

# TEACHER LEADERS

ENGAGE. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.



February 2021



I am Amy Huber, the Science Lab teacher at Tanglewood Elementary School, which houses the first and second grade students of the Central Community School System in East Baton Rouge Parish. I teach each class twice a week in the lab and support teachers in coordinating lessons on days their classes don't attend Lab. Teaching in the Science Lab allows me opportunities to engage the students in an ancillary setting, while also supporting high quality science instruction.

This semester I am excited to be a participant in the first cohort of K-8 [Science Content Leader](#) training through the UT Dana Center. It has been challenging at times, but very eye opening! The training utilizes materials from [OpenSciEd](#), an open-source high-quality middle school science curriculum. As an elementary teacher, I had some initial concerns about using a middle school science curriculum in the training; however, I grew to recognize the parallels to our school's pilot curriculum, [Great Minds PhD Science \(K-2\)](#) in routines and storyline approach. All high quality science materials reflect the same essential [shifts](#). Beginning next semester, school systems with teachers who use PhD Science in grades K-5 will also have the option to work directly with developers of the program to experience Content Leader training built around their curriculum.

In the [Content Leader Training](#), I've worked with educators from across the state to examine vertical alignment of core ideas, crosscutting concepts, and practices in science, utilizing documents such as [Appendix A: Learning Progressions](#) from the Louisiana Student Standards for Science. Through this work, I was able to clearly see the connections between the foundational knowledge students obtain in K-2 science and what they will learn in later grade levels. Additionally, work with the [Planning Guide for Science Instruction](#) has been particularly beneficial in ensuring the most effective delivery of a [high quality curriculum](#). The guide asks the necessary questions to plan for a seamless flow as lessons build on one another to reveal the mysteries behind the given phenomena. I feel that the Content Leader Training has given me the tools and opportunities to convey this understanding to my peers to the benefit of all of our students, and I can't wait to share!

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## NEW: SUPPORTS AND STRATEGIES

### **Accelerate Tutoring Strategy**

[Accelerate](#), Louisiana's Pre-K-12 Tutoring Strategy, is designed for school systems to implement equal-access tutoring at scale in order to achieve significant results for all students. Grounded in the most impactful research-based practices, Accelerate is a just-in-time, pre-teaching model that addresses unfinished learning by building knowledge and connecting it to skills in current lessons. In addition to guidance on implementation, The Department will release Pre-K-12 ELA and math tutoring materials in phases during 2021. Recorded webinars will be also located on the Accelerate [landing page](#). See more details in the [ELA](#) and [Math](#) sections below.

## SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

### **Release of ELA Guidebooks Companion Resources for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities**

In December, Department released the Companion Resources for the ELA Guidebooks for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (SWSCDs). These resources were developed in collaboration with a team of ELA and special education practitioners across the state to support teachers of SWSCDs. They are designed to facilitate the access and success of students with the most significant needs to a high quality curriculum, improve professional learning partnerships between special education teachers and content-area specialists, and increase opportunities for students with significant cognitive impairments to participate in inclusive, least restrictive environments.

The Companion Resources, case studies, exemplary lesson plans, and unit unpacking overviews can be found in the Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities [Library](#).

Please contact [specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov) with questions.

## **Identifying And Supporting English Learners (ELs) With Disabilities Guidance**

English Learners (ELs) with disabilities present the dual needs of support in acquiring English as well as support for their disabilities. The [Identifying and Supporting ELs with Disabilities Guidance](#) document is designed to assist school systems in the provision of equitable access to high-quality instruction for ELs who are suspected of having a disability. It includes information on guiding principles, EL identification, special education identification, and collaboration to support ELs with Disabilities.

Please contact [specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov) with questions.

## **ELA RESOURCES**

### **ELA Guidebooks Update: Distance Learning Guidebook Companions**

At the start of the school year, the Department released [Distance Learning Guidebook Companions](#) for grade 3 through grade 12. These resources are a **print-only/low-tech solution** for students with limited or no connectivity who are learning remotely.

The second and final round of Distance Learning Guidebook Companions for grades 3-8 are available for download through the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#) and [LearnZillion](#). These companions are now available for download on [Louisiana Believes](#) through updated zip files.

Please contact [elaguidebooks@la.gov](mailto:elaguidebooks@la.gov) with questions.

### **New ELA Tutoring Resources Available February 15!**

Beginning February 15, the Department is releasing a [suite of virtual ELA tutoring resources](#). The resources are built to ensure that students are able to access grade level text. Each grade-level includes links to resources that support students in building knowledge, vocabulary, or foundational skills including student materials for each tutoring session. Sessions were designed for virtual instruction, but teachers should adjust to the mode of delivery, technology, and resources available to them.

Please contact [elaguidebooks@la.gov](mailto:elaguidebooks@la.gov) with questions.

## **MATH RESOURCES**

### **New Math Tutoring Resources Available Now!**

The Department has released a [suite of virtual math tutoring resources](#). These resources will include 2 hours of tutoring content per week for a series of 15 weeks. Content is designed to accelerate students to readiness for in-class instruction for grades K-8 and is directly tied to Eureka Math for grades K-8 and Illustrative math for grades 6-8. Resources will be in Google slides format and will provide aligned Desmos activities, when available, and links to digital manipulatives.

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

## **Math Planning Guide**

To assist teachers in planning with a high-quality science curriculum, the Department has released a step-by-step [Math Planning Guide](#).

This guide includes guiding questions and protocol for collaborative planning around:

- Foundational Study of the Standards
- Lesson Annotation
- Student Work Analysis

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

## **Quality Science and Math Grant Applications are Open**

[Quality Science and Math Grant](#) Applications are open for a second round of awards. Grants of up to \$1,000 for approved materials and equipment will be awarded on a competitive basis to Louisiana public school teachers. Applicants must show that their proposals will enhance the quality of instruction for regular education students enrolled in mathematics, science or STEM classes. Over \$100,000 is available in this cycle. Proposals will be accepted **February 1-March 5**.

For more information, please visit the [QSM homepage](#) or email [qsminfo@lsu.edu](mailto:qsminfo@lsu.edu).

# **SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES**

## **Social Studies Student Standards Revision Process**

The Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies will be revised in 2021. The application to participate in the standards revisions committees closed Monday, February 1. Selected participants will be notified in late February. The standards committees will consist of a steering committee, a grades K-5 elementary content expert workgroup, and a grades 6-12 secondary content expert workgroup. Committees will be composed of Louisiana teachers, higher education representatives, school and school system leaders, parents, students, and community members. The committees will represent all regions of Louisiana as well as the demographic diversity of the state. Committee meetings will be conducted on to-be-determined dates starting in March and continuing through July, and all committee meetings will be open to the public.

The revised standards are slated to be completed in October of 2021. The 2011 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies will still be implemented in the 2021-2022 school year, with opportunities for learning and development on the revised 2021 standards. The revised 2021 standards will be implemented in the 2022-2023 school year.

Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions.

## **Social Studies Distance Learning**

[Social studies distance learning packets](#) for grades 3-8 and US History have been updated to include

topics within units one, two, three, and four and are posted on the [K-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page. The teacher materials and student materials sections of the social studies distance learning packets have been separated. The teacher materials have been [password protected](#) to help ensure only teachers have access to the answer keys. Development of unit 5 topics for all distance learning packets is currently paused.

In addition to the introductory webinar, [Using the Social Studies Distance Learning Packets](#), another webinar, [Using the Social Studies Distance Learning Packets for In-Person Instruction](#), has been posted on the Louisiana Believes YouTube channel under the [Distance Learning playlist](#), and both are available on the [K-12 Social Studies Resources page](#). This webinar provides guidance on how to adapt the distance learning packets for in-person use in the classroom.

Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions.

## SCIENCE RESOURCES

### **Planning Guide for Science Instruction**

To assist teachers in planning with a high-quality science curriculum, the Department has released a step-by-step [Planning Guide for Science Instruction](#).

