

# TEACHER LEADERS

ENGAGE. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.



**December 2018**

Dear Colleagues,

I wanted to write to you personally this holiday season, to express my gratitude on behalf of the state, for all that you have done for students this semester, and for all that is to come. The holidays offer us a moment to reflect and to appreciate the abundance in our lives. Louisiana is abundant with committed educators, and I am abundantly thankful for the blessing you bestow on our children.

I am also appreciative that gratitude to teachers and other educators is a front-and-center issue in our state these days. There is much talk of pay increases, for example. And the issue of professionalizing the process by which candidates enter our profession has taken center stage as well.

Pay is not everything. And preparation, in a sense, more affects those who will be teachers than those who already are. But the presence of a statewide conversation about these things is a sign of well-deserved respect. It is a sign of respect for you. It is a sign of respect for our profession. It is a sign of respect for the choice to serve children. It is a sign of respect for late, quiet nights making plans and grading papers, for weekend extra-curriculars, for after-school tutoring, and for the call home. It is a recognition that, beyond any rule or regulation, beyond any program or even any curriculum, teachers do an immeasurable amount of good in our communities and for our society.

The gratitude should not stop here and should not stop this year. Teachers in Louisiana stepped up to higher expectations. They took on the challenge. They embraced it. Most of all, they led it. Louisiana's teachers are teacher leaders in the truest sense. They made the change. And acknowledgment of that should not stop this year or in any year. For it is a gift that will continue to give for a generation to come.

I wish the best for you, your families, your schools, and your students this holiday season.

As always, thank you for all you do for our children,

John

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## SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

- The [LEAP Connect Assessment Guide](#) has been updated to include links to more resources.
- The [ELPT Assessment Guide](#) rubric section has been updated.

## ELA RESOURCES

### **Instructional Support**

Last year, the Department announced that [ELA Guidebook](#) units in grades 3-8 would be updated to include supports for diverse learners. The updates for grades 6-8 were released last spring and can be accessed via zip-drive from each unit's "[Unit at a Glance](#)" page by clicking on "2018-2019 Revisions." The updates for grades 3-5 are currently being piloted and are scheduled for release this spring.

Within each updated unit file, teachers have access to more resources for each unit. One of the most popular new resources is the text analysis document. This document breaks down the anchor text in the following ways:

- What is this text about?
- What are students asked to do with this text?
- How do readers understand this text?
- What makes this text complex?

Teachers should also be sure to check out [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#). In the section entitled "EAGLE ELA Passage and Item Information," teachers can access items and passages from the Cold Read Tasks for all ELA Guidebook units in grades 3-12. This allows teachers the option to give some ELA Guidebook assessments digitally through EAGLE.

### **Assessment Resources**

- **Reminder:** LEAP 2025 Practice Test Webinar for Teachers/Supervisors - learn about the best practices for using the practice test in the classroom by accessing the webinar [slides](#) and [recording](#) or join the final live webinar
  - January 9, 2019, 4:00 - 5:00 pm
  - Link <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/175295115>;
  - Dial number 1-646-876-9923; Meeting ID 175 295 115#

## Vendor Webinars

In November, districts are embarking on the school planning process for the 2019-2020 school year. To help districts understand Tier 1 ELA curriculum options, the LDOE has invited Tier 1 vendors to host webinars in December. Click [here](#) for a master list of webinar dates, times, and information on how to join.

## MATH RESOURCES

### Assessment Resources

- Reminder: LEAP 2025 Practice Test Webinar for Teachers/Supervisors - learn about the best practices for using the practice test in the classroom by accessing the webinar [slides](#) and [recording](#) or join the final live webinar
  - January 9, 2019, 4:00 - 5:00 pm
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- **EAGLE**
  - [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#) is updated weekly to reflect newly added EAGLE 2.0 items.
  - Ten new items were added for Grades 1 and 2 in October, 2018.
  - Type II (Reasoning) and Type III (Modeling) tasks were added for the following grades/courses in October or November 2018.
    - Grade 3
    - Grade 4
    - Grade 5
    - Grade 6
    - Grade 7
    - Grade 8
    - Geometry

## Vendor Webinars

In November, districts are embarking on the school planning process for the 2019-2020 school year. To help districts understand Tier 1 math curriculum options, the LDOE has invited Tier 1 vendors to host webinars in December. Click [here](#) for a master list of webinar dates, times, and information on how to join.

## SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

### Instructional Support

- The [U.S. History Companion Document](#) has been posted! Find the complete document on the [K-12 Social Studies Resource](#) page or in the [Grades 9-12 Social Studies Teacher Library](#). The U.S. History Companion Document clarifies the prioritized content for the U.S. History standards. For information on how best to use the companion documents, see the professional development

session from the September 2018 Teacher Leader Collaborations, [Using the Companion Documents to Prioritize Content in Social Studies](#).

