



MEET THE LDOE TEAM

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Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



Thomas Lambert, Assistant Superintendent
Office of Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics



Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent
Office of Career & College Readiness



Dr. Pam Schooler, Interim Assistant Superintendent
Office of School Choice



Beth Scioneaux, Deputy Superintendent
Office of School System Financial Services



Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Deputy Superintendent
Office of Teaching & Learning



Trey Fols, Assistant Superintendent
Office of School System Relations



Joan E. Hunt, Executive Counsel
Legal



KEN BRADFORD

Ken Bradford serves as the Chief of Staff at the Louisiana Department of Education and has the responsibility of leading the agency's operational functions to provide high-quality services and support so that all employees have the best opportunity to reach their highest potential and achieve the agency's goals.

Bradford began his career at Istrouma Senior High School in East Baton Rouge Parish as a classroom teacher. He was the Sallie Mae New Teacher of the Year and a Teacher of the Year finalist. In 2002, he accepted a position at the Louisiana Department of Education. He has held several roles within the Department including Louisiana Virtual School Program Administrator, Assistant Director for the Center for Educational Technology, State Director of Educational Technology and State Assistant Superintendent.

Bradford hails from Paulina, Louisiana, located in rural St. James Parish. Bradford holds a Bachelor of Education in Social Studies and a Master of Education in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Educational Technology from Louisiana State University. He served three years active duty in the US Army as an enlisted Armor Crewman and five years with the Louisiana National Guard in the 239th MP Company.



THOMAS LAMBERT

Thomas Lambert serves as Assistant Superintendent in the Office of Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics. In this role, he leads the department's strategy for student assessment, the school and district accountability, and data analysis.

Thomas was raised in New Orleans and is a proud alum of Alice Harte, Lusher Middle, Benjamin Franklin High and Louisiana State University. Thomas taught high school social studies in Jefferson Parish before leading data management in Jefferson Parish and then in New Orleans. Most recently Thomas served as the Chief Portfolio Officer for NOLA Public Schools, overseeing accountability for the district's portfolio of 78 schools, the district's unified enrollment system, portfolio planning, college/career strategy, early childhood education, data, research, and analysis.

Thomas is an Eagle Scout and works hard to live by the Scout Oath and Law every day. He is driven by a belief that if we collect accurate data, and provide clear and customized insights to educators and our communities, then we can move quicker to close achievement gaps and put all students on a path to academic, civic, social, and lifelong success. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in history from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.



DR. ERNISE SINGLETON

Dr. Ernise S. Singleton serves the Louisiana Department of Education as Assistant Superintendent of Career and College Readiness. She is committed to ensuring students across Louisiana have multiple pathways to reach their goals upon exiting the K-12 educational system.

Dr. Singleton has served as an educator in Louisiana, Texas, and Georgia. She has served in several capacities with the Louisiana Department of Education. Dr. Singleton has provided oversight with several innovative programs including online professional development, school turnaround efforts, Course Choice, and grants management. She has worked with Jump Start and revived various attendance related initiatives. Presently, her office is seeking to provide opportunities for students to participate in registered apprenticeships while earning their high school diploma. Her most recent role was as Deputy Chief of Staff for the Office of Career and College Readiness.

Dr. Singleton is a native of Baton Rouge where she matriculated through East Baton Rouge Parish Schools. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Louisiana-Monroe, a Master of Science in Instructional Technology from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Instructional Technology from the University of Georgia. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Incorporated.



DR. PAM SCHOOLER

Dr. Pam Schooler serves the Louisiana Department of Education as the Interim Assistant Superintendent of the Office of School Choice. In this role, she leads the Department's efforts to expand access to quality school choice options across a variety of systems and models including public charter schools, nonpublic schools, private school scholarship opportunities, and home study programming. Dr. Schooler is committed to ensuring that all Louisiana students have access to high quality options and that families are empowered to choose the best option for their students.

Dr. Schooler began her career as an elementary teacher in Mississippi. Her career also includes 16 years' experience as a school leader in traditional, charter, and virtual school settings.

Prior to joining the Department, Dr. Schooler served as Executive Director of D'Arbonne Woods Charter School, a rural Type 2 charter school in Farmerville, Louisiana. Led by Dr. Schooler, the school underwent a significant performance enhancement, grade expansion, and facility development. The positive changes led to a notable advancement in the school's academic standing. Dr. Schooler also previously served in the largest virtual charter school in Baton Rouge, leading work in curriculum and instruction, professional development, and school improvement.

Dr. Schooler holds a Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership from William Carey University in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Since February 2022, Dr. Schooler has led the work of charter accountability and authorizing for the Office of School Choice.



BETH SCIONEAX

Beth Scioneaux serves the Louisiana Department of Education as Deputy Superintendent of School System Financial Services. Scioneaux has worked in school finance for the Louisiana Department of Education for nearly three decades, serving in this role since 2007. She has extensive experience in school finance policy, as well as in budgeting, grant administration, internal and compliance auditing and data collection and reporting.