This guide includes guiding questions and protocol for each of the following:

- Unit Unpacking
- Unit Launch Deep Dive
- Lesson Set Annotation
- Student Work Analysis

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

### **Science Distance Learning**

The Department continues to release distance learning guidance for [OpenSciEd Grades 6-8](#) and [inquiryHUB Biology](#) to support teachers in implementation of high-quality materials in remote and hybrid settings.

The most recently published materials include guidance for the following units: [6th Grade Earth in Space](#), [7th Grade Ecosystem Dynamics](#) (first lesson set), [8th Grade Genetics](#), and [Biology Unit 3 Bend 2](#) (first lessons).

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

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regular education students enrolled in mathematics, science or STEM classes. Over \$100,000 is available in this cycle. Proposals will be accepted **February 1-March 5**.

For more information, please visit the [QSM homepage](#) or email [qsminfo@lsu.edu](mailto:qsminfo@lsu.edu).

## EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

### **Apply to become a Louisiana Environmental Educator Advisor**

Are you an educator who is passionate about supporting environmental literacy? The Department is seeking a diverse group of talented Louisiana educators from a variety of roles and subject areas to contribute to the development of a set of K-12 Environmental Principles and Concepts and Learning Progressions. These Environmental Principles and Concepts are intended to be high level “big ideas” that will inform standards-based instruction and inspire rich and relevant opportunities to coherently build environmental literacy for students. Selected Louisiana Environmental Education Advisors will have the opportunity to:

- assist in the development the Environmental Principles and Concepts,
- attend the Teacher Leader Summit FOR FREE for special work sessions, and
- be ambassadors for environmental literacy across the state.

Educators interested in serving as an Environmental Educator Advisor should [submit an application](#) by **March 12**.

### **Teacher Leader Summit Seat Allocation and Virtual Series**

The [2021 Teacher Leader Summit](#) will take place May 25-27 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Both the Department and the Convention Center are taking measures to promote the health and safety of all participants and as a result there will be a reduced overall capacity.

Due to social distancing parameters, the Department has allocated a specific allotment of seats to each school system and each early childhood lead agency for the in-person event. The Department has notified each system of their total number of seats and each school system has been issued a unique registration code for all tickets during the registration process.

It is up to each school system or each early childhood lead agency to determine the best path for disbursing seats across their schools, sites, and educators.

It is also a school system or lead agency’s choice to take advantage of early bird registration or wait until the session lists are publicly released on April 9, which is during the regular registration window. All allocated seats must be used to purchase tickets by April 12. Should any unused seats remain, the Department will and open a first come, first served registration window on April 13.

Additional seats will be disbursed for the following groups of educators at a later date by specific Department teams:

- Environmental Education
- World Languages

- Instructional Coaching
- Aspiring School Leaders
- Aspiring Educators
- Systems Leaders
- Human Capital Leaders
- Teacher Preparation Faculty and Leads
- Ready Start Networks
- EdLinks Report Focus Group
- CTE Supervisors
- Literacy Coordinators

Information on the above ticket types will be shared with the appropriate groups of educators as logistics are finalized.

In addition to the in-person Teacher Leader Summit, the Department will offer a Virtual Series June 1 through June 3. Specific information regarding registering for the Virtual Series will be released later in the spring via normal communication channels.

To best assist schools systems and school leaders in determining to whom they should distribute their allocated seats, the Department has released a [one-pager](#) outlining which content will be delivered in-person and which content to expect to be delivered virtually. General Summit information can be found in the [overview document](#) posted to the [Teacher Leader Library](#).

Please contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) with questions.

### **Teacher Leader Summit Registration**

[Registration](#) for the Teacher Leader Summit opens January 8 and will occur in three phases:

- Early bird registration via allocation (January 8 through March 1)
- Regular registration via allocation (March 2 through April 12)
- First-come, first-serve registration for any remaining tickets (Opens April 13)

Note: Due to capacity constraints, there will be no onsite registration this year. All registrations must be completed in advance of arriving at the event.

