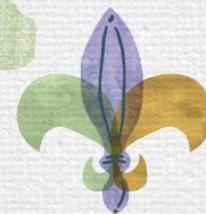


Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



September 15, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

It's Celebrate Freedom Week for us at the Louisiana Department of Education. In conjunction with this Saturday's national Constitution Day, we've selected this week to recognize this annual celebration of our nation's ongoing journey to form a more perfect union.

[Legislation passed in Louisiana this year](#) for each public school to observe Celebrate Freedom Week in September. As part of this observance, students should receive age and grade-appropriate instruction on topics related to freedom. This can include lessons on the nation's founding and the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, including the Bill of Rights. If you're looking for examples, [we gathered resources from the National Constitution Center and Library of Congress and shared those in last week's newsletter.](#)

Celebrate Freedom Week also aligns with the value our state is placing on providing students with a foundational understanding of social studies. [As shared in my recent Thomas B. Fordham Institute column](#), our new social standards were built with a Freedom Framework. From the signing of the Declaration of Independence, to the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, to the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, this framework illuminates America's path to freedom as one of struggle and sacrifice.

Thank you for continued partnership in our mission to move our children and our state forward.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Certification Monthly Call: [September 19 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School Medicaid Monthly Call: [September 20 at 2:30 p.m.](#)
- [Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: September 20 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 20 at 12 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 20 at 4 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 23 at 8:30 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 23 at 11 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 27 at 12 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 27 at 4 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 28 at 8 p.m.](#)
 - LA Comeback 2.0 Office Hours: [September 28 at 12 p.m.](#)
- Well-Being Monthly Call: [September 21 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Business Manager Monthly Call: [September 21 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [September 21 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [September 22 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [September 28 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events

- [School Support Institutes](#) Session 1: Sept 27-30
- [AEMing for Success Conference](#): October 18-19
- [CISA 2022 National Summit on K-12 School Safety and Security](#): November 1-3

School Choice

Nonpublic School Annual Reporting (NPS)

All nonpublic schools approved by BESE (nonpublic schools seeking state approval) must submit an annual enrollment report each fall. The Department of Education is transitioning to using a new portal for schools to submit the annual Nonpublic School enrollment data (NPS) called EdLink. The portal will open for all schools on September 12th. EdLink information along with guidance manuals will be available on the [NonPublic School webpage](#) on Monday September 12th. The submissions portal will be from September 12th – October 7th, 2022.

The LDE will be hosting office hours in which any nonpublic school may join with any questions or support. Information is available on the web page linked above.

If you have any questions, please email our office at nonpublicschools@la.gov for assistance.

Monthly Call

Our next monthly call will be held next week on **September 21st at 2pm.**

- You can join the monthly calls using [this link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93717548403](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93717548403)

Office Hours

The Office of School Choice-Nonpublic Schools Team will be offering a new service called [Office Hours](#). We are offering office hours to provide one-on-one assistance regarding any questions you may have.

Office hours will be offered each week for **school administrators and other school system employees**. Office hours will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

You can book your Office Hours call using this [link: https://www.picktime.com/LDEnonpublicschools](https://www.picktime.com/LDEnonpublicschools)

In order to make sure that every school gets an opportunity to schedule a call, each call will be limited to 15 minutes. When booking your call, you must include a description of what you'd like to discuss during the call in the "booking notes" section of the form. This will ensure that our staff is prepared ahead of the call and can effectively use the time to address your concerns.

PLEASE NOTE: If you miss your scheduled time, you will need to book a new appointment time. If you have any questions about Office Hours, please reach out to us at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

This service is not available to families. Families with questions should submit them to studentscholarships@la.gov

Strategies for Success Biweekly Check-In

After some consideration, we have decided to move our biweekly check-ins to Thursdays at 2pm. We hope that this will make it easier for more schools to participate.

Below are the ***NEW*** dates for the check-ins:

- September 22nd
- October 6th
- October 20th
- November 3rd
- November 17th
- December 1st
- December 15th
- January 12th
- January 26th
- February 9th
- February 23rd
- March 9th
- March 23rd
- April 6th
- April 20th
- May 4th
- May 18th

Our next call is scheduled for **September 22nd at 2pm.** We will be discussing how to complete Payment Adjustment Forms and the Notice of Intent for the 2023-24 school year.

