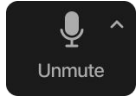
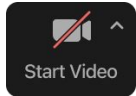


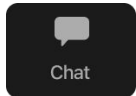
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”



- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.

If you require an interpreter or have other accessibility needs for future LDOE meetings, please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov



Safe and Healthy Schools Community of Practice Call

July 23, 2026



Legislative Updates 2026



School Nursing



Visual Acuity Screening Data

[HR 194](#) (2026) Requests the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) to provide certain visual acuity screening data to researchers.

Data provided shall include:

- Year of screening
- Grade level or age range
- Visual acuity measurements or outcomes
- Aggregated demographic categories
- Standardized screening protocols used



Cardiovascular Screening for Student Athletes

[ACT 253](#) mandates new cardiovascular requirements for student athletes starting in the 2026-2027 school year.

- Qualified healthcare professionals must conduct evidence-based cardiovascular pre-screenings during student-athlete physicals.
- Any positive findings require referral for further testing.
- Additionally, schools must provide parents with evidence-based educational materials on sudden cardiac arrest in children as part of the standard athletic permission and examination process.
- Education Materials on [Sudden Cardiac Arrest](#) and the [Signature Page](#) for distribution to parents and student athletes can be found on the LDOE website



Signs of Hope Act

[ACT 259](#) mandates new pregnancy-related information displays in student health centers.

Public postsecondary and high school health centers must display Louisiana Department of Health-approved signage regarding pregnancy resources.

Signs must be:

- Color-printed on 16x20-inch material with the text "Pregnant? Help Is Available for You and Your Baby!"
- Include the official resource link.
- Display is required in patient admission, waiting, and consultation rooms.



Naloxone Shelf-Life Extended

ACT 183 grants civil and criminal immunity to those who distribute, prescribe, or administer expired naloxone or opioid antagonists in good faith during a suspected overdose.

- Protection excludes instances of gross negligence or willful misconduct.
- Shields licensed practitioners from disciplinary action.
- Protections do not supersede federal regulations for federally certified entities.

Regulations for School-Based Health Centers

Act 962 regulates school-based health centers:

- Mandates schools minimize barriers to student access.
- Licensed providers cleared by the Louisiana State Police are exempt from redundant background checks.
- Medical necessity is determined solely by licensed professionals, with schools collaborating to balance care with instructional time.
- Health centers are not required to disclose protected health information to schools; shared data must remain non-clinical and comply with HIPAA and FERPA.
- Guardians retain the right to revoke consent, and these regulations apply to charter schools, though establishing centers remains optional.



Task Force on School Nurse Orientation

HCR 28 establishes Louisiana's Task Force on School Nurse Orientation to:

- Review existing school nursing orientation programs
- Identify essential core competencies for new nurses
- Develop standardized training and mentorship recommendations
- Create strategies for ongoing program evaluation



Students with Seizure Disorders

[House Resolution 74](#) requires the LDOE and local school governing authorities to report on their accommodation of students with seizure disorders, specifically addressing:

- Seizure action plans
- Staff and bus operator training statistics
- Rescue medication access policies and challenges
- Implementation support needs

School Behavioral Health



Human Trafficking Prevention Training

Act 737 (2026), requires each school, including charter schools, to designate at least one employee to receive annual advanced training on human trafficking. The designated employee must be a school counselor, mental health professional, or school administrator.



Student Suicide Prevention Awareness Act

[ACT 548](#) (HB 392) 2026, requires public schools to post suicide hotline information, including the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, on school websites and, when applicable, on student identification cards to increase awareness and access to crisis support resources.

Schools are required to:

- Post the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline information prominently on their school website.
- Include the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline information on student identification cards, if the school issues ID cards to students.

Suicide Prevention Training

R.S. 17:437.1 (Jason Flatt Act), school personnel are required to complete a one time, one hour training in suicide prevention training and maintain documentation of training completion.

Suicide Prevention Resources for Schools:

- [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\): Suicide Prevention Toolkit for High Schools](#)
- [The Jason Foundation: Training Modules for Suicide Awareness and Prevention](#)
- [Peer Initiative Resources](#)
- [Teacher Resources](#)

School Based Medicaid



2026 Annual OT/PT Summit

Annual Lead Occupational and Physical Therapist (OTPT) Summit. The summit will focus on collaboration among Lead OT/PTs and will include discussions on Bulletin 1508 revisions, Medicaid claiming, multi-tiered systems of support, transportation safety, and school-based health services and practices in schools. CEU's are pending.

- **When:** October 29th; 8:30 a.m. -4:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Calcasieu parish Board Room, 3310 Broad Street. (Lake Charles, La)
- **Cost:** Free
- Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/RM6z0kn27L?origin=lprLink>



Behavioral Health Services for Public School Students

[ACT 944](#) (HB352), provides relative to behavioral health services for public school students.

Behavioral health services benefits include:

- Expands access to behavioral health services in public schools.
- Supports partnerships between schools and behavioral health providers.
- Promotes timely identification, referral, and access to student mental health services.
- Strengthens coordination of school-based behavioral health supports.

Charter Schools-Medicaid

Charter LEA's that undergo a name change or transition to a new Charter Management Company are required to:

- Notify the state of Louisiana Medicaid Fiscal Intermediary/Gainwell Technology Provider Enrollment Unit and Louisiana Department of Health, immediately
- Update the [Provider Enrollment File Form](#)
- Complete the [Link/Unlink and Working Relationship Form](#)
- Mail forms with an original signature to Gainwell Provider Enrollment Unit



Questions?

Safe and Healthy School Reminders



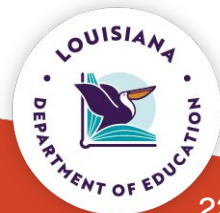
NEW Community of Practice Calls Schedule

Safe and Healthy Schools will move to quarterly trainings in 2026-2027

Next scheduled calls:

- October 22, 2026
- January 28, 2027
- April 22, 2027

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

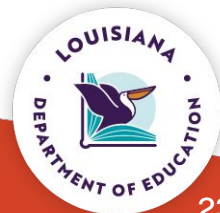


Focus Topics of Calls for 2026-2027

Next presentation will be “How” to Create a Healthy School Environment
Focus for upcoming topics will be:

- Helping schools build and maintain School Health Advisory Councils per [R.S. 17:17.1](#)
- District School Wellness Policies
- Improving the overall student health and academic outcomes of Louisiana School Districts

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions



Safe and Healthy Schools Team

stephen.guccione@la.gov	Safe and Healthy Schools: School Safety, School Health, Transportation, Coordinated School Health Program, Professional Development and Technical Assistance Support
levillia.moore@la.gov	AWARE, School-Based Mental Health and Behavioral Health, Suicide Prevention
susan.dupont@la.gov	Louisiana Healthy Schools Initiative, School Nursing, School-based Medicaid, Occupational and Physical Therapy
healthyschools@la.gov	Safe and Healthy Schools questions





Monthly Call Slides

Monthly call presentations are available in the [School System Planning Library](#).

- Office of Career and College Readiness
 - Healthy Communities
 - Healthy Schools Community of Practice

Schedules, access links and information for the Department's webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and [School System Support Calendar](#).

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.





Questions?