



TEACHER LEADERS NEWSLETTER

November 2021

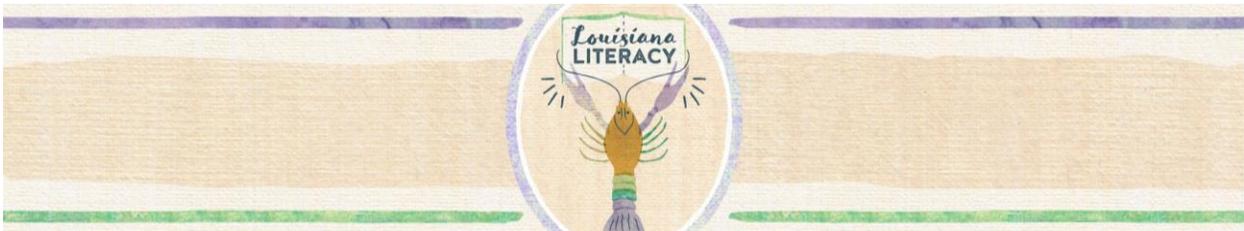


Hello Teacher Leaders!

My name is Karol Young, and I have been a proud first grade teacher at Mimosa Park Elementary School in St. Charles Parish for 20 years. I also spent four years serving our district as a Teaching and Learning Facilitator for grades K-2. I love being a first grade teacher because I get to experience the excitement of watching a student learn how to read; it's a gift for them and for me! It's a wonderful time to be a first grade teacher during [Louisiana's Reading Revival](#).

Recently our state passed Act 108, which ensures all K-3 teachers and school leaders complete training in the science of reading—instructional practices that are grounded in scientific research on how kids learn to read. As a result, this year I am participating in the Literacy Foundations Training, designed to provide teachers with research and evidence-based training in the science of reading. Now, more than ever, I am embracing the “science of reading.” I have learned so much already about the importance of phonemic and phonological awareness, phonics, and fluency—and even after 20 years of teaching, my professional practice is growing in ways I could have never imagined!

With only 50% of third-grade students in Louisiana reading on level, this work in the early elementary years is crucial. The impact on our students will be significant because **being fluent readers means they can fully engage with all content areas throughout their education**. Our students deserve the highest-quality literacy instruction, and I am grateful that our state is committed to providing our teachers and leaders with the tools they need to do this.



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SUPPORTS AND STRATEGIES

New Literacy Resources Added to Library

Additional resources for teachers and leaders have been added to the [Literacy Library](#). These resources include:

- Literacy Screener Results Reporting Template - Teachers can send these home to inform families of their child's results on the universal literacy screener. This template fulfills the reporting requirements in Act 438.
- Universal Literacy Screener Analysis Templates for systems, school sites, and teachers that can be used to track student data, group students, and analyze trends.
- Additional Grab & Go family activities have been added to include vocabulary and word building skills.
- The entire K-2 Writing Series, which includes recordings and slides.
- The [Sound Wall Template](#) provides everything a teacher needs to implement sound walls in the classroom.

The Literacy Division welcomes feedback and suggestions from teachers on what is working, what is not working, and what additional resources should be developed.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions and feedback.

ELA RESOURCES

ELA Guidebooks 9-12 (2020) Updates

[Louisiana's ELA Guidebooks 9-12 \(2020\) Pilot Overview document](#) has been updated to include the most recent information about the 9-12 units on Louisiana Curriculum Hub.

The Photojournalism unit for grade 9 will be available on [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#) by January 1, 2022. Three additional new ELA Guidebooks 9-12 units will be released by April 2022: Bioethics (10th grade), Film In America (11th grade), and In the Time of the Butterflies (12th grade).

The Department is also soliciting teacher feedback through [Louisiana ELA Guidebooks 9-12 Feedback Form](#) for the units being implemented this year. Please encourage educators to bookmark this link for use throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

Resources for School Librarians

Join the [School Librarians in LA mailing list](#) to receive resources about professional development as well as opportunities to celebrate Louisiana school librarians. Additional information as well as opportunities to connect school librarians across the state can be found on the [LASL Website](#) and on the LASL on [Facebook](#) page.

Additionally, the ALA Chapters Office is still collecting reports on libraries damaged by Hurricane Ida through the [Hurricane Ida Damage Form](#).

Additional Resources:

- Helpful Links for School Libraries Affected by Hurricane Ida:
 - [ALA Disaster Reliefs](#)
 - [Dollar General Disaster Relief Grant](#)

Additional Helpful Links for School Librarians:

- [LASL Town Hall - Recording](#)
- [Free 5 Minute Webinar from LASL](#)

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

K-12 Social Studies Standards Review Public Comment Period Extended

Louisiana's social studies standards are currently under review. A copy of the revised draft standards, the [online public comment form](#), and a [step-by-step guide](#) to completing the public comment form are posted in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#). All stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on individual standards using this online form throughout the months of October and November.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

MATH RESOURCES

Accelerate Math Webinars Posted

[Accelerate Math](#) resources are built for teachers and tutors as proactive support for upcoming classroom content in order to ensure students' readiness for grade level mathematics. To support teachers and tutors implementing acceleration, the Department has published two webinars.