Scioneaux leads the design, policy development and administration of the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP), the state's \$3.8 billion school finance funding formula. She also currently oversees the MFP audits, school system financial data collection and reporting, federal financial monitoring reviews, state grant allocations to nonpublic schools and school system budget monitoring reviews and financial health evaluations.

Scioneaux is a native of Brusly, Louisiana and holds a Bachelor of Arts in accounting from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.



DR. JENNA CHIASSON

Dr. Jenna Chiasson serves the Louisiana Department of Education as Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning. During her tenure in this role, Dr. Chiasson led support for educators and families through the pandemic that minimized learning loss and, in some subjects, led to student growth, as measured by NAEP for Louisiana's approximately 800,000 students. She has collaborated with policy makers, industry partners, and education leaders to transform early literacy instruction across almost 200 school systems.

Dr. Chiasson began her work as a high school English teacher in Louisiana. Her early career also includes experience as a TAP (Teacher Advancement Program) Mentor Teacher, reading interventionist and an Advanced Placement coordinator.

Prior to joining the Department, Dr. Chiasson served as Executive Director of Teaching and Learning for Jefferson Parish Schools, the largest public school system in the state of Louisiana. In this role, Dr. Chiasson led the district-wide adoption of high quality instructional materials, standardized a model for school level teacher coaches and built sustainable practices in teacher-led professional development. Dr. Chiasson also previously served in other school system roles in St. John the Baptist Parish, leading work in curriculum and instruction, professional development and school improvement.

Dr. Chiasson has served as an adjunct professor for the University of New Orleans since 2016 where she teaches Supervision of Instruction, a required course for a Louisiana Educational Leader licensure.

Dr. Chiasson earned a Bachelor of Science in English Education from Nicholls State University, a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, Reading Specialist from Nicholls State University and a Doctorate in Education Administration from the University of New Orleans. She is the proud parent of two sons in Louisiana public schools and a daughter, not yet school age.



TREY FOLSE

W. L. “Trey” Folse, III has dedicated his career to serving children, educators, and families. Folse has displayed transformational leadership at every level of Louisiana’s education system. He joined the Louisiana Department of Education during the heart of the global pandemic in 2020 as Louisiana’s first Assistant Superintendent of School System Relations. Folse established a new unit dedicated to maintaining strong relationships and open lines of communication between his state agency and Louisiana’s public school systems.

While he now serves every educator in Louisiana from the state capital, Folse’s career in education began at the place he calls home. A proud graduate of Slidell High in St. Tammany Parish, his first job in the profession was in the St. Tammany Parish Public School System as a computer literacy teacher at Salmen High. During his 35 years with his hometown system, he would rise through the ranks as a school leader and district administrator. The St. Tammany Parish Public School Board appointed Folse Superintendent in 2010. The school system grew in size and achievement under his leadership, regularly earning some of the highest scores in the state. His success in the role earned him selection as the 2017 Louisiana Superintendent of the Year.

During his time as Superintendent, he also received the Crimestoppers’ Excellence in School Safety and Prevention Award, Community Service Award from the Covington Branch of the NAACP, St. Tammany Federation of Teachers and School Employees “Man with a Mission” Award, 2008 Bureau of Governmental Research “Excellence in Government” Award, St. Tammany Deputy Sheriff’s Association Award, and St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce Community Leader Award.

Folse is past president of the National Federation of Urban and Suburban School Districts (NFUSSD) and served on the organization’s board of directors. He has served on the Governor’s Committee on K-12 Education Transition Advisory Team, Children’s Museum of St. Tammany Advisory Board, East St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board, St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and as the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents Region II Chairman.

Not only has St. Tammany Parish been home to Folse, it’s also home to his family. Four generations of Folse’s have graduated from St. Tammany Parish Schools, including his grandparents, parents, and his two children. Folse has dedicated his life to the education of children. He works daily to ensure every child, every day receives the best education possible to help them succeed in life.

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JOAN E. HUNT

Joan E. Hunt serves the Louisiana Department of Education as Executive Counsel. She started working for the Department in 1993 and previously held the role of Deputy General Counsel.

Hunt holds undergraduate degrees in anthropology and Latin. She worked as an archeologist before attending law school. She graduated from law school in 1983 and passed the bar examination that same year. While in law school, Hunt clerked at the Louisiana Department of Labor. After being admitted to the practice of law, she was offered a position at the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections where she worked, in part, with juvenile offenders.

Hunt was previously employed at the Louisiana Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) where she represented state hospitals and also handled cases of child abuse and neglect. When DHHR was split into the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the Louisiana Department of Social Services (later renamed DCFS), Hunt chose to work with DSS.

Many of the juveniles and adults she encountered at Corrections had been abused or neglected as children, and she was hoping that with early help, there could be improved outcomes for such children. She made the decision to join the LDOE because of the power of education to buffer the effects of even serious adversity.

Hunt has been a member of the Louisiana Law Institute's Children's Code Project Committee since its inception in 1986.