You can join the Biweekly Check-Ins on the scheduled date and time using [this link](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93717548403): <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93717548403>.

Quarter 1 Enrollment Follow Up

Quarter 1 enrollment closed in LEADS on September 6th for the Louisiana Scholarship Program and the School Choice Program.

- **Schools that did not submit Q1 enrollment in LEADS will have delayed payments for Quarter 1 and should contact our office immediately at studentscholarships@la.gov for next steps.**
- If you have any errors on your Quarter 1 submission, please contact our office so that we may assist you with correcting your issue.

Schools now have 30 days from the last day of quarterly enrollment reporting period each quarter to report any enrollment issues.

- ***All Payment Adjustment Forms and verification for Quarter 1 must be submitted by October 7th.***
- Any Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 1 submitted after October 7th **will be considered on an individual basis and must include an explanation for the late submission.**

Please note that late Payment Adjustment Form submissions are not guaranteed payment.

Sponsor Site Changes

The Sponsor Site Change form must be completed for all schools making any of the following changes:

- Address change
- School leader/Superintendent changes
- Grade level changes
- School openings or closings

Link can be found [here](#)

Annual Survey

The annual survey is for participating Louisiana Scholarship Schools and School Choice Schools for Students with Certain Exceptionalities. The purpose of this survey is to measure program satisfaction with the training and support currently available to all participating schools.

These results will be gathered and shared within the Office of School Choice ONLY, meaning that your individual information and feedback shared will not be publicly reported. Only an overall summary of these results may be included in Department presentations and calls for informative purposes. You can access the survey [here](#).

Upcoming Dates

You can access the 2022-23 Nonpublic Annual Reporting Calendar [here](#).

****All dates are tentative, please review future issues of the Nonpublic newsletter for all updates.***

Date	Item	Participants
September 21st	LDE Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call	All Nonpublic Schools
September 22nd	Strategies for Success Bi-Weekly Meeting	All new scholarship managers All new scholarship schools**
September 30th	Notice of Intent 2023-24 (NOI) for LSP and SCS opens	LSP and SCP schools

Operations

Title I, Part A - Annual Comparability Reports

Please share with Federal Program Directors.

The Department will release the 2022-2023 SY Title I Comparability Report section in eGMS on **September 19, 2022.**

Title I Comparability requires school systems* to demonstrate that services provided with state and local funds are comparable between both Title I schools and non-Title I schools, or are substantially comparable for school systems with all Title I schools.

School systems should use October 2021 staffing and salary data to complete this report. Please access [Comparability Instructions](#) for further details on how to complete the report. **The completed report should be submitted via eGMS no later than November 18.**

For assistance with completing this report, access the [Comparability FAQ](#) document or contact [DOE program.monitoring@la.gov](mailto:DOE.program.monitoring@la.gov).

*School systems with one school per grade span and Type 2, 3, 3B, and 5 charters are exempt from this submission.

Federal State Grants and Relations

2022-23 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application

Please share with: Superintendents, Head of Schools, EEF Coordinators and Business Managers

To assist non-public schools in preparing for the upcoming release of the 2022-2023 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application, the Division of Grants Management will host two Zoom meetings on Wednesday, September 21. The morning session will begin at 10:30 a.m., and the afternoon session will begin at 2:30 p.m.

Morning Session

Webinar Date and Time: September 21, 10:30 a.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92012392617?pwd=T2MxdEhkbVpLWk16Vk9uY0xTQyszUT09>

Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 920 1239 2617

Afternoon Session

Webinar Date and Time: September 21, 2:30 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96114857809?pwd=Qkt2WDIyemRXUW82dnZZNkRWSGtNQT09>

Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 961 1485 7809

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Grants Management Helpdesk at LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov

2022-23 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan

Share with Federal Program Directors, IDEA Supervisors and School System Leaders As school systems progress in completing their LA Comeback 2.0 documentation, the Department will provide additional Office Hours in the month of September on the 20th, 23rd, 27th and 28th. Each date contains (2) time slots, Systems interested in attending will need to complete the [attendance sign-up form](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to the Grants Management Helpdesk at LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov.

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

LEAP 2025 High School Verification of Fall Enrollment

Please share with test coordinators.

The LEAP 2025 high school all 2022 enrollment system is open in DRC INSIGHT under the Materials application. School systems must select only one of two windows for fall testing. School systems that do not select an option by September 30 will be assigned to the second testing window.

