

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: July 8, 2025

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Message from the State Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

We [released LEAP data for the 2024-2025 school year](#) last week, showing a continued trend of Louisiana's steady, sustained growth. Mastery+ was up by one percentage point overall in grades 3-8, including a two-point gain in math. Since 2021, overall grades 3-8 proficiency has improved by five points.

This is the earliest release of statewide LEAP results since 2016. Based on your feedback, we prioritized getting this information to you sooner to give school systems more time to plan instruction and support based on the most current data.

Here are a few takeaways from the results:

- **Maintain your focus on core academic content in grades 3-8.** It's no surprise to see additional progress in grades 3-8. It reflects the work happening across Louisiana to ensure every student builds foundational academic skills and continues to grow each year.
- **Renew your commitment to academic growth and mastery in high school.** It was also no surprise to see a one-point dip in overall high school proficiency. It is a reminder that academic growth and achievement are paramount, especially in high school. Being able to read and do math on grade level is a foundational element to career and college readiness.
- **Support your 2024-2025 third grade cohort.** Overall third grade Mastery+ dropped by three points. While one year does not make a trend and we are not overly concerned at this time, be sure to provide these students with the support they need to grow, achieve, and thrive.

Please take a few minutes to look through the [presentation](#) we gave to system leaders. You can also find [more detailed data](#) on our website.

Thank you for your continued focus on what matters most — improving academic outcomes for all students.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Local Authorizer Monthly Call: [July 9 at 11 a.m.](#)
- BESE-Authorized Charters Monthly Call: [July 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Education Technology Monthly Call: [July 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [July 16 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [July 17 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [July 17 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [July 21 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [July 23 at 2 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [August 1 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [August 5 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [August 7 at 8 a.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Foundations of Freedom: Summer Civics Institute: [July 8-17](#)
- The New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick-Off Registration Deadline: [July 16](#)
- Special Education Parent Summit, Baton Rouge: [July 21](#)
- Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Conference, Baton Rouge: [July 22-24](#)
- The New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick-Off, Baton Rouge: July 24
- School Food Service Manager Training: [July 28-30](#)
- Connecting the Dots: Counselors, Internships, and Student Readiness: [July 29](#)
- Physical Education Standards Review Committee Application Deadline: [July 31](#)
- Teacher Leader Advisor Application Deadline: [July 31](#)
- English Learner Institute-Session 1: [August 25](#)
- Principal Bootcamp Application Deadline: [September 8](#)

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 4 (©2024)

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Advisor Applications Now Open

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

Applications are now being accepted for Instructional Materials Review [Teacher Leader Advisors](#) (TLAs). TLAs serve an essential role in supporting the implementation of the Louisiana Student Standards by reviewing instructional materials, creating resources, and providing professional learning for educators. Interested educators should submit their [applications](#) by July 31 at 4 p.m.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Apply Now: Physical Education Standards Review Committee

Please share with PE teachers, school leaders, school system leaders, and content leaders.

The LDOE is pleased to announce that the application to serve on the Physical Education Standards Review and Revision Committee is now open. This committee will play a critical role in shaping the future of physical education in Louisiana by reviewing the current standards and developing recommendations for improvement.

The application window will remain open through July 31 at 8 a.m.

For more information about this important initiative and to access the application, please see the [Physical Education Standards Overview](#) page, which includes details about the committee's scope, responsibilities, and timeline.

The LDOE encourages all stakeholders to share this opportunity with fellow educators, school leaders, content experts, and community members who would be strong candidates to support this important work.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

2025 Annual Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Conference

Please share with stakeholders.

The [2025 GODA Conference](#) is returning with both in-person and virtual options, bringing valuable information and resources to attendees statewide. The conference will be held in person on July 22 and 23. Virtual attendance is available for all dates; however, the July 24 sessions will be virtual attendance only.

This year's conference will feature engaging sessions, expert speakers, and networking opportunities — all designed to focus on individuals, families, and professionals involved in disability advocacy and services.

