



LDOE Weekly Newsletter: September 22, 2026

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Message from the State Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

Every teacher understands the impact of an empty desk. Even the best lesson can't reach a student who isn't there.

This Attendance Awareness Month, Louisiana has progress to report. Truancy has dropped four years in a row, and chronic absenteeism has declined two years running. Still, too many students regularly miss school.

Two years ago, we created a designated LDOE attendance team to support schools and systems. Our team works in schools and classrooms with Louisiana teachers and leaders. They've made over 80 connections with systems so far this school year.

Addressing truancy and chronic absenteeism expands beyond the education community. It's encouraging to see increased collaboration at the state and local levels with child welfare, the courts, law enforcement, and faith-based communities. If a partner isn't at your table yet, invite them.

Our Power of Presence plan, resources, and attendance team contact information are on our [attendance page](#).

Thank you for showing up for Louisiana students.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Computer Science Office Hours: [September 24 at 10 a.m.](#)
- EdLink 360 Office Hours: [September 29 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [September 29 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [September 30 at 10 a.m.](#)
- eScholar Office Hours: [October 1 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [October 1 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar: [October 1 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [October 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- BESE Authorized Monthly Call: [October 8 at 9 a.m.](#)
- EdTech Monthly Call: [October 8 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [October 13 at 2 p.m.](#)
- School Safety Monthly Call: [October 14 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Local Authorizer Monthly Call: [October 14 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: [October 15 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [October 19 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [October 28 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- EEF Technical Assistance Webinar 2: [September 24 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year and School Health Service Provider of the Year School System Information and Participation Level Survey Due: [September 25](#)
- Teacher/Principal of the Year, New Teacher of the Year, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Nominations Due: [September 30](#)
- JS 2.0 Enhancement Requests Due: [October 1](#)
- Writing Learning Series for ELA Instructional Leaders: [October 6 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Applications for [United States Senate Youth Program](#) due: [October 9 at 12:59 p.m.](#)
- The Technology Readiness Tool (TRT) submission window closes: [October 15](#)
- Science Leader Webinar 3: Targeted Support for Amplify Users: [October 19 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Grantee Readiness — Program Design & Operational Structure Webinar: [October 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Science Leader Webinar 4: Targeted Support for Open Sci Ed Users: [October 21 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- Science Leader Webinar 5: Targeted Support for PhD Science Users: [November 5 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Grantee Readiness — Program Evaluation, Data Collection & Reporting Webinar: [November 17 at 10 a.m.](#)

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for the full schedule.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews

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

The LDOE conducts ongoing reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. View all tiered reviews on the [annotated reviews](#) webpage and the status of all instructional materials submissions in the [weekly report](#).

Newly rated Tier 1 materials are listed below.

K-12 Social Studies

- Gallopade International, Inc. - Gallopade Curriculum for Louisiana Social Studies, Grade 2 (©2025)

Early Childhood Education

- Teacher Created Materials, Inc. - Explore & Learn, Pre-K Ages 4-5 (©2025)

To support a seamless transition to the revised K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, the LDOE is conducting standards-alignment cover page reviews of currently posted Tier 1 ELA, ELA intensive intervention, and mathematics materials. These reviews determine whether the materials align with the revised standards. View the status of the cover page reviews in the [ELA and Math Standards Alignment Review Status Report](#).

The following titles retained their Tier 1 status following cover page review:

K-12 ELA

- Amplify Education, Inc. - Amplify ELA, Grades 6-8 (©2019)

3-12 Foundations of Reading Intensive Intervention

- Curriculum Associates, LLC - Phonics for Reading, ELA Intervention Grades 3-8 (©2025)

K-12 Mathematics

- Carnegie Learning Inc. - High School Math Learning Solutions, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II (©2019)
- Carnegie Learning Inc. - Middle School Math Learning Solutions, Grades 6-8 (©2018)
- Edmentum Inc. Louisiana - Algebra I (©2021)
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Into Math, Grades 6-8 (©2020)

Beginning June 2027, the following titles will no longer be considered Tier 1 as they do not align with the revised Louisiana Student Standards:

K-12 Mathematics

- McGraw Hill LLC - Reveal Math, Grades K-2 (©2022)
- Savvas Learning Company LLC - enVision Mathematics, Grades K-5 (©2020)

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

Literacy Screening Gifted Referral Data Collection

Please share with special education directors and gifted coordinators.

Louisiana R.S. 17:24.9 mandates school systems to report the number of students identified for referral for gifted evaluation for literacy screening administration for Kindergarten through Grade 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

Please [submit](#) the Beginning-of-Year (BOY) gifted referral data by **October 16**.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with any questions.

Rethinking Child Count and Education Environments

Please share with special education directors.

Child Count is one of the most important data collections in special education, supporting accurate reporting, funding, and a clear understanding of how students with disabilities are served across Louisiana. The Division of

Diverse Learners is offering a support session, Rethinking Child Count and Education Environments, to provide valuable insight into Child Count processes, reporting requirements, and educational environments.

Two virtual sessions are available on **September 24**:

- [10:00 a.m.](#)
- [2:00 p.m.](#)

Participants may attend the session that best fits their schedule. Both sessions will cover the same content.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with any questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Spring 2027 BESE Tuition Program for Teachers Applications Now Open

Please share with teachers.

The [BESE Tuition Program for Teachers](#) provides tuition funding for selected classroom teachers to enroll in courses at regionally accredited colleges or universities in Louisiana. [Online applications](#) for coursework funding for the Spring 2027 semester will **close October 16**. Program details, as well as a link to the application, can be found on the [Continuing Opportunities for Educators page](#).

For questions about the BESE Tuition Program for Teachers, visit the [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) or contact louisianaleaders@la.gov.

