



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 3, 2023

In This Issue

[Important Dates for School Systems](#)

[Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)

[Career and College Readiness](#)

[School System Relations](#)

[Teaching and Learning](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- [Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: October 5 at 8 a.m.](#)
- High Cost Services Overview Call: [October 5 at 2 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [October 6 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Monthly Principal Webinars – Math and Literacy: [October 9 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Zearn Support for Middle School Leaders: [October 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours [October 10 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Teacher/Principal, New Teacher, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Process Overview Call: [October 11 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [October 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Monthly Call: [October 12 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [October 16 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [October 19 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Office of Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [October 19 at 3 p.m.](#)
- School System Planning Office Hours: [October 24 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Division of Diverse Learners Office Hours: [October 24 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [October 25 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Healthy Schools Community of Practice: [October 26 at 2 p.m.](#)
- School System Planning Office Hours: [October 30 at 2 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Deadline to submit U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship [Application](#): October 3 at 11:59 p.m.
- Assessment Literacy Initiative [Interpreting and Using Statewide Standardized Test Information](#): October 5 at 3:30 p.m.; Q & A at 4:30 p.m.
- Teacher/Principal, New Teacher, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Launch: October 12
- Deadline to submit Outstanding School Support Employee [nominations](#): October 12
- Deadline to submit School Health Service Provider of the Year [nominations](#): October 12
- [ACT College & Career Readiness Workshops](#): October 10 - 17
- [School Support Institutes](#) Session 2 Virtual: October 17 - 20
- School System Planning Guide/Super App launch: October 19
- [Mentor and Resident data](#) due in Edlink: October 20
- [Fall 2023 Counselor Institutes](#): October 24 - 26
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 PPP](#): October 31
- Deadline to apply for [Immersion Site Certification](#): November 15
- Deadline to [order AP Exams](#): November 15
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 Title I, Part A - Annual Comparability Report](#): November 17

Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

Assessment Data Certification

Please share with accountability contacts and school system leaders.

LEAP progress rosters were posted on September 29, and all accountability contacts were notified by email of their availability. All new data certification submissions for LEAP, LEAP progress, LEAP Connect, and ELPT progress must be submitted no later than this Friday, October 6. School systems should enter all requests as soon as possible. Extensions cannot be granted without delaying the release of school performance scores.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ACT/WorkKeys

Please share with testing coordinators.

- WorkKeys October 2 - 6: Receive materials for accommodated paper testing
- WorkKeys October 9: Online testing window opens; fall paper and online accommodations windows open

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Innovative Assessments for ELA and Math Testlets

Please share with testing coordinators.

Testing schedules for fall administrations are due to assessment@la.gov by this Friday, October 6, from participating districts.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Healthy Schools Mini-Grant Opportunity

Please share with school and system leaders and teachers.

K-12 schools can apply for up to \$3,000 to increase physical activity for students. Ten schools will be awarded. Funds may support projects such as playground enhancement, implementing active classrooms, and more. Awarded schools will receive technical assistance to complete grant requirements. The deadline to apply is October 16. Find more information and submit an application on the [Healthy Schools Mini-Grant website](#).

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

LDH Health Alert Network

Please share with emergency operations staff and school system leaders.

The Louisiana Department of Health-Health Alert Network (LDH-HAN) is a unified method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories. LDH collaborates with federal, state, city, and parish partners to develop protocols and stakeholder relationships that will ensure a robust interoperable platform for the rapid distribution of public health information. Alerts are disseminated to partners based on the levels of relevance.

Categories of Health Alert Network Messages

- Health Alert: Requires immediate action or attention; highest level of importance
- Health Advisory: May not require immediate action; provides important information for a specific incident or situation
- Health Update: Unlikely to require immediate action; provides updated information regarding an incident or situation
- HAN Info Service: Does not require immediate action; provides general public health information

Please contact ernise.singleton@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Teacher/Principal, New Teacher and Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Process Opening Soon

Please share with educators, and school and system leaders.

On October 11, the Teacher/Principal, New Teacher, and the Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year application process for the 2023-2024 school year will open. At this time, the application materials and timelines will be available in the [Library](#) on the [Awards](#) webpage.

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers, three principals, and three *new* teachers (with less than one year of teaching experience), one per division (elementary, middle, and high) as their local-level honorees, and submit these selections to the state process. School systems without a formal selection process in place may elect to send their candidates directly to the state-level process.

State-level applications must be submitted via an online application portal, which will open in late 2023.

- Teacher/Principal of the Year and Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year will be due **January 11**.
- New Teacher of the Year will be due **January 26**.

The LDOE will host an informational Zoom to share details regarding this year's Teacher/Principal, New Teacher of the Year, and Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year application processes.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 11 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96693540609>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 966 9354 0609

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

ELA and Literacy Collaboration

Please share with grades 3-5 ELA teachers, ELA supervisors, and school leaders.

The ELA content and literacy teams are conducting a webinar at 3 p.m. on October 17 to present best practices in planning for literacy support using high-quality instructional materials (HQIM). Invite instructional leaders and teachers to [register](#) to learn more about how to bridge the gap between core instruction and literacy support.

Please contact elaquidebooks@la.gov with questions.

Foundational Lessons to Accelerate Math Education (FLAME)

Please share with K-5 math supervisors, math teachers, and school leaders.

[FLAME](#) resources are now available to support the development of math foundational skills and fluency for students in grades K through 5. FLAME offers short, engaging lessons and tools for teachers to track and inform parents of student progress. Unit 1 is now available; Unit 2 posts in November; Unit 3 posts in January.

To learn more, join the FLAME Kickoff Webinar.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 11 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96635687157>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 966 3568 7157

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum Updates

Please share with K-5 math teachers, content supervisors, and social studies teachers.

All grade 4 Bayou Bridges units are now available. Please navigate to the [Bayou Bridges Resource page](#) to access. Units are aligned to meet the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies](#). All grade 5 units will be published by October 31.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews

Please share with content supervisors, literacy coaches, and school leaders.

The LDOE conducts 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](#) web page. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [weekly report](#).

- Great Minds, PBC - Eureka Math Squared, Grades K-5 (©2021)

The LDOE is reviewing currently posted Tier 1 and 2 ELA curricula which include foundational skills for [Act 517](#) (2022) compliance. Upon completion, a cover page is added to the posted review noting the impact of the review on compliance. The materials listed below have been reviewed for compliance and posted to the [Tiered Reviews](#) web page.

- Tier 1: Core Knowledge - Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) ELA Skills Strand, Grades K-2 (©2013)

The [Act 517 Compliance Reviews Status Report](#) lists the status of all Act 517 compliance reviews, including reviews that have been completed, are under review, and are ready for review. For any materials not reviewed for compliance under Act 517, the LDOE recommends that school systems engage in a [local review process](#) using the [Act 517 Three-Cueing System Ban Guidance](#) located on the [Literacy Instruction, Intervention, and Extension](#) web page.

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

International Associate Teacher Recruitment

Please share with school and system leaders.

The 2024-2025 International Associate Teacher (IAT) Program recruitment cycle will begin November 1. Any school or school system interested in recruiting an IAT of French, Mandarin, or Spanish should reference the [Louisiana International Associate Teacher Program Guide](#) for more information on recruitment guidelines and timelines.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Dual Language Immersion K-3 Literacy Screener Guidance Available

Please share with school and system leaders.

The LDOE World Languages Team developed guidance and support documents to aid schools and school systems with Dual Language Immersion (DLI) programs to navigate the implementation of [Act 438 \(2021\)](#). [The K-3 Literacy Screener: Dual Language Immersion Education](#) guidance document is available on the LDOE [Literacy Screener](#) web page. Sample parent reporting letters for parents of students in DLI programs are available on the [LDOE World Languages and Immersion](#) web page.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Professional Learning for Teachers of French

Please share with school and school system leaders.

