



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

November 14, 2023

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Message from the Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

We released [2023 school and district performance scores](#) Monday. I'm pleased to announce Louisiana now exceeds its pre-pandemic performance score after two consecutive years of growth. Our 2023 statewide score increased 1.4 points to 78.5. In addition to improving our overall score, we also saw growth in key indicators. These results come one year after we [matched the pre-pandemic score of 77.1](#).

We also released [Early Childhood Performance Profiles](#). The latest early childhood data shows instructional and engaged support for learning scores increased to record highs. These are the highest scores ever for all site types, with the most growth occurring in child care. The quantity of excellent rated sites continues to increase, even as the number of early learning sites has increased by 13%.

Louisiana has faced unprecedented disruptions over the past few years. These scores are a testament to the efforts of so many people across our state. I'm encouraged to see our statewide performance score surpass pre-pandemic levels and clearly recognize work remains to accelerate academic outcomes.

Our newsletter will take a break next week as schools close for Thanksgiving. I want to wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving. I am thankful for you and the entire educational community in Louisiana.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [November 15 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [November 15 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [November 16 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [November 16 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Monthly Practicing Principal Webinar: Principal of the Year Spotlight: [November 27 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [November 28 at 2:00 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [November 28 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [December 1 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [December 5 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [December 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [December 7 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Community of Practice: [December 14 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Human Capital Handbook Webinar Series: Recruiting Strategies: [December 12 at 10 a.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Deadline to submit application for [Immersion Site Certification](#): November 15
- Deadline to [order AP exams](#): November 15
- Diverse learner K-3 literacy screener webinar: [November 16 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 Title I, Part A Annual Comparability Report](#): November 17
- Deadline to submit [K-3 literacy gifted referral survey](#): November 17
- Deadline to submit [school health survey](#): November 17
- [SCA portal](#) re-opens for spring reporting: November 20
- Deadline to submit system-level [Outstanding School System Support Employee of the Year Award application](#): November 30
- [2023-2024 diploma and seal order form](#) opens: December 4
- Deadline to submit [Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program](#) recommendations: December 15
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 dyslexia reporting form](#): December 15

Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

Top Gains & Opportunity Honoree Seals

Please share with system leaders and school leaders

Top Gains and Opportunity Honoree seals [can now be downloaded](#) to help recognize schools that achieved one of these distinctions. Top Gains and Opportunity Honoree distinctions are included in the [2023 School Performance Scores spreadsheet](#).

Please contact ted.beasley@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

SPS Appeal/Waiver Form

Please share with district accountability contacts and system leaders.

The [SPS Appeal/Waiver Form](#) is now available. All appeals or waivers related to the release of school performance scores must be received no later than December 8. Details for submission are included in [the document](#). Per BESE policy, appeals cannot be based on any data that could have been corrected during any data corrections or certification period that were provided throughout the year.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ACT

Please share with testing coordinators.

The deadline for completing the tasks below in PANext is December 6.

- Select test and shipping dates in PearsonAccess^{next}.
- Verify the shipping address in PearsonAccess^{next}.
- Upload only repeat grade 12 testers in PANext.

All ACT testing coordinators should become familiar with the [State of Louisiana ACT State Testing web page](#). This includes:

- Schedule of Events ([ACT](#) and [WorkKeys](#))
- What's New for State Testing ([ACT](#) and [WorkKeys](#))
- District Test Coordinators manage contacts in PearsonAccess^{next}

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

New Fast Forward Pathway and Course Codes

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

The LDOE will host a webinar discussing the recent updates to the Fast Forward Pathways and Course Codes. The new codes became effective during the 2023-2024 school year.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** December 13 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94894150597>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 948 9415 0597
- **Passcode:** 496383

Please contact caronda.bean@la.gov with questions.

2024 Jump Start Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit
Share with school system leaders, high school administrators, school counselors, and child welfare and attendance stakeholders.

[Registration](#) is now open for the 2024 Jump Start Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit. This one-day event will be held on January 23 at the Cajundome and Convention Center in Lafayette. This year's conference will provide professional development opportunities around career and technical education, workforce readiness, and child welfare and attendance.

More information will be shared in future newsletters around the agenda, hotels, etc.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2023-2024 Nonpublic Textbook Allocation
Please share with business managers and financial professionals.

Allocations for nonpublic textbook funding are now available via the electronic grants management system (eGMS). To be eligible for reimbursement, textbook orders must be delivered and received by eligible nonpublic schools during the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Please begin consultations with nonpublic school staff to expend their nonpublic textbook allocations accordingly.

Please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Alternate Assessment Waiver for Public Comment
Please share with educators, special education leaders, and stakeholders.

Under the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the LDOE must limit the number of students who are assessed statewide on alternate assessments to 1.0 percent of the total number of students who are required to participate. The LDOE intends to seek a [waiver](#) for the 2023-2024 school year for this federal requirement that would limit the number of students in the state who participate in alternate assessments.

The LDOE welcomes public comment in drafting the waiver. Comments should be submitted via email at specialeducation@la.gov by November 30. Please include your full name, organization (if applicable), and contact information along with your comments. All comments are subject to public records requests.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Fast Track ESL Add-On Starts in November
Please share with EL departments, instructional coaches, principals, and teachers.

Courses are available for teachers and leaders to earn an [ESL Add-On credential](#). Cost is to be covered by the individual or the LEA. [The program announcement](#) has cost and contact information.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Teacher Leader Summit: Leading the Next Level

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

The 12th annual Teacher Leader Summit will be held May 28-30, 2024 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. This year, the summit will focus on supporting educators in “Leading the Next Level.” Educator preparation program faculty are encouraged to attend.

Registration is first come, first served. Early bird registration is January 5 to February 2. Regular registration will be February 3 to March 15, or at sellout.

The LDOE is looking for talented leaders to apply to present sessions at this year’s Summit. Presenter applications will open January 5 and will close January 31.

Applications for the Educator Expo will also open on January 5 and close on February 2.

The objectives for the Teacher Leader Summit are to:

- Improve the everyday practice of educators in Louisiana by building their knowledge and skill in key areas related to their role.
- Provide opportunities for educators to collaborate and share best practices.
- Introduce high-quality strategies, resources, and professional development aligned to the state priorities that can be adopted and scaled in schools and school systems across Louisiana.
- Foster a culture that celebrates and engages educators and empowers and inspires them to take on an even greater leadership role within their classrooms, schools, and school systems.

Please contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions.