

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: October 8, 2024

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Message from the Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

October is National Principal Month. The progress we've made over the past few years would not have been possible without the leadership of Louisiana's principals. As we look ahead, I want to call attention to four of Louisiana's Education Priorities where these instructional leaders can continue to drive academic success.

Literacy instruction aligned to the Science of Reading: By aligning teaching practices to the Science of Reading, principals ensure students are mastering foundational reading skills grounded in evidence-based strategies.

Math instruction from foundational to advanced skills: Across the nation, and here in Louisiana, students tend to decline in math as they advance from elementary to middle and high. Strong foundational math skills can serve as building blocks to help our state reverse this national trend.

High school opportunities effectively preparing graduates: Principals help ensure that every student graduates ready for a career, college, or service by expanding access to work-based learning and early college opportunities.

Quality teachers for every student: Principals' efforts to recruit, retain, and support high-quality educators are essential to providing students with the best possible instruction.

By leading efforts in literacy instruction, strengthening foundational math skills, preparing graduates for life beyond high school, and ensuring every classroom has a quality teacher, principals will continue to shape the future of education in Louisiana.

Dr. Cade Brumley

State Superintendent of Education

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- High School Science Support Monthly Call: [October 9 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Local-Authorizer Monthly Call: [October 9 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [October 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- BESE-Authorized Charter Monthly Call: [October 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [October 10 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [October 15 at 3 p.m.](#)
- EdLink Workforce Dashboard Office Hours: [October 16 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Act 260 Numeracy Training Office Hours: [October 16 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [October 16 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Certification and Credentialing Monthly Call: [October 21 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [October 22 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Monthly Call: [October 22 at 2 p.m.](#)
- K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Overview Webinar: [October 23 at 9 a.m.](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [October 23 at 2 p.m.](#)
- K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Overview Webinar: [October 24 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Staffing Data Collection Webinar: [October 24 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [October 30 at 10 a.m.](#)
- System Leaders Call: [November 1 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [December 3 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- EEF Application Deadline: October 10
- [School Support Institutes/System Leader Regional Collaborations](#) Session 2: October 15-23
- 2025-2026 In-Person Super App Launch during LASAFAP: October 17
- 2025-2026 Super App Virtual Launch: [October 22 at 10 a.m.](#)

Teaching and Learning

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

LEADS Louisiana Educator Rubric and Evaluation Training Opportunity

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

The Division of Educator Talent and Workforce Development will offer an additional three-day Louisiana Educator Rubric and Evaluation Training for newly hired evaluators. This training will take place at University View Academy in Baton Rouge on October 22-24. [Registration](#) is now available.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

LES Update

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

The Louisiana Evaluator System (LES) has been on a phased rollout [plan](#) and is now live. Users should have MyLA credentials in order to access [EdLink Security](#) for LES. Collaborating with the LES system contact and data/security managers in this rollout process is encouraged. Once default evaluators have been set, data can be placed in the system.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions or to schedule support sessions.

2023-2024 Evaluation Close-Out

Please share with data managers, human resource directors, school leaders, and system leaders.

VAM has been released into CIS. Evaluation data for 2023-2024 will be finalized in [CIS](#). The deadline to enter or [upload](#) 2023-2024 evaluation data for teachers, counselors, and librarians is November 29. Leader evaluations will be due following the release of School Performance Scores (SPS) this winter.

As a reminder, all 2024-2025 evaluation data will be entered directly into LES for all schools, regardless of the chosen evaluation type; there will be no transfer of scores or spreadsheet uploads.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Evaluation Resources

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

Resources continue to be added to the [LEADS Library](#) to assist in the implementation of educator evaluation. The 2024-2025 Principal Goal Setting Toolkits for [Combination Schools](#), [High Schools](#), and [K-8 Schools](#) are now available. Principals may use 2022-2023 state and local data along with estimated 2023-2024 local data to set 2024-2025 goals. Additionally, [Sample Observation Schedule A](#) and [Sample Observation Schedule B](#) are available to assist with creating comprehensive school observation schedules.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

Education Excellence Fund: Application Submission Deadline

Please share with superintendents, school leaders, EEF coordinators, and business managers.

The Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application was released in eGMS on September 18 and will remain open until October 10. The eGMS system will stop allowing submission of the 2024-2025 EEF application at the close of business on October 10. Once the application submission deadline has passed, there will be no additional opportunity to submit the 2024-2025 EEF application due to legislative approval timelines.

The LDOE is encouraging all interested and eligible entities to log in to eGMS to create and submit applications by the due date.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

LA GATOR Data Collection

Please share with data managers and school leaders.

At the direction of the Legislature, as outlined in [Act 1 of the 2024 Legislative Session](#), all LEAs must submit information on the number of students that could be served per grade level for the 2024-2025 school year (capacity) for all sites within their district. The LDOE will then utilize your SIS October 1 submission to identify the number of students to determine available capacity.

In order to complete this submission, please work with your superintendent (or designee) to complete the spreadsheet located in your FTP entitled "Site Code Data_LEA Code." Please upload the completed spreadsheet into the [Act 1 \(LA GATOR\) Seat Capacity Data Collection Jotform](#) for submission by **November 1**.

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.

Assessment Literacy: Local Assessment System Review

Please share with school leaders and system leaders.

The LDOE and Center for Assessment (CFA) will be teaming up with leaders from local schools and school systems (November 2024 to May 2025) to lead them through a Local Assessment System Review Process. This process is designed to evaluate the structure, efficiency, and usefulness of each school or system's specific assessment system. The CFA partners will also use the review findings to assist in creating evidence-based action plans to support local system objectives. If interested in this opportunity, please join the informational webinar for more details.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 9 at 3:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88266944873?pwd=bQnpTim1YZyTlHUpAg1xJ9R8vFaiih.1>
- **Meeting Phone Number:** 646-568-7788
- **Meeting ID:** 882 6694 4873
- **Meeting Passcode:** 058030

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

2024-2025 High School Planning Guide

Please share with high school counselors, school administrators, and district administrators.

The [2024-2025 Louisiana High School Planning Guidebook](#) is now available on the LDOE [Graduation Requirements](#) webpage. This guidebook consolidates the policies and programs most relevant to high school educators as they plan for this academic year and prepare every student for college and career success. The Louisiana High School Planning Guidebook is published annually.

Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.

Funding for Internships

Please share with CTE supervisors.

HB 1 provides one-time legislative funding in the amount of \$1,000 per course/student for internship experiences. Prior to releasing funds, the school system must submit documentation to validate that the student enrollments meet the [work-based learning requirements](#). For more information visit the [LDOE website](#).

Please contact stephanie.marcum@la.gov with questions.

College Board: AP Precalculus Webinar

Please share with AP teachers, testing coordinators, high school counselors, and high school administrators.

College Board is offering a [webinar](#) where they will take a deep dive into the [AP Precalculus](#) course framework. The webinar will also offer support for schools offering AP Precalculus in their schools/districts.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** November 12 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://tinyurl.com/yh5n4vfy&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1727973042404668&usg=AOvVaw1d8pUew2lLOr7P0u0JibiH>
- **Webinar Phone Number/Conference ID:** 1-469-225-3872; 313 019 714#
- **Meeting ID (Microsoft Teams):** 213 813 266 266
- **Passcode:** LkxcAb

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

National School Bus Curriculum Training

Please share with transportation administrators, special education administrators, occupational therapists, and physical therapists.

The LDOE is offering an opportunity for school systems to send a team of personnel for training on Child Passenger Safety. School teams should consist of one personnel from each department: transportation administrators, special education administrators, occupational therapists, and physical therapists.

[Registration](#) for school system teams is open now. Sessions will be closed when the maximum capacity of 20 participants is reached.

The [National School Bus Curriculum](#) is an eight hour course that provides an overview of the use of child safety restraint systems on school buses, with a focus on children with disabilities and chronic conditions.

Participants will:

- Learn about federal, state and local laws, crash dynamics and forces, and occupant protection.
- Understand the types of occupant protection available on school buses and how to assess and select appropriate child safety restraints for students with disabilities.
- Gain practical skills in installing child safety restraint systems on buses and securing occupants properly.
- Learn procedures for wheelchair securement and emergency evacuation.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Deadline: October 15 for 2025-2026 BESE and Brumfield v. Dodd Approval Application

Please share with nonpublic school leaders.

Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval must apply annually for approval by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). To become eligible for state and federal funding, 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](#) is now available through October 15. Late applications cannot be accepted. The 2025-2026 Brumfield v. Dodd Application is accessible within the BESE application.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2024-2025 Nonpublic Textbooks Application

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

The FY 2024-2025 Nonpublic Textbooks Application is now available 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, 2024 to June 30, 2025 to be eligible for reimbursement.

Please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

FY 2024-2025 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

The FY 2024-2025 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 with questions.

FY 2024-2025 First Quarter Financial Report

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

The FY 2024-2025 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, 2024 to September 30, 2024, along with budgeted data for FY 2024-2025. 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 with questions.