

## LDOE Weekly Newsletter: October 7, 2025

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### Message from the State Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

October is National Principals Month, a time to recognize the incredible individuals who lead our schools with clarity, courage, and purpose. As a former principal, I understand both the challenges and the rewards of this role.

Principals influence every aspect of their schools. They drive academic growth, ensure that classrooms are safe and supportive, and make sure that intentional learning happens every day. They build strong teams, support teacher development, and engage families and communities in meaningful ways.

Our continued academic progress depends on the leadership of effective principals. That is why we remain committed to investing in [resources and supports](#) that help school leaders guide improvement, strengthen instruction, and build trust within their school communities.

To every principal across our state, thank you. Your leadership matters, and your impact reaches far beyond the walls of your school.

Dr. Cade Brumley  
State Superintendent of Education

### Important Dates for School Systems

#### Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [October 9 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Monthly Call: [October 9 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Numeracy Training Office Hours: [October 15 at 9 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [October 15 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [October 15 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Attendance Office Hours: [October 16 at 8:30 a.m.](#)
- Computer Science Office Hours: [October 16 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [October 16 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [October 16 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [October 20 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: [October 21 at 3 p.m.](#)

- Safe and Healthy Schools Monthly Call: [October 23 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [November 4 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [November 6 at 8 a.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [November 7 at 9 a.m.](#)

## **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- BOY K-3 Literacy Gifted Referral Data Collection Deadline: October 13
- In-Person Super App Launch at LAFEPA: [October 30](#)
- Virtual Super App Launch: [November 6 at 10 a.m.](#)
- High Cost Services Round 1 Application Deadline: November 11
- Annual Dyslexia Reporting Deadline: December 15

## **Teaching and Learning**

### **Diverse Learners**

#### **BOY K-3 Literacy Gifted Referral Data Collection**

**Please share with gifted coordinators and special education leaders.**

Louisiana Statute 17:24.9 mandates school systems to report the number of students identified for referral for gifted evaluation for every literacy screening administration for grades K-3. The following data sets will be collected for each grade level:

- The number of gifted students scoring in the above-average range on the literacy screener.
- The number of non-gifted students referred for additional screening.
- The number of non-gifted students referred for gifted evaluation.

[BOY reporting](#) is due October 13.

Please contact [carolyn.wilkinson@la.gov](mailto:carolyn.wilkinson@la.gov) or [yolanda.oates3@la.gov](mailto:yolanda.oates3@la.gov) with questions.

#### **Annual Dyslexia Reporting**

**Please share with special education leaders.**

School systems are required to annually report the number of students with dyslexia currently enrolled and the number of students newly identified with dyslexia in the prior school year. The [dyslexia reporting form](#) will open on October 1. All school systems must submit the dyslexia reporting form by December 15.

[Dyslexia reporting guidance](#) is available in the [Students with Disabilities Library](#).

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

### **Educator Talent and Workforce Development**

#### **Professional Learning Modules: Registration OPEN for Modules 2-5**

**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. Teachers are encouraged to register for Modules 2-5. Registration will close upon completion of Module 2.

Half of the seats for the northern location (Monroe) and half for the southern location (Baton Rouge) will be reserved as complementary seating. **There are still complimentary seats available.**

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

## **LEADS Resources**

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

System and school leaders are encouraged to utilize resources, including handbooks and forms, available in the [LEADS Library](#) to support LEADS implementation. The [Other Personnel Guidance](#) has been updated to include additional information for evaluating librarians, and is beneficial in understanding how to use the rubrics with various types of educators. The following resources may assist in completing first-quarter evaluation tasks:

- [Evaluation Implementation Guidance for System Leaders](#)
- [LA Leader and Counselor Evaluation Process: Sequence and Timeline](#)
- [LA Educator Evaluation Process: Sequence and Timeline](#)
- [PGP/Coaching Plan Template](#)
- [PGP/Coaching Plan Samples](#)
- [Student Learning Target Reflection Tool](#)

Training materials are also available in the [Professional Learning Platform: LEADS Public Collections](#) to support teachers, leaders, and counselors.

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

## **Literacy**

### **High-Dosage Tutoring Outcome-Based Contracting**

Please share with system leaders.

School systems may soon apply for additional Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring funds to extend high-dosage tutoring through outcome-based contracting (OBC). OBC must be with external tutoring providers to support an additional 10-week tutoring cycle. System leaders are asked to complete this [OBC Interest Form](#) by October 10. The tutoring team will reach out to those completing the form to answer questions and discuss next steps.

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

## **Teacher Leader Summit**

### **Teacher Leader Summit 2026 Call for Presentations Reminder**

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

Teacher Leader Summit 2026 will be held May 26-28 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The call for presentations opens October 15 and closes December 5. Educators interested in presenting should attend the [webinar](#) on October 15 at 1 p.m. or 4 p.m. Submission guidelines will be available on the [website](#) soon.

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

## **Career and College Readiness**

### **Crisis Management and Response Plans**

Please share with school system leaders.

[Act 334](#) of the 2023 Regular Legislative session requires the following:

- The local school superintendent is to make an annual report to the public school governing authority on the status of the crisis management and response plan of each school under the governing authority's jurisdiction.
- Submit a copy of the report to LDOE and the Center for Safe Schools.

All documents should be submitted electronically via the [Data Management FTP](#) site. Please email [healthyschools@la.gov](mailto:healthyschools@la.gov) when your FTP coordinator has uploaded the files. Crisis Management and Response Plans should be submitted on or before October 31.

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

## **Discipline Reporting**

**Please share with counselors, system leaders, and data managers.**

[Act 497 \(2025\)](#) amended [R.S. 17:416.B or C](#) requires school systems to report expulsion data, including the number of occasions for committing offenses in sections B or C. Therefore, student discipline data should be accurate and current in the local SIS and should be reported to LDOE daily. Data managers are encouraged to automate the SIS to upload student data on a daily basis. The LDOE will monitor discipline submissions and contact school systems that are not submitting on a regular schedule.

Please create a ticket through the [LDOE Data System Support Portal](#) for all data system questions.

## **AI-Powered Python Pilot**

**Please share with system leaders, CTE supervisors, and Information Technology teachers.**

The LDOE, in partnership with Bossier Parish Community College and Kira Learning, is launching a two-year pilot to expand AI-powered CTE education in Python Programming. Up to 15 school systems will be selected to participate. Educators in the pilot will receive professional development, ongoing support, and access to Python-aligned curriculum and AI tools.

The [application window](#) will run from October 7 to 22, with final selections targeted for November 7. The pilot officially begins on December 12, with spring 2026 focused on building teacher fluency through hands-on training and support. Selected school systems will have flexibility through rolling enrollment, allowing them to add additional teachers as they prepare for the 2026–2027 school year.

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

## **Fall 2025 Counselor Institute Sessions**

**Please share with school administrators and counselors.**

The Fall 2025 Counselor Institute introduces a new format that combines a three-part webinar series (October 28–30) with in-person workshops. Webinars will provide foundational information, while in-person sessions will focus on interactive, hands-on activities and collaborative planning.

### **Three-Part Webinar Series: October 28-30**

- **Webinar 1:** The Power of Presence: Understanding Louisiana's attendance initiative and the support school counselors provide to students and families.
- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 28 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98984369801?pwd=qBXkqGinbE8AvXJUtgOMR9RCILbkPN.1>
- **Meeting I.D.:** 989 8436 9801
  
- **Webinar 2:** Building a Continuum of Learning: Aligning Career Demands to School Offerings - Understanding the importance of K-12 vertical alignment and the connection to postsecondary career goals.
- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 29 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97098474663?pwd=swMskf3HzWT25yfeq90LYGUJpVGImp.1>
- **Meeting I.D.:** 970 9847 4663
  
- **Webinar 3:** Bridging the Gap: Strengthening Continuing Education Partnerships for Student Success - Identifying ways to strengthen the secondary and postsecondary connection.
- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 30 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93954912338?pwd=txduJGirbSE0Ksw82vqSyViZg0LHqq.1>
- **Meeting I.D.:** 939 5491 2338

**In-Person Working Sessions:** Registration is now available.

- Option 1 November 7: [St. Bernard Parish](#)
- Option 2 November 14: [Caddo Parish](#)
- Option 3 November 20: [East Baton Rouge Parish](#)

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

## **2025-2026 U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Opportunity Deadline Extended**

**Please share with social studies supervisors, secondary administrators, counselors, charter, nonpublic, and student council advisors.**

The LDOE, in partnership with the [William Randolph Hearst Foundation](#), will select two juniors or seniors to serve as delegates for the 64th Annual Washington Week Program, March 7-14, 2026. These two students will each receive a \$10,000 scholarship after attending all sessions scheduled for that week. All information is currently available on our [website](#).

- Any junior or senior holding an elected or appointed leadership position at school, in the community, in the state, or in the nation may qualify to [apply](#).
- The application will be posted on the [website](#). Once the [application](#) has been submitted, it will trigger the release of the list of essay topics and directions for the proctored writing session to the school sponsor. These topics are considered test-secure by the Hearst Foundation and should be treated accordingly.
- The deadline for portfolio submission has been extended to **October 10 at 11:59 p.m.** [Applications](#) will not be returned. Finalists will be notified by October 20.
- The national exam and interviews will be held on November 6 in Baton Rouge.
- Finalists will be notified by our office in December of their selection as a delegate or an alternate for the week of March 7-14, 2026.
- The delegates must be able to attend all scheduled events in Washington, D.C., from March 7 to 14, 2026, to receive the college scholarship.

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

## **School System Financial Services**

### **FY 2025-2026 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application**

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

The FY 2025-2026 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application is now available in the LDOE electronic grants management system (eGMS). The application deadline is October 10. Further information is provided on the eGMS homepage.

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

### **FY 2025-2026 First Quarter Financial Report**

**Please share with Type 2 and Type 5 business managers and financial officials.**

The FY 2025-2026 First Quarter Financial Report for Type 2 and Type 5 charter schools is due on October 31. The quarterly report template is included in the workbook used to submit the annual operating budget. Charter systems are required to submit the entire workbook with updates to the Quarter 1 Budget tab. The First Quarter Financial Report should contain year-to-date actual information from July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025, along with budgeted data for FY 2025-2026. If an organization operates more than one charter school, a separate financial report must be submitted for each charter school.

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

### **2025 Federal Year End Deadlines**

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

The below deadlines have been established by LDOE to ensure full utilization of federal funding. Failure to meet

these deadlines risks funding availability. The LDOE cannot guarantee the payment of late claims. Cooperation is appreciated in support of responsible stewardship of LDOE funds.

**Invoice and travel deadlines:** Approved/signed vendor invoices, contract billing forms, and travel expense statements must be submitted.

- November 15: For federal awards ended September 30, 2025

**LEA/Subgrantee eGMS claims and PER deadlines:**

- November 15: For federal awards ended September 30, 2025

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

### **FY 2025-2026 Nonpublic Textbooks Application**

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

The FY 2025-2026 Nonpublic Textbooks Application will be available on October 8 in the LDOE electronic grants management system (eGMS). All applicants are encouraged to ensure that the Nonpublic Textbooks contact information is updated and saved in eGMS. Please ensure that orders for textbooks, etc. are received by the eligible nonpublic school during the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to be eligible for reimbursement.

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