Pre-Educator Pathway System and Teacher Lead Support Webinar

Please share with Pre-Educator system and teacher leaders.

The Pre-Educator Pathway System & Teacher Lead Support Webinars are virtual opportunities for Pre-Educator Pathway/Grow Your Own Leads to share best practices related to developing and expanding access to the Pre-Educator Pathway. All school systems are encouraged to attend regardless of current pathway status.

- Webinar date/time: October 7 at 3 p.m.
- Webinar link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97776330505?pwd=TXpgzqXfZEaba3CdProil8bVeUkLCA.1>
- Meeting ID: 977 7633 0505
- Meeting Passcode: 261897
- Phone: 470-381-2552

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

2026-2027 LEADS Implementation On-Site Extensions

Please share with human resource directors and system leaders.

As a reminder, the deadline to complete a [LEADS On-Site Extension Request](#) is **September 23**. The [LEADS Implementation On-Site Extensions](#) provide system and school leaders with hands-on support in authentic school settings to deepen their understanding of the educator evaluation process, strengthen evaluator reliability, and build coaching capacity.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Dyslexia Professional Learning Opportunities

Please share with system leaders, school leaders, and educators supporting students with dyslexia.

The Dyslexia Lunch and Learn series is offering monthly, 30-minute professional learning sessions to inform educators on current dyslexia research and its practical implications for instruction and intervention. Please join us for the first webinar session using the link below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Friday, September 25 at 12 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96459663464?pwd=b7CfySf3SbHjLaKtLneUl6IVZxqhCT.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID#:** 964 5966 3464
- **Meeting Passcode:** 193540

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Charter Schools

BESE Authorized Charter School Submissions

Please share with BESE-Authorized charter schools and system leaders.

October Submissions:

As outlined in the [Charter School Reporting Calendar](#), the following items are to be submitted in October: Quarterly Waitlist (Q2), Pupil Progression Plan (PPP), TPOY - Opens, NTOY - Opens, ECTL - Opens, IDEA Audit, IDEA Count, APR Indicator Identification for Monitoring, IDEA Count Final Run, Quarter 1 Financial Report, Technology Readiness Tool, Health and Physical Education in Schools Survey, Alternate Assessment Participation Review

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2025-2026 Annual Financial Report (AFR) Submission

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Louisiana R.S. 17:92 requires that local school systems and charter schools provide financial data to the LDOE no later than September 30 each year. The annual financial report is to be submitted via the EdLink AFR portal. The AFR documents that are needed to assist in the submission of the AFR can be found in the Business Manager Support Library. Please be reminded that in order to receive an Excellent rating on the Fiscal Risk Assessment, school systems must submit an initial AFR by September 30, and must have a clean and final AFR by October 31.

Please contact staudit@la.gov with questions.

FY 2026-2027 General Fund Budget Submission

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Louisiana R.S. 17:88 requires that city/parish school boards submit an adopted balanced budget to the Department no later than September 30 each year. The required documents must be submitted to the department no later than the close of business on September 30, 2026. Required forms and instructions are located in the Business Manager Support Library in the section entitled City/Parish School System Resources, General Fund Budget.

Please contact schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

FY 2026-2027 MFP Weighted Student Funding Calculation

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Accountability for MFP Weighted Funds is required by R.S. 17:7(2)(f)(i). Funds generated in the MFP formula by applying the weights are required to be expended on personnel, professional services, instructional materials, equipment, and supplies that serve the unique needs of students who generate such funds. The FY 2026-2027 MFP Weighted Student Fund Calculation is available in the MFP Library.

Please contact ldoemfphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Professional Improvement Plan (PIP)

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Program Guidelines and Forms for the Professional Improvement Program (PIP) are available in participating school systems' edFin FTP site. The participants' reports are also available in the edFin FTP site. Participants' updates and/or submission of changes must be submitted via email to PIPFinancehelpdesk@la.gov by September 30.

Please contact PIPFinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Seeking Nominations for Excellent Educators

Please share with teachers, school and school system leaders.

The LDOE recognizes that exceptional teachers and school leaders play a vital role in student success. Each year, the LDOE honors outstanding educators through the following recognition programs:

- Teacher and Principal of the Year
- Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year
- New Teacher of the Year (*Candidates for the New Teacher of the Year program must have less than one year of teaching experience.*)

An important part of the selection process is receiving nominations from those who have witnessed these educators' impact firsthand, including teachers, principals, school system employees, parents, colleagues, students, and community members.

The [nominations portal](#) is open and will remain available through September 30. Multiple nominations, including self-nominations, are encouraged. After the nomination period closes, all nominations will be shared with the appropriate school systems for consideration during their local selection process.

Please share the [nominations portal](#) with your stakeholders and encourage them to recognize the outstanding educators making a difference in Louisiana's schools.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions about Teacher/Principal of the Year, mentorandcontentleaders@la.gov with questions about New Teacher of the Year, or brandee.david@la.gov with questions about Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year.

Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year and School Health Service Provider of the Year — Application Process Now Open

Please share with educators, school and school system leaders.

The LDOE has opened the 2026–2027 application process for the Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year and School Health Service Provider of the Year programs.

School systems are encouraged to submit outstanding candidates who demonstrate exceptional dedication, service, and impact on students, schools, and their communities.

Applications:

- [Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year Online Application](#)
- [School Health Service Provider of the Year Online Application](#)

Application Information & Materials

Applicants can access application information, program guidelines, rubrics, and other helpful materials on the [Staff and Educator Awards](#) webpage.

Informational Webinars

To support applicants throughout the process, LDOE will host [informational webinars](#) during the application window. The webinars will provide an overview of each program, review the application process and requirements, and offer an opportunity to ask questions.

For questions about the Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year or School Health Service Provider of the Year, please contact excellenteducators@la.gov.