Please contact disability.affairs@la.gov with questions.

English Learner Institute

Please share with English Learner directors/coordinators, federal program directors, and lead EL teachers.

The LDOE is pleased to announce the upcoming English Learner Institute, designed specifically for EL Directors and Coordinators. This series will offer essential updates and critical information to support English Learners.

Please mark your calendar and use the links below to register:

- [August 25](#)
- [January 26](#)
- [March 16](#)
- [May 14](#)

Please contact alexandra.chenevert@la.gov with questions.

Fast Track ESL Add-On

Please share with EL departments, teachers, instructional coaches, principals, and teachers.

Tuition-free courses are available for teachers and leaders to earn an ESL Add-On credential. Please complete the 2024-2026 [Early Interest Survey](#) form to receive information about Project Endorsement Plus opportunities. This form is to receive information only. No application is available at this time.

Please contact alexandra.chenevert@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

The New Teacher Experience Professional Learning Modules: Registration is now OPEN

Please share with new teachers, school leaders, and school system leaders.

The LDOE, in partnership with A+PEL, has developed monthly [professional learning modules](#) on topics that are critical for new teacher success. These modules include online asynchronous content followed by an in-person learning lab where participants practice and apply these concepts.

This year, complimentary seating will be offered for the first 200 registrants.

Half of the seats for the northern location (Monroe) and half for the southern location (Baton Rouge) will be reserved as complimentary seating. Once those seats are exhausted, teachers may still attend, but the cost to complete the series of modules will be \$1,272 per teacher.

Teachers must receive approval to attend from their school leader. [Registration](#) is now open. Once teachers complete the registration, participants will receive details on selected training locations and an invitation to access the online asynchronous modules.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

New Teacher Experience: Mentor Expansion Pilot Application

Please share with principals and system leads.

Applications are now open for [The NTE: Mentor Expansion Pilot](#), which will provide school systems with strategies to increase their mentor pool and enhance the work of the mentor through the guidance of best practices in supporting new teachers.

School systems in need of additional credentialed mentors may be interested in participating in this pilot. The pilot will aid in fostering a community of best practices and create conditions for effective mentoring to enhance teaching and learning with new teachers.

Funding will be provided to cover the costs associated with adding mentor credentials to educators meeting the criteria outlined in the updated policy.

School systems that are chosen to participate will be contacted in late July with an invitation to an introductory webinar.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

The New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick-Off Registration

Please share with new teachers.

The LDOE will host a Summer Kick-Off for the New Teacher Experience on July 24 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Baton Rouge for 400 new teachers.

The goals of the event are to:

- Welcome new teachers to the profession
- Understand the components of Louisiana's New Teacher Experience
- Engage in professional learning around topics relevant to new teachers
- Provide statewide networking opportunities for new teachers

The Summer Kick-Off will take place at the Lod Cook Alumni Center in Baton Rouge, located at 3838 W. Lakeshore Drive. [Registration](#) will close on July 16 or once capacity is reached, whichever comes first. School systems should share details about the event with their new teachers and ensure that they can attend before registering. This event is provided at no cost to systems; however, any travel costs may be covered by the school system. Registration includes lunch and a tote bag with lots of start-of-the-year goodies.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

2025-2026 LEADS Preparation for System Leaders

Please share with human resource directors, superintendents, and systems leaders.

All school systems will fully implement LEADS evaluations in 2025-2026. To support planning and readiness, system leaders can access key resources such as the [LEADS Webinar for System Leaders](#), the [Evaluation Implementation Guidance for System Leaders](#), and the [Evaluation Frequently Asked Questions List](#). These resources, which are located in the [LEADS Library](#), provide an overview of LEADS components and processes, detailed planning support, and common questions.

System leaders are encouraged to use these resources to begin planning and preparation for the 2025-2026 school year.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

LEADS Training and Recertification

Please share with human resource directors, school leaders, and systems leaders.

Per [Bulletin 130](#), evaluators and designated observers must certify annually before evaluating educators. To qualify for the assessment, evaluators and observers must attend all full, consecutive days of training. Training is occurring now through September, and [registration](#) is open. Waitlists are available if a training is full.

All evaluators and designated observers who attended LEADS training during the 2024-2025 school year have been assigned the 2025-2026 annual recertification assessment. Individuals may log in to [EdLink Security](#) to access Canopy and begin taking the assessment. For the 2024-2025 school year only, those who took the assessment from January through April were automatically marked as complete. Certificates can be accessed in Canopy.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

2025–2026 High Dosage Tutoring (HDT) Implementation Guidance Now Available

Please share with system leaders.

As school systems begin planning for the 2025–2026 school year, the LDOE encourages leaders to utilize the [High Dosage Tutoring \(HDT\) School System Implementation Guidance](#) to support strong, strategic implementation of Accelerate tutoring programs.

This updated guidance document outlines key planning actions, staffing considerations, scheduling strategies, and data use practices aligned with Louisiana's vision for high-quality, high-impact tutoring.

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

Teacher Leader Summit Session Access

Please share with educators, school leaders, and system administration.

Teacher Leader Summit sessions were created to be informative, inspiring, and valuable to the work educators do. Session presentation PDFs are now available and can be accessed through the [Professional Learning Platform](#).

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

LDOE's Updated Attendance Strategy: The Power of Presence

Please share with child welfare and attendance coordinators and system leaders.

The LDOE has launched The Power of Presence, a bold new strategy to help schools and systems address chronic absenteeism and improve student outcomes across the state. For the 2025-2026 school year, a tiered approach will be implemented to provide targeted, system-level support to improve student attendance throughout Louisiana.

Intensive-level support systems were notified in April regarding support opportunities and expectations. Communications to intermediate-level support systems are being sent this week via email from the attendance team.

Systems that do not receive direct communication regarding comprehensive or intermediate support are encouraged to engage in the universal-level support elements listed below:

- Access online [Power of Presence](#) information and resources
- Participate in Attendance Monthly Calls and Office Hours
- Attend [System Regional Collaboration](#) Attendance Pathway Sessions

Please contact attendance@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

State Focus List Update

Please share with CTE leaders.

The Louisiana Workforce Commission's Workforce Investment Council has approved the following as *Advanced Credentials* for inclusion on the [State Focus List](#):

- ProStart National Certificate of Achievement and ServSafe Manager
- Certified Hospitality Supervisor
- Hospitality and Tourism Specialist
- LA Agritechnology Specialist
- CDL Class A and B Commercial Driving

Attainment of these credentials demonstrates technical skills that are highly valued by employers.

Please contact WIC@lwc.la.gov with questions.

Spotlight on Epilepsy Resources and Training

Please share with principals, nurses, teachers, and support staff.

The [Epilepsy Foundation Louisiana](#) is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals affected by epilepsy through education, advocacy, research, and connection. Serving communities across the state, the Foundation offers a wide range of services, including individualized support for families, public awareness campaigns, free resources and trainings, and connection to medical and community resources.

The foundation provides free epilepsy education and seizure recognition [training](#) for schools, educators, and support staff. To learn more, visit learn.epilepsy.com.

Please contact louisiana@efa.org with questions.

Bullying Reporting Requirements and Compliance

Please share with school system leaders.

Under Bulletin 741 §1303, any school employee who witnesses or receives a report of bullying must report it to a school official. Failure to do so requires an investigation by the school governing authority. School administrators shall be investigated if they fail to:

- Notify a parent/guardian of a bullying report
- Investigate the report in a timely manner
- Take prompt, appropriate disciplinary action
- Report criminal conduct to law enforcement

Each school system, charter school, and non-public school must report the number of employee suspensions related to failure to report bullying. Please submit the [Failure to Act Reporting Form](#) by August 1.

Please contact ernise.singleton@la.gov with any questions.

Connecting the Dots: Counselors, Internships, and Student Readiness

Please share with school counselors, CTE supervisors, and teachers.

The LDOE will host a webinar to support school counselors in understanding Louisiana's updated Work-Based Learning policy. The webinar will guide counselors on navigating internship opportunities, graduation pathways, WBL requirements, and understanding key funding sources.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 29 at 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93094074817?pwd=wNbWFHASKJ9K4SJjSXxCMuIPo6iOeX.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** +1 312 626 6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 930 9407 4817

Please contact candace.joseph@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2025-2026 Annual Operating Budgets (Charter Schools)

Please share with Type 2 and Type 5 charter school business managers and finance officials.

The FY2025-2026 Annual Operating Budget, whether adopted by charter school boards or not, is due on Friday, August 1, 2025. If the Annual Operating Budget submitted by August 1 is not adopted in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act, the submittal of the budget adopted according to the Budget Act is required to be submitted no later than September 30. Each charter school must submit the Annual Operating Budget Form to the Office of School Systems Financial Services via email to charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov.

Resources to assist in preparing the annual operating budget for charter schools are available in the Charter School Annual and Quarterly Budgets section of the [Business Manager Support Resources Library](#).

Please contact charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

FY 2025-2026 MFP Formula Allocations

Please share with business managers and finance officials.

The statewide MFP formula allocation for FY 2025-2026 and the associated guidance are now available on the LDOE website. The formula documents will be located in the [MFP Library](#) under the section titled "2025-2026 MFP Budget Letter". Specific New Type 2 Charter School MFP allocations may be viewed in the school's secure edfin ftp sites.

Please contact ldoemfphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

FY 2025-2026 Initial Charter Per Pupil Allocations

Please share with business managers and finance officials.

The Initial Charter Per Pupil calculations for FY 2025-2026 are now available on the LDOE website. The formula documents will be located in the [MFP Library](#) under the section titled "2025-2026 MFP Budget Letter".

Please contact ldoemfphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

MFP Forward Funding

Please share with charter school business managers and finance officials.

Charter schools may request MFP forward funding for significant increases in student enrollment that occur from February 1 to October 1. Schools must demonstrate that the financial health of the school will be impacted if the student enrollment increase is not recognized with an adjustment of the MFP monthly payments sooner than the March 2026 Mid-year payment adjustments.

To apply for increased monthly payments for documented growth before the October 1 student count, refer to the [Charter School Library](#). The deadline to submit forward funding requests is August 15.

Please contact ldoemfphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

SY 2024-2025 Required Services Reimbursement Request Forms

Please share with Diocesan Superintendents, Nonpublic School Principals, and required services contacts.

The Required Services Reimbursement Request Forms for school year 2023-2024 are due to be submitted to nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov before September 30. Guidance documents and applicable forms are available at [Nonpublic School Resources](#).

A training webinar for nonpublic school officials will be held on July 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

2025 Louisiana Public Interest Fellow

Please share with school leaders, school system leaders, and teachers.

The LDOE recently announced that Carra “Beth” Melton from St. Tammany Parish is the 2025 Louisiana Public Interest Fellowship recipient. The fellowship allows recipients to spend the upcoming school year advocating for a key education initiative aligned with the LDOE’s priorities. Recipients are selected from the previous year’s list of Teacher of the Year semifinalists and finalists.

Melton’s initiative is focused on enhancing math fluency and improving students’ ability to solve word problems. By emphasizing the development of both numerical skills and the cognitive processes involved in interpreting and solving word problems, this initiative seeks to equip students with the tools they need to succeed in mathematics and beyond. This initiative recognizes the crucial role of parents in their child’s math development and aims to support and involve them through the creation of math resources and the distribution of math kits.

As the 2025 Louisiana Public Interest Fellow, Melton will also be honored at the 19th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala. This exciting event is co-sponsored by [Dream Teachers](#). Information regarding past fellowship recipients can be found on the [LDOE’s Awards](#) page.

Please contact exemplaryeducator@la.gov with questions.