Please contact assessment@la.gov for more information.

ACT

Please share with school system test coordinators.

ACT MOUs must be received from all school systems that plan to administer the ACT and/or WorkKeys tests to students who are not eligible to test under state contract by September 23. Copies of MOUs, worksheets and the information sheet are posted in the [Assessment Library](#).

Please contact patricia.newman@la.gov with questions.

Interests and Opportunities

Validation reports are now available in the secure ftp. Some school systems may have received a validation email in error. Corrected validation emails were sent on September 7.

- A list of non-validated sites was sent directly to accountability contacts with the edit submission link.
- Systems should continue to use the validation reports shared on the FTP as well as any district designed system (if applicable) to track the validation of submissions.
- Validation reports were first uploaded on August 30. Additional validation reports will be uploaded for the following weeks:
 - September 19
 - October 10
 - October 24
 - October 31
 - November 14

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.

Assessment Guides and Guidance Documents

Please share this announcement with school system leaders, school leaders, and teachers.

Assessment guides and guidance documents for the 2022–2023 school year are now available in the [Assessment Guidance Library](#).

- LEAP 2025 Assessment Guides for ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies
- Innovative Assessment Program Assessment Guides
- LEAP Connect Assessment Guide
- ELPS and ELPT Guidance
- Social Studies Assessment Updates document

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

NCCER ICTP/Core Instructor Training

Share with CTE supervisors, principals, counselors, and secondary supervisors.

NCCER ICTP/Core teacher certification will be held virtually from **September 19 - 23 and continues September 26-30**. The class will be instructed by NCCER Master Trainer Chance Plaisance. The master trainer will work with craft instructors to complete performance profiles. The cost of the certification class for ICTP/Core is \$700.00. **Registration costs will be paid directly to the trainer.** Perkins and/or CDF funds can pay for training costs.

Prior to registering for the training, all potential craft instructors are **required** to submit documentation of skill for the requested craft areas in which the potential craft instructor wishes to teach to Troy Borne. Please include NCCER card number.

Documentation of skill may be any or all of the following:

- Resume with industry experience, or teaching experience in craft requested, including professional contacts to verify experience in requested craft area(s)
- Diploma with transcript from post-secondary institution in requested craft area(s)

Submit requests for training and documentation to troy.borne@la.gov.

School System Financial Services

Monthly Call for Business Managers

Please forward to business managers and finance officials.

The second [monthly call](#) of the 2022-23 fiscal year for Business Managers and Finance Officials will be September 21 at 2 p.m. via Zoom. The agenda will include information regarding upcoming due dates and other pertinent topics.

Webinar Date and Time: September 21 at 2 p.m.

Webinar Link:

<https://doe.zoom.us/j/99726217222?pwd=ZWZ2NTgxeXRpTmxXK3g1eG1TQzN3Zz09>

Webinar Phone Number: 470-381-2552

Meeting ID: 997 2621 7222

Please contact SchoolFinanceHelpDesk@la.gov with questions.

Annual Financial Report (AFR) Assistance

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Special weekly AFR-specific Office Hours will be offered during September. Staff will be available to provide assistance with questions regarding completing the AFR submission process and technical guidance with the upload of information. Business Managers and other system-level Financial Officials with questions are encouraged to join one or all of the sessions.

Office Hour Dates and Times:

September 15 at 2 p.m.

September 22 at 2 p.m.

September 29 at 2 p.m.

Office Hours Link:

<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91239613750?pwd=bWtZa1dCNERkRjVKNmhPNIUrWXZ6UT09>

Office Hours Phone Number: 470-381-2552

Meeting ID: 912 3961 3750

Please contact STAudit@la.gov with questions.

FY2021-2022 Annual Financial Report (AFR) Collection Timelines Please forward to business managers and financial officials of City/Parish School districts, Type 1, Type 2, 3B, Type 3 and Type 5 Charter Schools, LSMSA, NOCCA, OJJ, THRIVE, LSU Lab, and Southern Lab.

Louisiana R.S. 17:92 requires that local school systems and schools provide financial data to the Department no later than September 30th each year. The financial data is submitted via the LEADS portal. The LEADS portal is scheduled to be available for submission beginning Thursday, September 1st. The AFR documents that are needed to assist you in the submission of your data can be found at <https://leads13.doe.louisiana.gov/lug/AFR/AFR.htm>.

Please contact staudit@la.gov with questions concerning the preparation of the financial information or account classification; email systemsupport@la.gov with questions regarding technical issues such as the electronic submission or online update process.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Draft 2020-2021 LEA Determinations

Please share with superintendents and special education directors/supervisors.

Each year, the Department is required to assess the performance of school systems on the provision of special education and related services. These are called LEA Determinations. The draft 2020-2021 LEA Determinations will be available via FTP the week of **September 12**. Please review and take pertinent action by **September 23**.

Contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

SPED Leader Survey

Please share with special education directors/supervisors.

The Department is seeking input about the current structures that support students with disabilities engaging in high-quality instruction. The information collected from the [Special Education Leader Survey](#) will create an understanding of how to best support local education agencies in providing specialized supports and capacity building of leaders who support students with disabilities. Please complete the [survey](#) by **September 30**.

Contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

High Cost Services Overview Webinar

Please share with special education directors/supervisors and federal programs personnel.

The High Cost Services (HCS) fund supports school systems that serve Louisiana's students with the most difficult needs by providing additional funding for high-cost special education services for students with disabilities. The Department will host a webinar on **September 27** to provide an overview of the HCS Fund for the 2022-2023 school year.

SPED directors/supervisors and personnel responsible for the HCS application should attend. Zoom Meeting Information:

Webinar Date and Time: September 27 at 2 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94806665943>

Meeting ID: 948 0666 5943

Phone Number: 1-470-381-2552

Contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Science Collaborative Application Open

Please share with science educators.

The Department is excited to announce that the application for the Science Collaborative is now open. This Science Collaborative is designed to bring together the best minds from both teacher preparation and K-12 to design teaching methods syllabi for elementary and secondary science courses that, in turn, will be available for public use.

Who should apply?

- Strong K-12 educators who help support science instruction (e.g., science curriculum coaches, current science content leaders, district science supervisors)
- Higher education faculty who teach science methods courses
- Higher education faculty who teach science courses for education majors

Interested educators should submit the [application](#) to believeandprepare@la.gov by **5 p.m., October**

7. Contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Para-to-Teacher Webinar

Please share with school leaders, system leaders, and human resource directors.

Do you have paraprofessionals or other school employees who would make excellent teachers? Do they need support earning a Bachelor's degree? There is an opportunity for these employees to become teachers without having to leave their current position and at a cost of only \$75 per month. The Department will be hosting a webinar on September 22 at 12 p.m. to share additional details about this opportunity through Reach University.

Webinar Date and Time: September 22 at 12 - 1 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>

Meeting ID: 345 504 8179

Phone Number: 1-470-381-2552

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Grow Your Own Program Implementation and Instruction Best Practices

Office Hours

Please share with teacher leaders and system leaders.

During monthly, virtual office hours, the Educator Development team will share updates related to aspiring educator initiatives. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance from the LDOE and other attendees.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 28, 4 -5 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-346-248-7799,,3455048179#
- **Meeting ID:** 345 504 8179

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Educator Evaluation Survey

Please share with systems leaders, school leaders, and teachers.

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is seeking input from all educators who are evaluated or who are evaluators as part of an extensive review of the current Louisiana educator evaluation system. The [leader survey](#) and [teacher survey](#) provide an opportunity to share opinions on the components of the current system and ideas for improvement.

Please share these surveys with all school leaders and teachers and ask that they be completed by **September 30**.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Vacancy Data

Please share with system leaders, human resources directors, and data managers.

In order to identify staffing vacancies across the state and within school systems, the Department is compiling current teaching vacancy data. It is crucial for the Department to have a complete set of data and understand current realities regarding vacancies therefore we are asking school systems to complete the "Vacant Staff" extract in Edlink360 by **September 30**. The data collected from Edlink360 will be used to support school systems with the recruitment and retention of educators throughout the state.

School systems can find the instructions for the extract on the [Edlink360 Support Page](#). Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

LIFT and FIRE Webinar

Please share with school and system leaders.

