

## LDOE Weekly Newsletter: February 4, 2025

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### Message from the State Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

Last week was historic for Louisiana education, as we [achieved unprecedented results on The Nation's Report Card](#). Louisiana students moved to 32nd overall in the country and earned their highest national ranking in all of the areas measured by this assessment. This progress affirms Louisiana's commitment to foundational academic skills and an investment in teachers.

If you haven't seen the results yet, I encourage you to [read our release](#) or [download a copy of our report card](#). You can also [watch the press conference](#) we hosted with Governor Landry.

I began my remarks at the press conference by expressing my deepest gratitude to Louisiana's teachers. They have persevered through a global pandemic, natural disasters, and countless challenges, all while remaining dedicated to students and committed to best practices. To our school and system leaders, as well as local boards, thank you for embracing change, adapting to new strategies, and leading the way toward stronger student outcomes. Your unwavering efforts are making a lasting impact on education in our state.

Our latest results demonstrate unparalleled progress and put Louisiana students on a trajectory for continued success. We've been strategic and intentional, and the results show that this approach is working. Take a moment to be proud of what we've accomplished together. Then, let's get back to work – because Louisiana's future depends on our continued commitment.

Dr. Cade Brumley  
State Superintendent of Education

### Important Dates for School Systems

#### Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Social Studies Office Hours: [February 5](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call (**RESCHEDULED**): [February 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [February 7 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Local Authorizer Monthly Call: [February 8 at 11 a.m.](#)
- High School Science Leaders Support Monthly Call: [February 12 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [February 13 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [February 13 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Monthly Call: [February 13 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Act 260 Numeracy Training Office Hours: [February 19 at 9 a.m.](#)

- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [February 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [February 20 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [February 24 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [February 26 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Safe and Healthy Schools Monthly Call: [February 27 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [March 11 at 1 p.m.](#)

## **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- School Support Institute: [February 5](#), Baton Rouge
- 2025 PAEMST Nomination Deadline: [February 6](#)
- Talented Art Evaluator Training Webinar: [February 6 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Diploma and Seal Order Deadline: [February 7](#)
- Music Evaluator Training Webinar: [February 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Theater Evaluator Training Webinar: [February 11 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for System Leaders Webinar: [February 13 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Fast Forward Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit: [February 25, Lafayette](#)
- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools Webinar Session 2: [February 26](#)
- 2025 Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy Application Deadline: [February 28](#)
- 2025 Educators Rising State Conference: [March 21](#)
- CSI/TSI Plan Submission Deadline in eGMS: May 2
- English Learner Institute Session 4, Baton Rouge: [May 14](#)

## **Teaching and Learning**

### Academic Content

#### **Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews**

**Please share with content supervisors, literacy coaches, and school leaders.**

The LDOE conducts ongoing reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [annotated reviews](#) web page. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [weekly report](#).

- Kiddom - Core Knowledge Bayou Bridges Powered by Kiddom, Grade K (©2024)

Please contact [louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov](mailto:louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov) with questions.

### Diverse Learners

#### **Talented Art, Music, and Theater Protocol Training**

**Please share with pupil appraisal staff and special education leaders.**

The LDOE is hosting three one-hour webinars on talented art, music, and theater protocol training for pupil appraisal staff in February.

- **Topic:** Talented Art Evaluator Training
- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 6 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94304493460>
- **Topic:** Music Evaluator Training
- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 10 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98938098543>
- **Topic:** Theater Evaluator Training
- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 11 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98010507974>

Please contact [specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov) with any questions.

## Educator Talent and Workforce Development

### **CBC for Certification vs. CCCBC for Employment**

**Please share with early learning centers, educators, HR directors, school leaders, system leaders, teacher candidates, and teacher preparation providers.**

The Criminal Background Check (CBC) for certification is separate from the Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC), run for employment in an early learning center. Effective January 1, [LA R.S. 17:8.9](#) requires a separate CBC for certification. A single background check cannot legally be used for multiple purposes, as the FBI and LA State Police prohibit this.

Please use the [Educator Fingerprinting Packet](#) with the LDOE's Certification & Background Credentialing service code to schedule fingerprinting for certification. Applicants will know when their CBCs for certification have been received, reviewed, and cleared for certification when the LDOE has [issued/added the "Clear Credential" record](#) to the individual's certification record, viewable on [www.teachlouisiana.net](http://www.teachlouisiana.net). At that time, if applicants need to apply for or renew the Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate (ECAC), download the [current ECAC application \(initial or renewal\) with the newly revised Professional Conduct form](#) and submit it, including all required pieces of the application packet, as a new case through our online certification portal.

Please contact [EducatorClearance@la.gov](mailto:EducatorClearance@la.gov) with questions.

### **School Systems with Idemia's EYO Workstations May Fingerprint for Certification**

**Please share with early learning centers, educators, HR directors, school leaders, system leaders, teacher candidates, and teacher preparation providers.**

As of January 6, the Louisiana State Police (LSP) has indicated the following school systems have their own EYO workstations and may fingerprint individuals for certification purposes:

- Acadia
- Ascension
- East Baton Rouge
- Iberia
- Lafayette
- Livingston
- Ouachita
- St. Charles
- St. Landry
- St. Mary
- St. Martin
- St. Tammany
- Archdiocese of New Orleans

Please use the [Educator Fingerprinting Packet](#) to schedule fingerprinting for certification using the LDOE's Certification & Background Credentialing service code and scheduling link provided in the packet, along with the school system-provided location code. The location code is used in place of the zip code when scheduling. Please see step 7 in LSP's [scheduling document](#).

School systems should be aware that if they fingerprint an applicant under their own service code, the LDOE does not receive a copy of that CBC as that is for employment purposes. A single CBC cannot be used for multiple purposes, and therefore, fingerprinting for certification must be done using the LDOE's Certification & Background Credentialing service code.

School systems interested in obtaining Idemia's EYO Workstation should email [EducatorClearance@la.gov](mailto:EducatorClearance@la.gov) for further instructions.

Please contact [EducatorClearance@la.gov](mailto:EducatorClearance@la.gov) with questions.

## **2025 Educators Rising State Conference**

**Please share with system leaders and teachers.**

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette will host the [2025 Louisiana Educators Rising State Conference](#) on March 21 at the UL Lafayette Student Union. The conference will run from approximately 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Attendees can look forward to a variety of activities, including keynote speakers, exhibitors, competitions, and breakout sessions featuring panels, presentations, and interactive sessions designed for aspiring and current educators and their supporters. Lunch will be provided in the Student Union.

Please contact [edrising@louisiana.edu](mailto:edrising@louisiana.edu) with questions.

## Literacy

### **Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS Framework**

**Please share with school leaders and system leaders.**

The Louisiana Literacy Team is launching the Louisiana Literacy MTSS Framework with system and school leaders and will host webinars for both audiences in the coming months. The system leaders call will address structures on a system level to support a healthy MTSS system within a school district. The school leaders call will discuss the role that school leaders play in the MTSS process. There will be additional sessions at the Teacher Leader Summit for leaders and teachers.

- **Topic:** Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for System Leaders
- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 13 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94678685021?pwd=myvfbgU4qMw6CmQobRZEQmiG0bxJ7F.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 346 248 7799
- **Meeting ID:** 946 7868 5021
  
- **Topic:** Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for System Leaders
- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 12 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/7632097614?omn=99011935302>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 346 248 7799
- **Meeting ID:** 763 209 7614
  
- **Topic:** Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for School Leaders
- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 27 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97351748833?pwd=4b9159YzSsUH2Svw1lS2DgnwKQ0JGz.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 346 248 7799
- **Meeting ID:** 973 5174 8833

Please contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) with questions.

## School Improvement

### **Level Up SSI Final Session: “Preparing for Continuous School Improvement”**

**Please share with school leaders, system administrators, and system leaders.**

The final session of School Support Institutes, Level Up SSI: “Preparing for Continuous School Improvement”, required for CIR schools, will be delivered at Teacher Leader Summit 2025.

One half-day session of Level Up SSI is required for three ILT members from each CIR school (principal and two others). Funds are provided through SuperApp to reimburse costs, including registration, associated with attendance for three ILT members per CIR school.

A designated Level Up registration link will be available on February 10. Registration will be \$249. Systems may elect to register their CIR leadership teams as a group using a purchase order. Please contact [SSIsupport@la.gov](mailto:SSIsupport@la.gov) with questions or for more information on group registration for Level Up.

Please contact [SSIsupport@la.gov](mailto:SSIsupport@la.gov) with questions or changes in registration.

## Teacher Leader Summit

### **Teacher Leader Summit 2025 Overview**

**Please share with educators, school leaders, system administrators, and system leaders.**

To learn more about Teacher Leader Summit 2025, review the [overview document](#) on the [Teacher Leader Summit webpage](#). The overview includes important dates, hotel information, and hotel booking links. Early bird registration opens on February 10, and the link will be on the [Teacher Leader Summit webpage](#).

Please contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) with questions.

## Career and College Readiness

### **2025 Fast Forward Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit**

**Please share with high school administrators, school counselors, school system leaders, and child welfare and attendance stakeholders.**

Registration is open for the [2025 Fast Forward Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit](#). This one-day event (formerly known as the Jump Start Convention) will be held on February 25 at the Cajundome and Convention Center in Lafayette. This year's convention will provide professional development opportunities focused on the creation and expansion of high-quality, work-based learning programs, fostering industry partnerships to strengthen Career and Technical Education initiatives, enhancing alignment with workforce demands, and improving child welfare and attendance support systems.

Interested attendees can check the [Jump Start Meeting and Training Opportunities](#) page for [hotel information](#) and the [schedule at-a-glance](#).

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

### **Work-Based Learning Vendor Application**

**Please share with counselors, CTE supervisors, school system administrators, and vendors.**

BESE adopted new policy in April of 2024 concerning work-based learning instructor requirements for teacher certification. The policy requires that a work-based learning teacher shall hold one of the following:

- Valid CTTIE Certification or Agriculture Certification
- Valid Level 2 Louisiana Teaching Certificate, with at least three years of work experience other than classroom instruction
- Valid Level 2 Louisiana Teaching Certificate and completion of a work-based learning workshop by an approved provider

The [WBL Vendor Application](#) will open on February 21 and will close on March 21.

Please contact [troy.borne@la.gov](mailto:troy.borne@la.gov) with questions.

### **2024-2025 Graduate Diploma and Seal Orders**

**Please share with data coordinators, principals, and school counselors.**

Please use the [Diploma and Seal Order Form](#) to submit an order for the 2024-2025 graduates. All diploma requests must be submitted through the electronic form by February 7. Only one form should be completed for each school system. The LDOE will cover the costs for the initial order and distribution.

Please contact [suzette.rabalais@la.gov](mailto:suzette.rabalais@la.gov) with questions.

## School Choice

### Charter Schools

#### **Local Authorizer Monthly Call**

**Please share with school and system leaders.**

The topic of the February Local Authorizers monthly call will be: Pre-Opening Guidelines and Type 2 Appeal Process.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 8 at 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92929487417?pwd=ZUIRTVc2O1MyNGp2a2pabTdaSk9vOT09#success>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1 470 250 9358
- **Meeting ID:** 929 2948 7417

Please contact [charters@la.gov](mailto:charters@la.gov) with questions.

#### **Charter School Program Grant Application Cycle**

**Please share with charter school leaders, new charter applicants, and system leaders.**

The final due date in the winter/spring CSP grant cycle for Subgrant Applications is March 12. Charter school developers who have submitted LOIs and the Eligibility Determination Form will receive a formal determination of their eligibility no later than February 24.

Please contact [cspgrant@la.gov](mailto:cspgrant@la.gov) or [tammy.morgan3@la.gov](mailto:tammy.morgan3@la.gov) with questions.

### Nonpublic Schools

#### **CLOSING: 2025-2026 BESE and Brumfield v Dodd Approval Application**

**Please share with nonpublic school leaders.**

Nonpublic Schools that have not already been BESE approved for 2025-2026 must apply to become eligible to participate as LA GATOR school. Schools must be approved by BESE and also comply with Brumfield vs. Dodd, a federal court order that prohibits discrimination. The [2025-2026 BESE Approval Application](#) will close on February 13. Late applications will not be accepted.

Please contact [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov) with questions.

## School System Financial Services

#### **2024 Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Required Submission Timelines**

**Please share with business managers and financial officials.**

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) documents must be submitted within the next few months. Availability in eGMS and submission timelines may be accessed in the [Federal Maintenance of Effort \(MOE\) Required Submission Timelines](#) document.

Failure to complete the MOE applications by the submission deadline may jeopardize the availability of federal funds to School Systems.

Please contact [LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov) with questions.