On October 30, Catherine David, a senior lecturer at the University of Aix-Marseille, will travel to Louisiana for a one-day in-person workshop for all teachers of French language and French Immersion teachers entitled *Pédagogies différenciée et créativité*. This workshop aims to introduce differentiation and variation methods to effectively address multi-level French language classes. Participants will engage

in a comprehensive analysis of didactic resources and gain insights into crafting innovative learner-specific pedagogical approaches that capitalize on the diversity/differences among learners. The all-day workshop will be conducted in French and is funded by the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France. [Registration](#) is now open.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

2023-2024 High Cost Services

Please share with special education leaders.

The LDOE will host an overview webinar of the High Cost Services (HCS) Fund for the 2023-2024 school year. The HCS fund supports school systems and schools that serve Louisiana's students with the most difficult needs by providing additional funding for high-cost special education services for students with disabilities. Special education leaders are encouraged to invite personnel in their LEA responsible for the HCS application to attend this webinar.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 5 at 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96099946792>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 960 9994 6792

Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.

Dyslexia Practitioner Training Opportunity

Please share with principals, special education directors, and system leaders.

The LDOE will sponsor 25 educators to participate in a year-long dyslexia practitioner training program. Those who are interested in applying for this opportunity should plan to attend one of the following informational webinars.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 3 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_P99MfOy7RBGt5aeZIF8h7Q#/registration
- **Passcode:** 696064

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 5 at 4:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_P99MfOy7RBGt5aeZIF8h7Q#/registration
- **Passcode:** 768432

Please contact sueellen.bates@la.gov with questions.

Educator Certification

New Certification Applications

Please share with human resource directors and staff.

Nearly 30 certification applications, forms and other resources have been updated and are available on the Teach Louisiana [website](#). Applicants may begin using applications with the revision date of October 1 beginning November 1. The LDOE will accept all applications with the September 2022 or the October 2023 revision date until September 30. The Department will only accept the revised October 1 version on November 1. In addition, beginning November 1, the LDOE will no longer place applications on hold,

waiting for verification of payment or the correct payment. Any applications received without proper payment will be closed unprocessed.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Reach Program Overview Call

Please share with school system leaders.

The LDOE is hosting a Reach program overview call for system leads at 10 a.m. on October 10. Reach University will introduce the bachelor's degree pathways designed uniquely for school staff. The program supports school systems in “growing your own” teachers, removing a barrier for staff working in schools. Reach has active partnerships in more than 80 school systems in Louisiana, with over 700 candidates currently enrolled across Louisiana. School system leads should join the call to learn more about this opportunity for their employees and the system’s role in the partnership.

- **Webinar date/time:** October 10 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar link:**
<https://doe.zoom.us/j/97055272407?pwd=OWlqd3E1UmVMaVhtbUEyeTM3dHJRZz09>
- **Meeting Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 970 5527 2407
- **Passcode:** 111644

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Translated Family Reporting Documents for Literacy Screener Available

Please share with school and system leaders.

Family reporting documents for the literacy screener and the literacy screener alternate assessment (LAAR) have been translated into Arabic, Vietnamese, and Spanish. These translated forms can be found on the [Literacy Screener web page](#) under Family Reporting.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement

Best Practices Level 1 and 2 Training

Please share with school and system leaders.

Level 1 and 2 ILT and Teacher Collaboration Trainings are offered free of charge and are appropriate for leaders who have not completed foundational training. This includes new school leaders, ILT members, and teacher leaders who facilitate Teacher Collaboration sessions. Please visit the [NIET Best Practices Training](#) website to register.

Remaining sessions available

- October 5-6: TC Level 1 Virtual
- October 5-6: TC Level 2 Virtual
- October 10-11: TC Level 1 Onsite - Shreveport
- October 10-11: TC Level 2 Onsite - Baton Rouge

Please contact schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov with questions.