1. The [Accelerate Math Overview and Approach](#) webinar will guide educators through evidence-based best practices for acceleration in math and a sample deep dive into using the [Acceleration Cycle](#) as just-in-time support.
2. The [ASSISTments Partnership](#) webinar explains how the free electronic formative assessment tool, [ASSISTments](#), supports administration of Acceleration tools and tutoring exit tickets to students electronically allowing teachers to quickly access formative data to inform instructional next steps. Content is available and directly connected to Accelerate Math materials for grades 1-8, Algebra I, and Geometry.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

New Self-Paced Math Professional Learning Modules Available this Month

The Department is partnering with the Charles A. Dana Center to publish a series of five asynchronous video-based learning modules for teachers and math leaders. These resources are designed to fit flexibly in a variety of professional learning formats. Modules may be accessed individually for an “at your own pace” style of PD. Content Leaders or other math leaders may also choose to utilize materials to drive professional learning and facilitate collaborative conversations. Learning Module Topics along with a general timeline for availability are provided below. The first modules in the series, as well as an outline with additional details, will be posted to the [K-12 Math Planning](#) page beginning in November.

- Classroom Strategies to Scaffold Math Learning (November)
- Formative Assessment Processes for Acceleration in Math (November)
- Critical Mindsets for Math Educators (December)
- Planning to Address Unfinished Math Learning, two-part series (January)

Please contact stem@la.gov with questions

SCIENCE RESOURCES

Planning Guide for Science Instruction

The [Planning Guide for Science Instruction](#) was released last school year to assist with planning using [high-quality science curriculum](#). The guide has four key steps and includes protocols for navigating each step. These protocols are designed to be relevant for individual teacher planning; however, this process is most effective when completed collaboratively during dedicated common planning time.

To further support teachers, schools, and systems with using the Planning Guide for Science Instruction, the Department has published [implementation resources](#). These resources include training decks and sample annotated material that were adapted from sessions delivered at Teacher Leader Summit last spring.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

New Self-Paced Science Professional Learning Modules Available Now

To assist teachers, schools, and systems with implementation of [high-quality science curricula](#), the Department has released three [self-paced learning modules](#). These resources are designed to fit flexibly in a variety of professional learning formats. Modules may be accessed individually for an “at your own pace” style of PD or delivered by Content Leaders or other science leaders to drive professional learning and facilitate collaborative conversations. Learning modules are focused on the topics below and available now.

- Science Instructional Model and Planning Guide
- Productive Science Talk and Planning for Discussion
- Leveraging Student Resources in Science

Each module includes a brief description, video, slide deck, and associated handouts.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

The Division of Assessment Content is convening committees beginning in December for the LEAP 2025 Science and LEAP Connect assessments. Educators will review proposed stimuli and items to ensure that the content aligns to the Louisiana Student Standards for Science or the Louisiana Connectors and that the selections are clearly worded with grade-appropriate language and are free of bias and sensitivity concerns. Interested educators should access the [Assessment Development Education Review Committee document](#) for information on exact dates, meetings details, and links to apply to participate.

Please contact leah.boulton@la.gov with questions.

PAEMST 2022 Awards: Nominations Now Open for Elementary K-6 Teachers

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are the highest honors bestowed by the United States government specifically for K-12 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teaching.

Anyone — principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public — may [nominate](#) exceptional STEM teachers who are currently teaching grades K-6 for the 2022 award year. Teachers may also [apply directly](#).

The nomination deadline is **January 7, 2022**, and the application deadline is **February 6, 2022**.

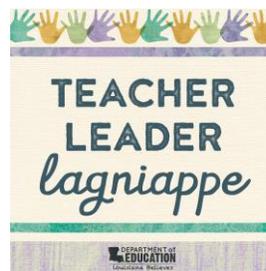
Please contact jam05@bellsouth.net with questions.

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Conference

Registration for the [NCTM Regional Conference](#) is now open. The conference will be held face-to-face in New Orleans, LA on February 2-4, 2022. This conference provides educators with the opportunity to focus on learning and resources that promote the mathematical habits of mind that will lead students to college and career success.

Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast: Episode 14 Released

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You'll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.



Episode 14 Summary - Louisiana's Broadband Strategy with Veneeth Iyengar: Veneeth Iyengar shares the access, affordability, and literacy strategies being implemented by the Louisiana Office of Broadband Development and Connectivity to eliminate the digital divide in Louisiana.

Share Your Stories: Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What's Making Me Smile segment.

Please contact em.cooper@la.gov with questions.

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

Louisiana Coastal Fellowship Announced

The Louisiana Department of Education is pleased to announce the 2021-2022 [Louisiana Coastal Fellows](#). Fellows will engage in rich professional learning with colleagues from schools and systems across the state who are committed to championing environmental literacy for Louisiana’s students. Fellows will also contribute to the development of educational resources featuring environmental phenomena and collaboratively design student outdoor learning experiences. Resources will be shared on our website beginning next spring.

Please join us in welcoming and congratulating the Louisiana Coastal Fellows!

Please contact environmentaleducation@la.gov with questions.

CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
AP Courses and Exams	collegereadiness@la.gov
Assessments and Related Supports	assessment@la.gov
Collaborations	districtsupport@la.gov
Compass	compass@la.gov
Content Leaders and Mentor Teachers	believeandprepare@la.gov
Educational Leader Licensure Policy Update	believeandprepare@la.gov
ELA Guidebooks	elaguidebooks@la.gov
Environmental Education	environmentaleducation@la.gov
Financial Aid Assistance	ldefinancial@la.gov
Graduation Requirements	highschoolacademics@la.gov
Instructional Support and Resources	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
Jump Start	jumpstart@la.gov
Language Acquisition and World Languages	language.acquisition@la.gov

Literacy	louisianaliteracy@la.gov
PD Vendor Guide	louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov
Pupil Progressions	ppp@la.gov
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit	ldoeevents@la.gov
Math, Science, and STEM	STEM@la.gov
Teacher Certification	certification@la.gov
Teacher Leaders and Teacher Leader Advisors	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
World Languages	language.acquisition@la.gov