During the registration process, the code sent to school systems and early childhood lead agencies must be entered. Once the code has reached its maximum number of uses, no other registrations will be accepted for that code. Should an educator register for the event and it is later determined the educator is no longer able to attend, a refund should be requested via Eventbrite.

The Department is unable to transfer tickets automatically from one educator to another. The school system or early childhood lead agency will need to reach out to the Department at [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) to determine the best next steps for registering the educator who is “taking the place” of the educator who can no longer attend, which may include increasing the number of uses on their particular registration code.

Description	1-Day Ticket	3-Day Ticket
Early Bird Registration (January 10-March 1)	\$60	\$118
Regular Registration (March 2-April 12)	\$77	\$152
First Come, First Served* (April 13-May 10)	\$77	\$152

\*should any seats remain

Participants who [register](#) for the in-person Summit will also have access to Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series, though a separate registration will be required in order to participate. Participants who register for the Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will only have access to the virtual content. General Summit information can be found in the [overview document](#) posted to the Teacher Leader Library.

Note: When registering, the access code must be entered for available tickets to populate. Without entering the access code, no tickets will show as available.

Please contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) with questions.

### **2021 Teacher Leader Summit T-Shirt Design Contest**

The Department is seeking inspiration for the 2021 Teacher Leader Summit t-shirt design! Educators and students with an artistic flair are encouraged to submit their design for consideration by February 5 to [ldoecommunications@la.gov](mailto:ldoecommunications@la.gov). The winning school will receive \$1 per shirt sold.

The winning design will be announced in the March edition of the Teacher Leader newsletter. Reference the [contest rules](#) for details or contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) with questions.

## **EDUCATOR RECOGNITION**

### **PAEMST Nominations and Applications for 2021 are Now Open**

The [Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching \(PAEMST\)](#) honor outstanding mathematics, science, and STEM teachers. Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education. Presidential Awardees, in addition to joining an active network of educators throughout the nation, receive a certificate signed by the President, a trip to Washington, D.C. for recognition events and professional development opportunities, and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation. Teachers can sign up to apply or be [nominated](#) by someone else by **March 1**. Additionally, they must complete the full [application](#) due by **April 1**.

Please contact Jean May-Brett ([jam05@bellsouth.net](mailto:jam05@bellsouth.net)) or Jan Graff ([jlgraff@bellsouth.net](mailto:jlgraff@bellsouth.net)) with questions.

## CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
AP Courses and Exams Contact	<a href="mailto:collegereadiness@la.gov">collegereadiness@la.gov</a>
Assessments and Related Supports	<a href="mailto:assessment@la.gov">assessment@la.gov</a>
Collaborations	<a href="mailto:districtsupport@la.gov">districtsupport@la.gov</a>
Compass	<a href="mailto:compass@la.gov">compass@la.gov</a>
Educational Leader Licensure Policy Update	<a href="mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov">believeandprepare@la.gov</a>
ELA Guidebooks	<a href="mailto:elaguidebooks@la.gov">elaguidebooks@la.gov</a>
Financial Aid Assistance	<a href="mailto:ldefinancial@la.gov">ldefinancial@la.gov</a>
Graduation Requirements	<a href="mailto:highschoolacademics@la.gov">highschoolacademics@la.gov</a>
Instructional Support and Resources including Leap 360 and Eagle	<a href="mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov">classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov</a>
Jump Start	<a href="mailto:jumpstart@la.gov">jumpstart@la.gov</a>
PD Vendor Guide	<a href="mailto:louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov">louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov</a>
Pupil Progressions	<a href="mailto:ppp@la.gov">ppp@la.gov</a>
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit	<a href="mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov">ldoeevents@la.gov</a>
STEM	<a href="mailto:STEM@la.gov">STEM@la.gov</a>
Teacher Certification	<a href="mailto:certification@la.gov">certification@la.gov</a>
Teacher Leaders, Content Leaders, Mentor Teachers, and Teacher Leader Advisors	<a href="mailto:louisianateacherleaders@la.gov">louisianateacherleaders@la.gov</a>