### **Assessment Resources**

- **Reminder:** LEAP 2025 Practice Test Webinar for Teachers/Supervisors - learn about the best practices for using the practice test in the classroom by accessing the webinar [slides](#) and [recording](#) or join the final live webinar
  - January 9, 2019, 4:00 - 5:00 pm
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- **EAGLE:** Two new source-based assessment sets have been added to EAGLE.
  - Grade 8, Unit 3: Passage 134672, "Reconstruction in Louisiana," includes an ER item
  - Grade 8, Unit 4: Passage 134409, "Populism," includes a CR item

These new item sets have been added to the EAGLE Social Studies Passage and Item Information section of the appendix of [A Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360](#). As new content is added to EAGLE throughout the school year, it will be announced through the Teacher Leader newsletter and added to the Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360 Appendix.

## SCIENCE RESOURCES

### **Assessment Resources**

- **Reminder:** LEAP 2025 Practice Test Webinar for Teachers/Supervisors - learn about the best practices for using the practice test in the classroom by accessing the webinar [slides](#) and [recording](#) or join the final live webinar
  - January 9, 2019, 4:00 - 5:00 pm
  - Link <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/175295115>;
  - Dial number 1-646-876-9923; Meeting ID 175 295 115#
- **EAGLE:** As new content is added to EAGLE throughout the school year, it will be announced through the Teacher Leader newsletter and added to the [Teacher's Guide to LEAP 360 Appendix](#).

## LEAP 360 RESOURCES

### **Resources and Support**

- Teacher Access is now available for all Interims and can be accessed through the [Interim Quickstart Guide](#).

## EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

### **Policy Update: Educational Leader Licensure**

In October, [BESE established new state credentials for classroom teachers](#) in the form of ancillary certificates. The credentials, Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Certificates, will count toward

requirements to obtain an educational leader level 1 certificate, needed to become an assistant principal or a principal. To earn the Mentor Teacher or Content Leader Certificates, candidates must:

- complete a state-approved training program; and
- complete the Louisiana Mentor Teacher Assessment Series or the Louisiana Content Leader Assessment Series, specially designed licensure assessments unique to each role.

Below is an overview of the policy shifts, as well as the timeline.

Area	New Policy
Administrative & Supervisory Credentials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Leader and Mentor Teacher ancillary certificates established</li> <li>• Mentor Teacher ancillary certificate required for teachers who mentor undergraduate or post-baccalaureate residents</li> <li>• Supervisor of Student Teaching certificate replaced by Mentor Teacher ancillary certificate</li> </ul>
Credit toward Educational Leader Level 1 Certificate (EDL 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentor Teacher or Content Leader experience may constitute up to 40 percent of individualized program in Alternative Pathway 1 and 3, and as 100 of 240 required hours in Alternative Pathway 2</li> <li>• Mentor and Content Leader assessments may comprise one third of alternative school leader assessment</li> </ul>
Licensure Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BESE charges the Department to develop an alternative school leader assessment for EDL 1 certification eligibility that is aligned to state standards, is practice based, and includes components of LA Mentor Teacher &amp; Content Leader assessment series</li> </ul>

Timeline
<p>Spring 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Department begins to issue Content Leader ancillary certificates</b> to individuals who have successfully completed a state-approved Content Leader training program, including state-led training, and have a passing score on the Louisiana Content Leader Assessment Series</li> <li>• <b>Department begins to issue Mentor Teacher ancillary certificates</b> to individuals who have successfully completed a state-approved Mentor Teacher training program, including state-led training, and have a passing score on the Louisiana Mentor Teacher Assessment Series</li> </ul>
<p>September 1, 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mentor Teacher ancillary certificate required</b> for individuals who serve as a mentor of undergraduate or post-baccalaureate teacher residents</li> </ul>
<p>September 1, 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Supervisor of Student Teaching certificate replaced</b> by Mentor Teacher ancillary certificate</li> </ul>

### **Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)**

Teacher Leaders are invited to nominate outstanding mathematics, science, computer and engineering teachers in grades 7-12. Nominations must be made [online](#). For more information contact Jean May-Brett at [jam05@bellsouth.net](mailto:jam05@bellsouth.net).

### **Louisiana Environmental Education Commission Regional Short Courses**

In 2019, the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission (LEEC) is bringing continuing education to teachers by staging workshops and/or tours in each of the major regions around Louisiana, focusing on environmental efforts on **Saturday, February 16, 2019**. These short courses are intended to provide continuing education for educators. Registration for short courses is \$20, which includes lunch. Additionally, the Louisiana Environmental Education Association will provide a \$30 stipend to classroom teachers who complete a course. To register, visit click [here](#).

### **Teacher and Principal of the Year - Application Process is Open**

The Teacher and Principal of the Year application process for the 2018-2019 school year is now open. All applications, materials, and timelines are now available in the [Award Programs Library](#), which is accessible on the [Award's page](#).

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers and three principals, one per division (elementary, middle, and high), as their local-level honorees and submit these selections to the state process. **State-level applications are due by January 23, 2019**, and must be submitted via an online application portal which will open later this month.

## **STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Louisiana Envirothon**

The Louisiana Envirothon is an environmental problem-solving competition for students in grades 6-12. Teams train and compete by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management and present a solution to an environmental problem related to the current issue through an oral presentation. The 2019 current environmental issue is Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World. Teacher Leaders are invited to participate in year's competition, which will be held on April 13, 2019, by organizing a team of five students from the same school or associated with an organized group (i.e. FFA, 4-H, science club, etc.). The team registration fee is \$50. Download the [registration packet here](#). The registration deadline is **December 12, 2018**.

### **George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts' Contest**

The George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts' 2018-2019 Art Contest is open to all Louisiana high school juniors and seniors. This year's theme is Cosmos, inspired by Rodrigue's [cosmos series](#). Submissions are now open and will close in **January 2019**. The Louisiana school with the largest number of entries will also win a \$1,000 art kit for the school's art program! Additionally, the 15 finalists selected will be awarded next March and share \$45,000 in college scholarships. These winning entries will then travel on

public view for one year as an exhibition at museums and cultural venues across Louisiana. Full details including submission portal can be found [here](#).

## PRINCIPALS' CORNER

### **Registration Open for 2019 Behavior Intervention Summit**

[Registration](#) for the 2019 Behavior Intervention Summit is now open until **January 2, 2019**. The summit will be held at the Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge on **January 30, 2019**. Sessions at the convention will provide school systems with important information related to building an effective multi-tier system of support utilizing evidence based behavioral interventions.

Sessions include:

- Evidence Based Behavior Intervention(s)
- Social Emotional Learning Curriculum and Strategies
- Implementing a Multi-Tier System of Support
- Trauma Informed Approaches
- Classroom Management
- Cross Cultural Competencies
- Alternative Education Redesign
- Data Based Decision Making in Behavior Intervention
- Bolstering School Climate and Culture
- Implementation Fidelity Measures for Effective Behavioral Intervention

### **Upcoming Compass Deadlines**

The 2017-2018 Leader evaluation scores should be uploaded into the Compass Information System (CIS) between **November 26 - December 21**. For guidance on uploading the data into CIS, please review [Leader Evaluation Uploads](#), a step-by-step PowerPoint outlining the uploading protocol. This resource is also available in the *Training Materials* section of the [Compass Library](#).

For the 2018-2019 Compass Information System (CIS) deadlines, please note the following 1st-semester timeline:

Date	Action Item
November 26 - December 21	School System Level Compass Administrators upload 2017-2018 leader scores into CIS
December 3	Student Learning Targets (SLTs) are reviewed and accepted by school leaders (no direct entry into the CIS system is necessary at this time).

For more information, please review the [2018-2019 CIS Timeline](#) located in the [Compass Library](#) in Louisiana Believes.

## January/February Principal Collaborations

This year the Department's state-wide Collaborations have been designed to support school systems in implementing the five priorities through two areas of focus:

- School system planning implementation for the 2018-2019 with the focus on supporting CIR schools to implement plans that focus on curriculum implementation and,
- School system planning for 2019-2020 with the introduction to the new school system planning process and the Super App.

The upcoming January/February Collaborations will focus on the role of the principal in implementing improvement plans on the school-level. Registration for the January/February Principal Collaborations will open on January 7, 2019, and closes on **January 25**.

The Principal Collaborations will be offered on the following dates and locations from 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.:

- January 28: Baton Rouge
- January 31: Harvey
- February 5: Ruston
- February 7: Lake Charles

## PD Vendor Guide

The [2019 PD Vendor Guide](#), released on November 1, identifies vendors who specialize in helping school systems and schools with designing and implementing a cohesive academic system focused on high-quality curriculum, professional development, and assessment.

Updates to this guide include:

- a Table of Contents organized by curriculum, making it easier for school systems to identify all vendors providing training on their selected curriculum;
- specific call-outs for trainings that target approaches to support students who have been identified as SPED or EL; and
- sample year-long partner plans to help school systems plan initial and ongoing support for teachers.

School systems should use the updated PD Vendor Guide to plan for the 2019-2020 school year.

## CONTACT US

- For questions about instructional support and resources including LEAP 360 and EAGLE, contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov).
- For questions about assessments and related supports, contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).
- For questions about the Educational Leader licensure policy update, contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).
- For questions about the Principal Collaborations, contact [districtsupport@la.gov](mailto:districtsupport@la.gov).
- For question about the PD Vendor Guide, contact [LouisianaCurriculumReview@la.gov](mailto:LouisianaCurriculumReview@la.gov).
- For question about the Behavior Intervention Summit, contact [Behaviorintervention@la.gov](mailto:Behaviorintervention@la.gov).
- For questions about Compass, contact [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov).