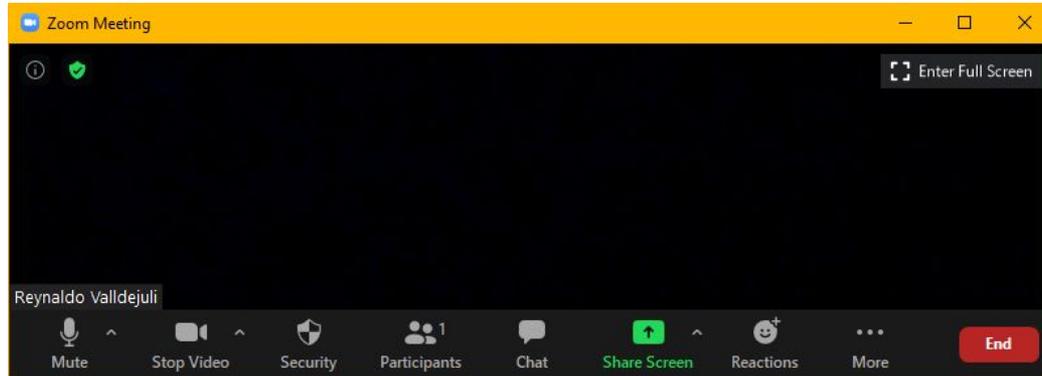


Zoom Meeting Preparation

- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”
- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”
- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.



Louisiana Believes

Legislative, Policy, and Workforce Support Monthly Call

December 14, 2020

Agenda

I. Educator Workforce

II. Policy

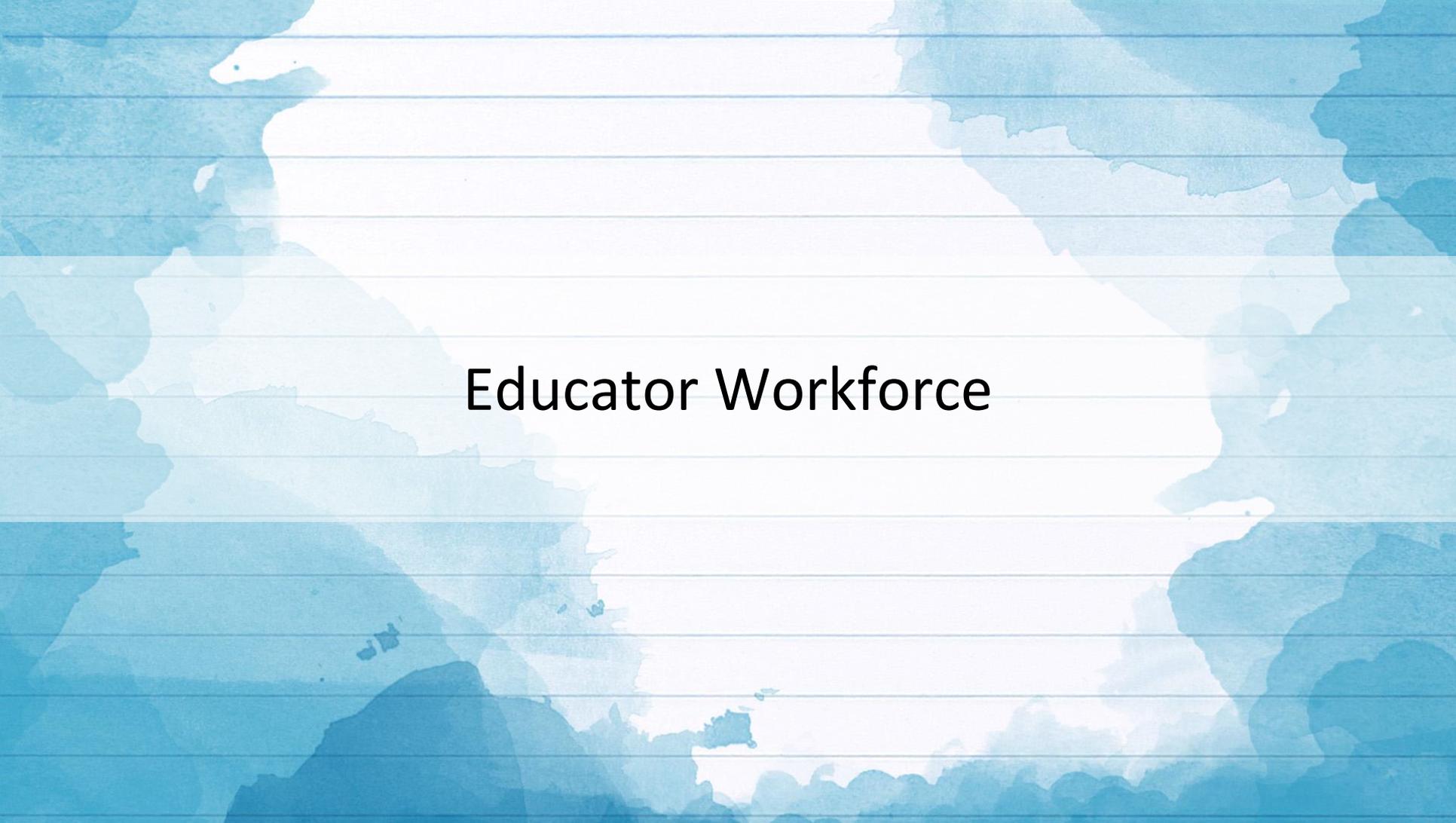
III. Certification

IV. Legislative Support

V. Healthy Communities

Suggested participants for this call:

- Human Resources Directors
- Teacher Certification Personnel

The background of the slide is a watercolor-style illustration. It features a central white area that tapers towards the top and bottom, creating a sense of depth. This white area is surrounded by soft, blended washes of light blue and teal. The colors are applied in a painterly, organic manner, with some darker blue accents near the bottom and sides, suggesting a sky or a vast, open space. The overall effect is clean, modern, and professional.

Educator Workforce

2019-2020 Teacher Exit Survey Report

R.S. 17:7(28) requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to annually report the results of teacher exit interviews conducted by the 69 public school systems (not including charters). The purpose of the interviews and of this report is to gather information about teachers' reasons for leaving their classrooms that could prove useful in developing strategies to improve teacher retention.

The results of the exit survey over the last five years show that the Louisiana teacher workforce is stable. The top three reasons for departure listed below remain consistent from past years:

- Resigned due to personal circumstances,
- Retirement, and
- Accepted a teaching or leadership position within Louisiana.

There was an increase in the number of teachers exiting the classroom due to personal circumstances, which school systems attribute to COVID-19. Finally, fewer teachers transferred to school systems out of state.

Resident Teacher and Mentor Teacher Compensation Data Reporting

The verification timeline for the resident and mentor teacher compensation process has been extended to **December 18, 2020 EOD**. This update was made to align to the updated due date of December 18, 2020 for the school system October 1 Profile of Educational Personnel data submission.

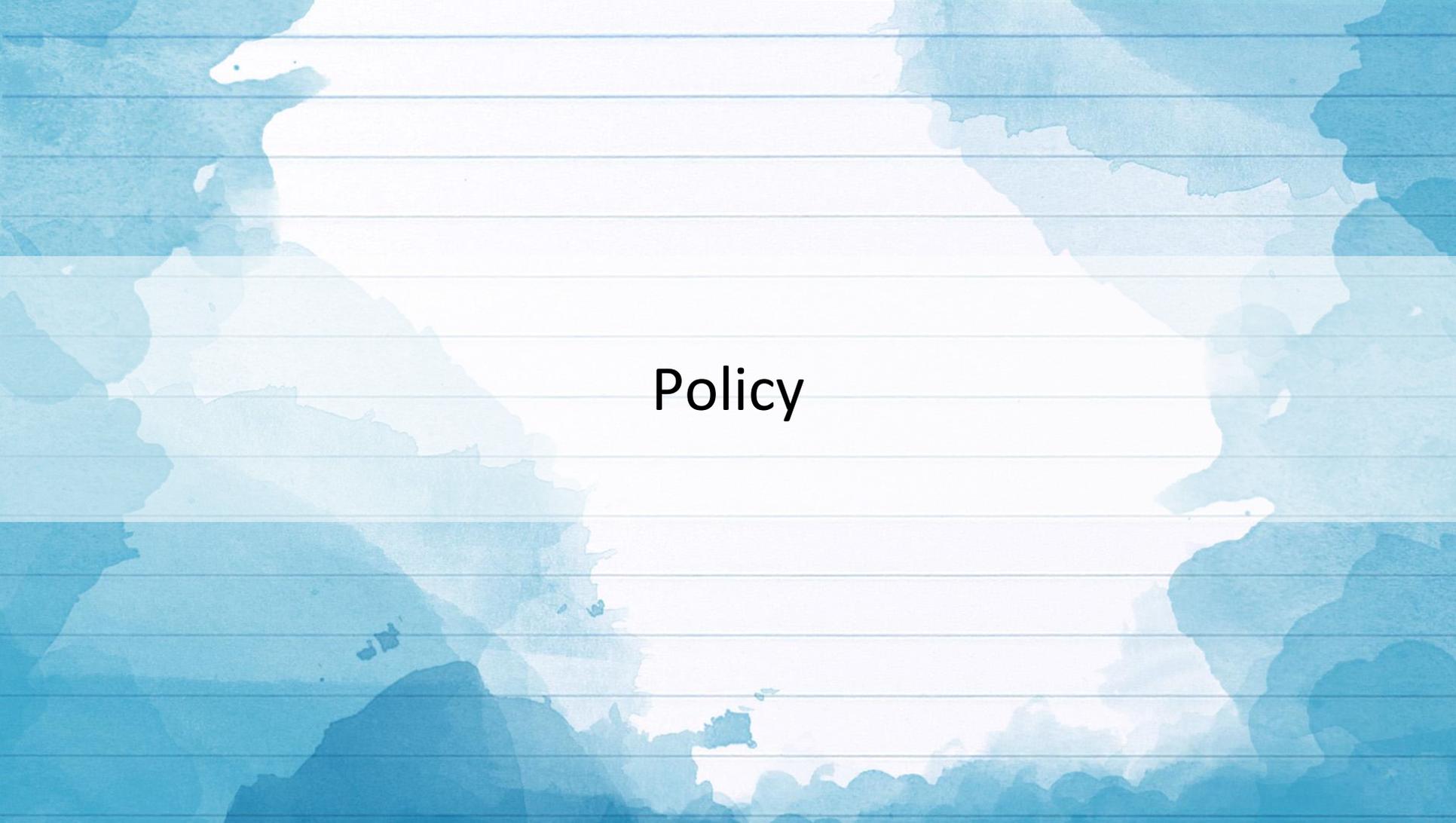
The third and final preliminary eligibility report will be transferred early next week to capture all updates that have been made by school systems as of December 11, 2020.

As a reminder, if any updates are needed, please submit an updated [data collection template](#) to the FTP, and email BelieveandPrepare@la.gov to indicate the file has been transferred. All updates must be submitted by the school system.

Practitioner License Policy Reminder

Practitioner Licenses (PL) are issued to candidates admitted to and enrolled in teacher preparation programs. **Teacher preparation providers** and **employing school systems** are responsible for applying for Practitioner Licenses on behalf of candidates enrolled in preparation programs. The chart below provides an overview of policy requirements outlined in Chapter 313 of Bulletin 746.

License Type	Description	Application Submission
PL 1	The PL 1 is issued to candidates enrolled in practitioner teacher preparation programs.	Teacher Preparation Provider
PL 2	The PL 2 is issued to candidates enrolled in certification-only alternative certification programs.	Employing School System
PL 3	The PL 3 is issued to candidates enrolled in master's degree alternative certification programs.	Employing School System



Policy

December BESE Policy Topics

The Board will consider revisions to several bulletins tomorrow, including:

Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System* to:

- Include a skip-year formula to calculate the progress index for 2021 school performance scores without LEAP 2025 scores from the 2019-2020 school year.

Bulletin 118, *Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices* to:

- Adjust timelines to allow for flexibility in the event of a future pandemic or natural disaster;
- Update assessments that are included in statewide administrations and the corresponding achievement levels to transition from End-of-Course (EOC) tests to LEAP 2025 high school and from LAA1 to LEAP Connect; and
- Align accommodations to new assessments;

Bulletin 741, *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*:

- Revisions enable Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to continue to implement the current policy regarding Phase 3 minimum requirements, pertaining to the reopening school facilities for the 2020-2021 school year.

Certification



DO NOW

Certification Reminders

- Please ensure the **correct** and **complete SSN** is included on certification applications.
- When using Out-of-State Experience Verification Attestation forms, check to be sure that “**successful**” or “**unsuccessful**” is chosen before submitting application.
- When applying for mentor teacher certification, include:
 - Certificate of **training completion** for BESE approved mentor program
 - Certificate of **assessment completion** from Bloomboard
- **Check teaching certificate on [teachlouisiana.net](https://www.teachlouisiana.net) prior to submitting applications**
 - Due to automatic extensions, some may not need renewal right now.
 - We process renewal requests **less than 90 days from expiration date.**



DO NOW

Praxis I Waiver

Bulletin 746 allows for the waiver of Praxis I with an ACT **composite** score of 22 and an SAT **combined** score of 1100.

Current policy language is **not** in alignment with the current SAT structure and scoring. Policy language will need to be changed. However, in the interim, a combined score of 1100 on the SAT can be used for Praxis I waiver.

ACT/SAT superscores **cannot** be used. Therefore, any ACT/SAT scores provided to the certification office must be on an **official ACT/SAT score report, official transcripts, or official university letterhead**. If provided on transcripts or university letterhead, **each subtest score** must be provided, in addition to the **composite score**.



IN THE FUTURE

Praxis Core Exam

- Current policy does not permit the use of PRAXIS Core: 5712, 5722, and/or 5732 if the tests were taken after July 31, 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous educators registered for those exams prior to the July 31, 2020, phase out date, but were unable to schedule the exam until after July 31, 2020.
- Tomorrow, the LDE is recommending to BESE to extend the effective date of the PRAXIS Core Academic Skills for Educators: 5712, 5722, and 5732 exams to December 31, 2020.
- If approved, as emergency rule, this revision would allow the consideration of the PRAXIS Core: 5712, 5722, and/or 5732 for those educators who registered for and achieved a passing score by December 31, 2020.



Certification Applications

In recent calls, notification of new certification applications were provided. Revision dates have been included both in the applications and on the website to assist you in determining if you have the latest application.

A transitional period, allowing the use of either application has been in place. As of **January 1, 2021**, the new applications will be **required** to be used for the following applications:

- Ancillary application
- Nonpublic Higher application

Please download and submit the current version of these applications from teachlouisiana.net.



IN THE FUTURE

Teacher Certification Appeals Council

The Teacher Certification Appeals Council (TCAC) provides individuals who believe they have legitimate grounds for an appeal an opportunity to have their records reviewed.

The next opportunity to appeal will be in **2021**. The **2021 TCAC** meeting dates are:

- **Thursday, February 25**
- **Thursday, June 10**
- **Thursday, August 26**
- **Thursday, November 4**

The [appeals application](#) was updated on **December 1** to reflect the new dates.



Legislative Support

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Accountability and Student Assessments

Act 47 (HB 80) – Rep. C. Owen – For the 2020-2021 school year, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) shall examine the results of student value-added model assessments and school-level test data and make such allowances in calculating school and district performance scores as necessary. BESE shall prepare a petition for the United States Department of Education for a waiver of the requirement of issuing letter grades for schools and school districts for the 2020-2021 school year and submit the petition if it is the opinion of the state superintendent that issuance of letter grades would be detrimental to the state of Louisiana.

Act 53 (SB 31) – Sen. Fields – For the 2020-2021 school year, value-added data shall not be used to evaluate teacher performance or effectiveness or student progression.