Superintendents and school leaders were invited to attend a live webinar on the [Literacy Interventions Foundational Tools \(LIFT\) Kit](#) and [Foundational Instruction for Reading Excellence \(FIRE\)](#) lessons targeting instruction and interventions in third grade and beyond on August 29, 2022. The [webinar](#) was recorded and posted in the Literacy Library along with the [slide deck](#) from the presentation. Any school and systems leaders who were unable to attend are encouraged to access the webinar and resources in the [Literacy Library](#) and share the tools and professional development opportunities with teachers and support staff.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Reminders Operations

Farm to School and Childhood Obesity Conferences

Please share with principals, teachers, counselors and school nutrition staff.

The Division of Nutrition Support is sponsoring two days of in-person events at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge. On September 28, 2022, teachers, principals, and other school staff are invited to LSU Ag Center's annual Farm to School Conference. [Registration](#) via Eventbrite. On September 29, Pennington is hosting the 2022 Childhood Obesity and Public Health conference. This conference is designed for professionals engaged in a number of public health/education settings, including child nutrition professionals, nurses, health educators, and counselors. Registration for this event is at <https://pbrcsurveys.pbrc.edu/index.php/291382?>; the [agenda](#) is available on the [louisianafitkids](#) website.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov for more information.

Constitution Day 2022

Please share with school system leaders.

Please review the letter from Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice John L. Weimer, addressed to state [superintendents](#), and the separate letter addressed to [principals](#) regarding Constitution Day 2022. Each letter contains instructions for if a system is interested in the opportunity for a judge to visit with students at their school or have their students visit the local courthouse. The JIC/SIC program is a means to support our state's educators in presenting civics education to students.

The Justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court and the judges in our communities hope to help make a positive impact on the lives of our state's students through this valuable program. Please visit [the Louisiana Supreme Court website](#) for more materials and information.

2022-23 Academic Recovery and Acceleration Plan

Share with federal program directors, IDEA supervisors and school system leaders.

Please be student driven and data informed to adjust your Comeback Plans.

Visit louisianabelieves.com to access the [Pandemic Guidance and Resources Library](#) for resources to complete your plans. The Academic Recovery and Accelerations Plans FAQ document will be published by September 15 on the FSGR call.

Plans are due September 30 via eGMS. Please contact LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov for support.

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

Dropouts in DCAI Roster

Please share with accountability contacts.

EdLink will be opened to correct student records that have been submitted in the Louisiana Data Review system. As soon as it opens, Jennifer Baird will send an announcement. If the dropout can no longer be corrected in EdLink, it will not be approved in data correction. Please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov for questions.

Assessment Rosters

Please share with accountability contacts.

*Assessment rosters are now available for checking in La Data Review. **All submissions must be created no later than September 21.** Please note that progress rosters are not yet available and progress points will not be shown on the assessment roster. Please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov with questions.*

KEA and K-3 Screening

Please share with test coordinators, supervisors and school leaders.

KEA and K-3 literacy screening must be administered to all students in the first 30 days of school. Systems and schools can refer to [PreK to Grade 3 Assessment Guidance](#) for scoring and reporting.

Please contact assessment@la.gov or bridgette.cupstid@la.gov for questions.

NAEP

Please share with school and system leaders.

NAEP released the [2022 Long-Term Trends Report](#) on September 1. Results are only available for the nation and by regions. No state data will be available.

Career and College Readiness

2022-2023 High School Planning Guide

Please share with system leaders, secondary supervisors, high school and middle school leaders, and school counselors.

[The 2022-2023 Louisiana High School Planning Guidebook](#) is now available. This guidebook

consolidates the policies and programs that are most relevant to high school educators as they plan for the upcoming academic year and prepare every student for college and career success.

Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY2021-2022 Annual Financial Report (AFR) Collection Timelines Please forward to business managers and financial officials of city/parish school systems, Type 1, Type 2, 3B, Type 3 and Type 5 Charter Schools, LSMSA, NOCCA, OJJ, THRIVE, LSU Lab, and Southern Lab.

Louisiana R.S. 17:92 requires that local school systems and schools provide financial data to the Department no later than September 30 each year. The data is submitted via the LEADS portal. Visit <https://leads13.doe.louisiana.gov/lug/AFR/AFR.htm> for AFR documents to assist in the submission of data.

Please contact staudit@la.gov with questions concerning the preparation of the financial information or account classification; contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions regarding technical issues such as the electronic submission or online update process.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Instructional Support: Instructional Material Reviews
Please share with content supervisors and administrators.

The Department conducts ongoing reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [Annotated Reviews](#) webpage. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [Weekly Report](#).

Publisher	Title and Grade Levels	Core Subject	Tiered Rating
Savvas Learning Company LLC	enVision Math, Grades 6-8	Math	Tier 1

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Celebrate Freedom Week Resources
Please share with social studies content leaders and school leaders.

[Legislation](#) passed during this year’s session that requires each public school to recognize Celebrate Freedom Week. Each September, in conjunction with Constitution Day and Constitution Week, each public school shall observe Celebrate Freedom Week. As part of this observance, all students should receive age and grade-appropriate instruction, in a social studies or other appropriate course, on topics

related to freedom. Topics may include but are not limited to instruction related to the nation's founding and the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, including the Bill of Rights. LDOE has compiled [resources from the Library of Congress and National Constitution Center](#) that schools and school systems can choose to utilize in recognition of Celebrate Freedom Week in their system. LDOE is recognizing Celebrate Freedom Week September 12-16. Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Rater Reliability Evaluator Training

Please share with systems leaders, school leaders, and teachers.

All evaluators are required to renew certification annually to evaluate, per [Bulletin 130](#). The 2022-2023 [Rater Reliability Evaluator Training](#) and [companion](#) are now available in the [Compass Library](#). This training should be completed by all evaluators, even those using approved alternate observation rubrics. Upon completion of the training, evaluators should submit the survey located in the companion to assure participation.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Compass Information System (CIS) Updates

Please share with systems leaders, school leaders, human resource directors, and data directors.

All 2021-2022 observation and student learning target (SLT) data should be entered or [uploaded](#) into CIS by September 30. All non-VAM teacher evaluations should also be finalized by this date. The 2021-2022 VAM data will be released into CIS on October 7. Following the VAM release, systems will have until October 21 to make final adjustments. All evaluations will then automatically be finalized in CIS on October 22.

The [Compass Information System \(CIS\)](#) will be open for the 2022-2023 school year following the release of VAM. Rosters may be updated once the system is opened for 2022-2023. Systems are encouraged to begin setting [Student Learning Targets \(SLTs\)](#) and conducting observations prior to this date. Two observations will be required for the 2022-2023 school year. Scores may be collected and entered into the system after rosters are complete.

Resources for [goal setting](#) and [updating rosters](#) are located in the [Compass Library](#). Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Grow Your Own Program Implementation and Instruction Best Practices Office Hours

Please share with system leaders, human resource directors, and teacher leaders.

During monthly, virtual office hours, the Educator Development team will share updates related to aspiring educator initiatives. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance from the LDOE and other attendees.

Webinar Date and Time: September 28, 4 – 5 p.m.

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Dial-in Number: +13462487799,,3455048179#

Meeting ID: 345 504 8179

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov.

Literacy

Real-time Early Access to Literacy School System Webinar

Please share with school system supervisors.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) provides individualized support for students in pre-K through grade 3 to make progress in their literacy development. REAL provides tutoring services to eligible students in pre-K through grade 3 attending a CIR/UIR-A school. The Department will host a spring REAL School System webinar on **September 15 at 10 a.m.** to provide school systems with updated information on the REAL tutoring program.

Webinar Date and Time: September 15 at 10 a.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92035221260>

Dial-in Number: 470-250-9358

Meeting ID: 920 3522 1260

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement

Beginning-of-Year Conversations

The [Division of School Improvement](#) provides differentiated and targeted support to school systems and leaders in the implementation of LDOE School Improvement Best Practices. During the 2021-2022 school year, 38 school systems across the state chose to receive this support. These systems actively participated in reflective conversations centered on current instructional needs that were identified through 473 observations conducted in classrooms, ILT settings, and teacher collaboration sessions. As a result, 84% of these systems saw increases in the percentage of students scoring mastery and above on the LEAP assessment. This school year brings opportunities for additional school systems to receive support in the implementation of LDOE School Improvement Best Practices. The School Improvement Support Specialists (SISS) are currently facilitating beginning of year conversations across the state to celebrate successes from 2021–2022,

- reflect on 2021-2022 data,
- discuss past best practice implementation efforts, and
- consider how implementation will continue supporting school improvement efforts.

Please contact schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov with information requests.

