

2025 Teachers' Advisory Council Report

January 2026

Background

As required by Senate Concurrent Resolution 33 of the 2022 Regular Session, by January 1 of each year, the State Superintendent of Education shall submit a report on the issues, findings, and recommendations of the Teachers' Advisory Council (TAC) to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Senate and House committees of education.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 33 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session encouraged the creation of the TAC. The resolution guides the structure of the council, stating that the council should be composed of at least the following teachers:

1. State Teacher of the Year and Milken Educators

- Each teacher who was selected as state teacher of the year;
- Each teacher who was selected as a Milken Educator; and
- These teachers are not required to serve but are offered the opportunity to participate.

2. Teachers from each BESE district

- At least one public school teacher from each of the BESE districts.

3. Teachers from traditional public schools

- Three teachers representing traditional public schools, with the following specific representation:
 - One elementary school teacher;
 - One middle school teacher; and
 - One high school teacher.

4. Teachers from high-performing traditional public schools

- Three teachers are chosen to represent high-performing traditional public schools, with one teacher from each of the following settings:
 - An urban school;
 - A rural school; and
 - A school with a majority of economically disadvantaged students.

5. Teachers from underperforming traditional public schools

- Three teachers are selected to represent traditional public schools performing below the state average, with one teacher from each of the following settings:
 - An urban school;
 - A rural school; and
 - A school with a majority of economically disadvantaged students.

6. Teachers from public charter schools

- Six teachers representing public charter schools, with one teacher from each of the following categories:
 - One Elementary school teacher;
 - One Middle school teacher;
 - One High school teacher;
 - One Virtual school teacher;
 - One teacher from a high-performing school; and
 - One teacher from a school performing below the state average.

This structure ensures TAC reflects a diverse range of teaching experiences, representing various school types, student demographics, and performance levels across the state. The council is designed to provide valuable insight and advice to the state's education policy-making process.

The resolution further specifies that each member must be selected from a pool of teachers who have applied for membership to the council. Additionally, each member's term will last four years. To ensure continuity to the council's membership, the terms of the initial members will be staggered, with no more than twenty-five percent of members rotating off the council each year.

Twenty selected council members have met the above qualifications, along with representation from each BESE region across the state.

2025-2026 Louisiana Teacher Advisory Council Members

- Ali Angelle | Teche Elementary | Avoyelles Parish
- Regena Beard | Copper Mill Elementary | Zachary Community Schools
- Aaron Beaubouef | Jennings High School | Jefferson Davis Parish
- Gwynne Clavijo | Shreve Island Elementary | Caddo Parish
- Bernita Dunbar | Delta Charter | Concordia Parish
- Dereka Duncan | Cohn Elementary | West Baton Rouge Parish
- Lauren Gros | E.S. Richardson Elementary | Webster Parish
- Tristen Guillory | St. Amant High School | Ascension Parish
- Amanda Jones | University View Academy | East Baton Rouge Parish
- John Lary | C. E. Byrd | Caddo Parish
- Allison McLellan | Belle Chasse High School | Plaquemines Parish
- Cara Beth Melton | Bayou Woods Elementary | St. Tammany Parish
- Erika Musgrove | Broadmoor Elementary | East Baton Rouge Parish
- Kelly Ryan | Northshore High School | St. Tammany Parish
- Cassidy Tackett | Union Central Elementary | Caldwell Parish
- Amber Thomas | Advantage Charter Academy | National Heritage Academies
- Taylor Wallace | Woodvale Elementary | Lafayette Parish
- Holly Wilder | Sherwood Middle Magnet School | East Baton Rouge Parish
- Erik Willie | French Settlement High School | Livingston Parish
- Kaki Willrich | Neville High School | City of Monroe Schools

Summary

The Teachers' Advisory Council met three times during the 2025 calendar year. The February 12, 2025, meeting focused on the 2024 Let Teachers Teach recommendations and guidance. Further discussion involved student learning target guidance. The first of two informational reports provided the council members with an overview of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Continuing to climb in the national rankings, Louisiana's success can be attributed to important LDOE programs and initiatives:

- Back to the basics academic instruction
- Investment in and empowerment of educators
- Literacy instruction aligned to the Science of Reading
- Foundational math instruction
- High-dosage tutoring

To further this growth in 2026, the revised accountability system will raise the bar for academic success, enhance the value of career education, and make it easier for the public to understand how schools are performing.

The second report outlined the Louisiana Educator Advancement and Development System (LEADS). The transition to LEADS evaluation process for all public and charter schools is outlined in Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) policy contained in *Bulletin 130-Regulations for the Evaluation and Assessment of School Personnel*. The system has been redesigned to provide more useful, timely, and actionable feedback for improvement.

The May 15, 2025, meeting did not have a quorum of the members present. The LDOE provided information to those few in attendance regarding the upcoming Teacher Leader Summit 2025 and the English language arts (ELA) and mathematics content standards review process. The group also received informational reports regarding teacher workforce data and the teacher exit survey.

The third meeting of the year convened on October 7, 2025. The LDOE updated the members regarding the 2025 Regular Legislative Session and the numerous education bills enacted. Topics included:

- Instructional materials and academic transparency
- Financial literacy
- Computer science graduation requirements
- Foundational numeracy training
- Reduction of the number of state assessments
- Seclusion and physical restraint
- Child safety and welfare
- Teacher evaluation and student attendance
- New TOPS award level
- School employee bill of rights

In addition, the 2025 physical education content standards review goals, committee composition, and timeline were presented. It was noted that a session for professional learning will be held during the Teacher Leader Summit 2026.

Conclusions

“Other than the parent, nothing is more critical to student success than a high-quality teacher. Giving these educators a seat at the table and listening to their experiences is one of the ways we value teaching professionals in Louisiana.”

-Dr. Cade Brumley, State Superintendent of Education

The twenty council members have been actively engaged in council meetings and are responsive to questions and discussions regarding topics pertinent to the current educational landscape.

These educators are eager to be included in the conversation and have prioritized being present at the table when TAC convenes.

Currently scheduled TAC meetings during the 2026 calendar year include the following:

- Monday, February 9, 2026
- Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Please contact educationpolicy@la.gov with questions.