



# OVERVIEW

In 2018, the Department, in partnership with the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, launched the inaugural Louisiana Teacher Public Interest Fellowship. The fellowship allows recipients to spend the upcoming school year advocating for a key education initiative of their choosing. These initiatives are aligned to the Department's priorities. Winners are chosen from the previous year's list of Louisiana Teacher of

the Year Finalists. The fellowship is supported by a stipend of state funding that is utilized to offset the costs incurred while conducting the work of the fellowship. To date, the Department has named four recipients as Public Interest Fellows. You may read more about the fellows and their work by clicking on the headshots below.

*“The PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIP is another important program helping to drive educational progress in our state, enabling selected Teacher of the Year finalists to focus their talents on the initiatives they are most passionate about. By investing in some of our best and brightest professionals in this manner, we are able to support their involvement and influence in projects that will have a positive impact for Louisiana students and schools.”*

*~ Sandy Holloway, BESE President*



*Bridget Berry*  
2021 Public Interest Fellow



*Trinette Wallace*  
2021 Public Interest Fellow



*Jessica Borland*  
2020 Public Interest Fellow



*Christopher Dier*  
2020 Public Interest Fellow



*Tasha Jolivet-Jones*  
2019 Public Interest Fellow



*Kimberly Eckert*  
2018 Public Interest Fellow