## DR. CADE BRUMLEY STATE SUPERINTENDENT



## CLAIBORNE BUILDING 1201 N 3RD ST. BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

## LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

24 October 2023

RE: Act 264 of 2023

System Leaders,

During the last legislative session, Representative Dodie Horton filed House Bill 8 for consideration. This instrument passed by a vote of 98-4 in the House of Representatives, won unanimous consent in the Senate, and was signed into law by Governor Edwards as <u>Act 264 of 2023</u>. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) has since promulgated rules which affirm the requirements of the law.

This law requires the posting of the national motto – In God We Trust – in each public school classroom within the State of Louisiana. The effective date, as prescribed in the legislation, is August 1, 2026; however, schools may begin posting the motto in advance of that date.

The national motto shall be displayed on a poster or framed document that is at least eleven inches by fourteen inches. The motto shall be the central focus of the poster or framed document and shall be printed in a large, easily readable font.

The law does not require a public school system to spend its funds to purchase national motto displays. The school system may use its funds, donated funds, or may accept donated displays. I am aware of one organization – the Louisiana Family Forum – with intent to mail posters throughout Louisiana at no cost to school systems.

I am taking this opportunity to remind you of the new law while also providing you with key details about display requirements and the implementation date. <u>You can read the law online</u>.

Please reach out to our School System Relations team should you have any questions or needs.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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Louisiana State Superintendent