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Discipline

Act 48 (HB 83) – Rep. Romero – The law provides that school governing authorities create discipline policies regarding students engaged in online instruction while at home or at a location that is not on school property. The law further provides for judicial review of expulsions pursuant to such policies and the awarding of damages and attorney fees if a court finds that school officials acted in a grossly negligent manner.

Schools/School Employees

Act 32 (SB 15) – Sen. Milligan – This law provides that health insurance coverage shall begin concurrently with employment by a public elementary or secondary school system on the employees first day of employment under certain circumstances.

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Schools/School Employees

Act 34 (SB 23) – Sen. McMath – A physician assistant or nurse practitioner may certify sick days for sick leave for personal illness for school employees, teachers, and bus operators.

Act 52 (SB 30) – Sen. Milligan – The law prohibits the purchase of telecommunications or video surveillance equipment by public elementary and secondary schools, and governing authorities unless the equipment is purchased from a manufacturer who is in compliance with Section 889(a) of the Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act.

Act 49 (HB 96) – Rep. Freeman – Requires school governing authorities or other entities that participate in meal programs through which students are eligible for the pandemic electronic benefits transfer program (P-EBT) to share certain student information with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for the purposes of facilitating the automatic issuance of benefits to eligible families.

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

TOPS

Act 17 (HB 40) – Rep. Garofalo – The law provides for modifications to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) for students impacted by Hurricane Laura and other disasters and emergencies.

Resolutions

HR 51 and **SR 29** - Rep. Hilferty and Sen. Mizell - Requests the state Department of Education to study the education and training requirements, compensation, and employment turnover rates of early childhood care and education teachers.

Upcoming Reports Due to BESE and the Legislature

- Fall Reading Assessments, K-3 (LA R.S. 17:182)
- Teacher Exit Data Report (LA R.S. 17:7(28)(d))
- Compensation Schedule for School Bus Operators (HCR 20, 2020 Regular Legislative Session)
- Community Service Diploma Endorsement (LA R.S. 17:264)
- Suicide Training, Awareness, and Prevention (SCR 76, 2018 Regular Legislative Session, LA R.S. 17:437.1)
- Value-Added Model Report (LA R.S. 17:3883(8))
- Report on issues relative to the creation and operation of micro schools (HCR 26, 2020 Second Extraordinary Session)

Upcoming Reports Due to BESE and the Legislature

- Statewide Educational Technology Plan (LA R.S. 17:3921.2)
- Louisiana Early Literacy Commission Report (HR 222, SR 182, 2019 Regular Legislative Session)
- Training Requirements, Compensation, Employment Turnover Rates of Early Childhood Care and Education Teachers (HR 51, SR 29, 2020 Second Extraordinary Session)
- Report on School Compliance with Academic Improvement Plan Presentations (LA R.S. 17:10.1(I)(5))
- Report on Health and Physical Education (LA R.S. 17:7.4 and HCR 11, 2018 Regular Legislative Session)
- Early Childhood Care and Education Commission Report (Act 180, 2020 Regular Legislative Session)

Important Reminders/Call Summary

Super App Launch

Each year, school systems build a plan for how to improve student learning for the coming year. This process involves reviewing student achievement and student progress, establishing priorities, and building a budget aligned to these priorities using all available funding sources.

Super App is a tool that allows school systems to plan for their needs, access their formula funds, and apply for competitive funds on one timeline.

To gain access to all Super App launch presentations, view the [2021-2022 Super App Launch Session List](#), which includes virtual session descriptions as well as presentation and recording information.

Questions should be emailed to LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov. Please include "Super App" in the email subject line.

Call Summary

Key Dates:

- T, 12/15: BESE Committee meetings
- W, 12/16: BESE and Board of Regents joint meeting
- W, 12/16: BESE meeting

Supports and Resources:

- [2020-2021 School System Support Calendar](#)
- [Educator Resource Guide](#)
- [School System Planning Resources](#)
- [Family Support Toolbox Library](#)
- [Certification Bulletin, Bulletin 746](#)
- [Online Teacher Certification Portal, Teach LA Live!](#)