75%	West Feliciana Parish	69%	Concordia Parish	59%
Franklin Parish	74%	St. Helena Parish	69%	Calcasieu Parish	57%
Orleans Parish	74%	Bossier Parish	69%	REd River Parish	56%
Plaquemines Parish	73%	Evangeline Parish	68%	Terrebonne Parish	56%
Avoyelles Parish	73%	Jefferson Parish	68%	Claiborne Parish	54%
St. James Parish	73%	Lincoln Parish	68%	Richland Parish	53%
City of Bogalusa	73%	St. Landry Parish	67%		
Livingston Parish	73%	Jefferson Davis Parish	67%		
Caddo Parish	72%	Caldwell Parish	66%		

Louisiana Believes

Updated Proficiency Credit Reporting

School systems must annually report to the Department proficiency exams used to award Carnegie credit to students per state policy.

Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year there is a new, streamlined form which should be used to report these exams.

The form can be accessed here or on the Louisiana Believes website under Graduation Requirements.

For additional information contact stephanie.marcum@la.gov.

JAG National Training Seminar

The National Training Seminar (NTS), an annual professional development opportunity for the JAG National Network, will be hosted by JAG-LA in New Orleans July 11-13.

All JAG-LA Specialists should make plans to attend the three-day National Training Seminar as a variety of professional development workshops will be offered.

Registration is now open and closes June 1.
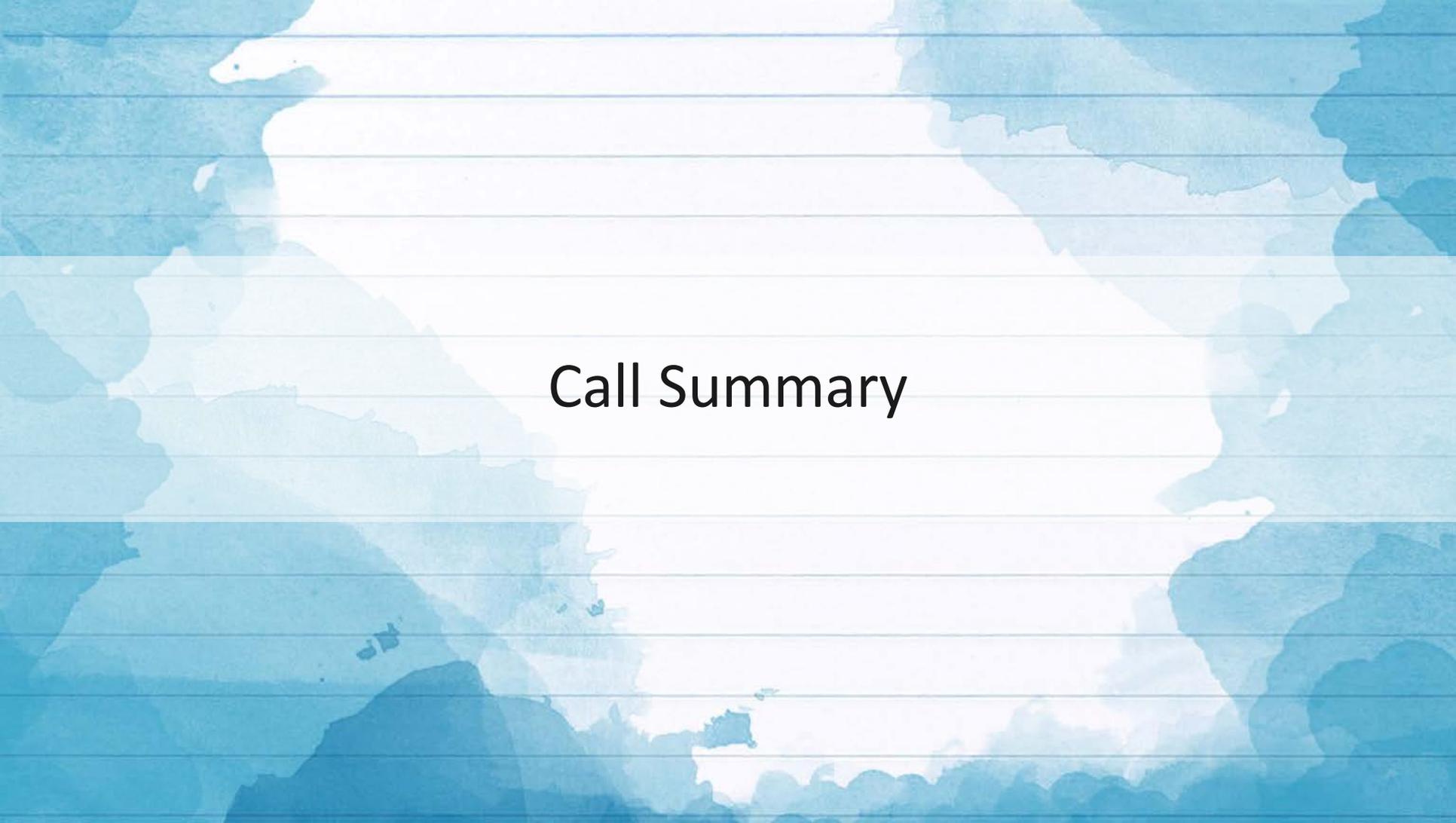
Call Summary

Call Summary

Month	Key Deadlines	Support and Resources
May	• **May 18:** Teacher Roster verification window in CVR closes • **May 30:** AEPS to TS Gold transition form due • **May 31:** Final GOLD® checkpoint • **May 31:** Early Childhood Family Survey due • **May 31:** BESE Regulation Waiver Request Form due	• Teach LA Live • 2018-2019 School System Planning Calendar • School Redesign Pre-Implementation Checklist • 2018 Teacher Leader Summit overview • Family Support Toolbox • LEAP 360 MOU Amendment (2018-2019) form • CVR User Guide • **May 9 & 10:** Introduction to Mentor Teacher Webinar • **May 10:** Compass 2017-2018 End of Year Webinar • **May 30-June 1:** Teacher Leader Summit
June	• **June 1:** JAG National Training Seminar Registration closes	• **June 13:** School System Planning Call