



LDOE Weekly Newsletter: September 29, 2026

In This Issue

[Important Dates for School Systems](#)

[Teaching and Learning](#)

[Operations and Federal Programs](#)

[Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)

[Career and College Readiness](#)

[School Choice](#)

[School System Financial Services](#)

[School System Relations](#)

Message from the State Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

The College Board released 2026 Advanced Placement (AP®) results today, and it was more good news for Louisiana education. Since 2019, Louisiana has posted the largest increase of any state in the share of AP Exams earning a qualifying score.

Louisiana's AP score rate has improved at more than twice the national rate of growth in that timespan and now sits just two points off the national average. You can read more about the statewide data on our [website](#). School system and school data will be released later this year.

I'm grateful for the work of high school students, teachers, counselors, and principals. Louisiana is setting a higher bar for what it means to be ready after high school. This growth in performance shows that students can meet college-level expectations and begin their next steps before graduation.

Thank you,

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [September 30 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [October 1 at 8 a.m.](#)
- eScholar Office Hours: [October 1 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar: [October 1 at 1 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Call: [October 2 at 9 a.m.](#)
- EdLink 360 Office Hours: [October 6 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [October 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [October 6 at 3 p.m.](#)
- BESE-Authorized Monthly Call: [October 8 at 9 a.m.](#)
- EdTech Monthly Call: [October 8 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Principal Webinar: [October 8 at 1 p.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.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [October 15 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [October 19 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [October 21 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Safe and Healthy Schools CoP Quarterly Call: [October 22 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [October 28 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Annual Financial Report (AFR) Due: September 30
- General Fund Budget Submission Due: September 30
- 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 the [United States Senate Youth Program](#) Due: [October 9 at 11:59 p.m.](#)
- Technology Readiness Tool (TRT) Submission Window Closes: [October 15](#)
- School Physical Activity Award Nominations Due: [October 16](#)
- 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.](#)
- 2027-2028 Super App Launch Session at LAFEPFA Fall Conference (In-Person): [October 29](#)
- Science Leader Webinar 5: Targeted Support for PhD Science Users: [November 5 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- 2027-2028 Super App Virtual Launch Session: [November 12 at 10 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

Updated Guidance: Artificial Intelligence in Louisiana Schools

Please share with technology, school, and system leaders.

Updated [Artificial Intelligence in Louisiana Schools](#) guidance provides new and expanded support for teachers, schools, and systems. Grounded in the AI Literacy Framework, the guidance aligns with Louisiana's Comprehensive Plan for AI and includes AI competencies for leaders, teachers, and students; an AI evaluation tool, and resources to support AI literacy and responsible use within K-12 classrooms.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

2026-2027 Annual Dyslexia Reporting

Please share with special education leaders and 504 coordinators.

School systems are required to annually report the number of students with dyslexia currently enrolled and the number of students with dyslexia initially identified in the prior school year. 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 with questions.

English Learner (EL) Tiered Impact Calls

Please share with EL directors and coordinators.

EL Tiered Impact Calls will take place in October from 1–2 p.m. via Zoom. Systems should participate in the call that corresponds to their current EL population. These calls provide targeted support that reflects the different needs, structures, and capacities of systems based on their EL populations.

Tier 1: 1–100 ELs — October 8 | [Join the Tier 1 call](#)

Tier 2: 101–999 ELs — October 15 | [Join the Tier 2 call](#)

Tier 3: 1,000+ ELs — October 22 | [Join the Tier 3 call](#)

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

English Learner (EL) Institute

Please share with EL directors and coordinators.

The next EL Institute will take place January 26, 2027. This statewide professional learning opportunity will bring EL directors and coordinators together to receive updates, strengthen practices for supporting ELs, and collaborate with colleagues across the state. The January Institute will focus on English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) data, accountability, and instructional practices that support language growth and proficiency.

[Register](#) for the EL Institute by January 19, 2027.

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

Teacher Series: Professional Learning for Supporting English Learners

Please share with teacher leaders, instructional coaches, content leaders, and teachers.

The teacher series professional learning courses are designed to strengthen instruction and support for English learners. The series includes Supporting ELs with Disabilities, with a focus on support prior to referral, the referral process, and support after eligibility; Supporting ELs During Math Instruction; Supporting ELs During ELA Instruction; and Supporting ELs During Science Instruction. Each content-specific course focuses on practical strategies for addressing language demands while maintaining access to grade-level instruction.

Teacher leaders can use the series to support instructional planning, teacher collaboration, and professional learning within their schools. [Access the teacher series here.](#)

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

2026-2027 High Cost Services Webinar

Please share with special education supervisors and finance contacts.

The LDOE established a High Cost Services Grant to support school systems and schools that serve students with the most significant needs. This grant is intended to provide additional funding for high-cost special education services for students with disabilities. Apply through the state's electronic Grants Management System (eGMS).

The 2026-2027 High Cost Services Webinar will be held on [October 5](#) at 9 a.m. and [October 7](#) at 9 a.m.

Submissions for Round 1 of High Cost Services must be completed by October 16. Round 2 of High Cost Services will begin on October 19.

Please contact hillary.robinson2@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Principals Aspiring for Career Excellence (PACE) Site Visits

Please share with experienced school leaders.

[PACE site visits](#) provide opportunities to explore innovative practices, gain fresh ideas and practical strategies, see leadership practices in action, build meaningful professional connections, and collaborate around real challenges. Register for one of the dates below.

- [October 27](#): Denham Springs Junior High; Justin Wax, 2026 Principal of the Year
- [October 28](#): Math, Science, and Arts Academy East; Dr. Amanda Austin, 2025 Principal of the Year
- [October 29](#): Central High School; Brandon LaGroue, 2025 High School Principal of the Year

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

2025-2026 Value-Added Model (VAM) Results

Please share with system and school leaders.

VAM results and reports will be released on October 5 in the [Louisiana Educator Portal](#). The deadline to finalize educator evaluations in LES is November 30. The deadline for finalizing leader evaluations will be provided at a later date following the release of School Performance Scores.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.

Operations and Federal Programs

School System Planning

2027-2028 School System Planning Launch

Please share with system leaders, business managers, and federal program directors.

The LDOE will launch the 2027-2028 Next Level Vision for Success School System Planning & Budgeting Workbook and accompanying resources through a series of in-person and virtual sessions beginning this fall.

2027-2028 Super App Launch and Office Hours:

- 2027-2028 Super App Launch Session at LAFEPA Fall Conference (In-Person): [October 29](#)
- 2027-2028 Super App Virtual Launch Session: [November 12 at 10 a.m.](#)
- 2027-2028 Super App Planning Office Hours: [December 10 at 10 a.m.](#)
- 2027-2028 Super App Planning Office Hours: [January 14 at 10 a.m.](#)

Please contact LDOEOperations@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

Assessment Development Committees

Please share with system leaders and educators.

The LDOE will convene assessment committees for the LEAP and LEAP Connect assessments in January to

- review newly developed LEAP Connect items for alignment and content-related criteria; and
- review proposed English language arts passages to ensure the selections align with content standards, are clearly worded with grade-appropriate language, and are appropriate for all Louisiana students.

Interested educators should access the [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#) document for information. The deadline to complete the application is November 16.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP Grades 3-8 Enrollment Verification and Selection of Paper-based Testing

Please share with testing coordinators and school leaders.

DRC INSIGHT is hosting a grades 3-8 enrollment verification from September 22-October 16. District test coordinators must:

- Select delivery dates for materials
- Confirm enrollment counts for paper-based materials and accommodated materials
- Confirm selection of grade 3 paper-based testing

Schools will not be able to select grade 3 paper-based testing once the enrollment window in DRC INSIGHT closes on October 16.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Career Coaches and Career Coach Vendors

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

As a result of [Act 413 \(2026\)](#), the LDOE will provide a list of career coach vendors that school systems may use starting January 2027 on the [Professional Learning Partner Guide](#).

Vendor applications open Thursday, October 1 on the [LDOE Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) platform.

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

Fall 2026 Counselor Institute Sessions

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

Registration for the Fall 2026 Counselor Institute sessions are available through Eventbrite. This fall, sessions will focus on legislative updates and requirements that affect students in grades K-12.

Session dates, locations, and registration links are below:

- **October 8:** [Rapides Parish](#) (Gladys Higdon Instructional Resource Center - *waitlist*)
- **October 13:** [Bossier Parish](#) (Bossier Instructional Center)
- **October 23:** [East Baton Rouge Parish](#) (Claiborne Building - *waitlist*)
- **October 30:** [Jefferson Parish](#) (Jefferson Parish Board Room)

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

School Choice

Charter Schools

2026-2027 Annual RFA Informational Sessions

Please share with school system leaders and district charter personnel.

Beginning this fall, the LDOE will host informational sessions for applicants interested in the Charter Request for Applications process. Informational sessions will be offered twice monthly and are designed for applicants interested in applying as a Type 2 or 4 charter.

Refer to the available dates below and [register for an informational session](#). All sessions will be held at 10 a.m.

- October 5 or 19
- November 2 or 16
- December 7 or 14
- January 4 or 11

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

Executive Order Allocation Funding Release

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

The Governor's Executive Order 26-047 reserves \$168 million of the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) allocation to be expended toward classroom teachers and support employees stipends and/or pay raises.

The LDOE will release funds to school systems upon the receipt of information contained within [the data request survey](#) detailing the plans adopted by the school board for implementation of a stipend and/or pay raise of \$2,000 for classroom teachers and \$1,000 for support employees.

The data request survey must be submitted by October 30. Payments will be released to school systems upon review and approval of the information received within the data request survey. The [executive order guidance](#) is available in the [MFP Library](#) to answer questions on how a school system demonstrates compliance using the redirected funds governed by Executive Order 26-047.

Please contact schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

School Physical Activity Award Nominations Open through October 16

Please share with educators and school system leaders.

The [nominations portal](#) for the 2026–2027 School Physical Activity Award program is open through October 16. All stakeholders are welcome to submit nominations, and self-nominations are also encouraged.

At the close of the nomination period, submissions will be shared with local school systems for consideration through their local selection process.

Application Information & Materials

The application process will open on October 20. At that time, the application information, program guidelines, rubrics, and other helpful materials will be available on the [Schools and School System Awards](#) webpage.

Informational Webinars

To support applicants throughout the process, the LDOE will host an informational webinar during the application window. The webinar will provide an overview of the program, review the application process and requirements, and offer an opportunity to ask questions.

Webinar Date and Time: October 21 at 9 a.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97861583930>

Meeting Passcode: 217815

Webinar Phone Number: 470-250-9358

Meeting ID#: 978 6158 3930

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.