

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: April 28, 2026

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [April 29 at 10 a.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [May 1 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [May 5 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [May 7 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Local Authorizer Monthly Call: [May 13, at 11 a.m.](#)
- BESE Authorized Monthly Call: [May 14, at 9 a.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [May 14 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Attendance Office Hours: [May 21 at 8:30 a.m.](#)
- Computer Science Office Hours: [May 21 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: [May 21 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [May 21 at 3 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- High-Dosage Tutoring: Quarter 3 Fiscal Reporting Due: [April 30](#)
- SPED Fellow Academy Application Deadline: [May 1](#)
- Science Grades 6-8 Implementation Guidance Update Webinar Option 1: [May 6 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- Title IV, Part A Waiver Application Process Webinar: [May 6 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Science Grades 6-8 Implementation Guidance Update Webinar Option 2: [May 8 at 8:30 a.m.](#)
- 2026 Mid-Year RFA Informational Session Option 1: [May 13 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Science Grades 6-8 Implementation Guidance Update Webinar Option 3: [May 13 at 1:30 p.m.](#)
- Summer Feeding Applications Due: [May 18](#)
- 2026 Mid-Year RFA Informational Session Option 2: [May 20 at 9 a.m.](#)
- 2024-2025 Seclusion and Restraint Verification Forms Due [May 31](#)
- 2026 Mid-Year RFA Informational Session Option 3: [June 3 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Mental Health in Schools Survey Deadline: [June 30](#)
- Behavioral Health in Schools Survey Deadline: [June 30](#)

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

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

OpenSciEd Grades 6-8 Guidance for 2026-2027

Please share with science content supervisors and system leaders.

The LDOE is developing new guidance for the 2026-2027 school year for all versions of grades 6-8 OpenSciEd. The transitional scope and sequence recommendations address feedback from Louisiana educators after years of implementation. The updates will include the following recommendations:

- The Ecosystem Dynamics unit will appear on both the Grade 6 and Grade 7 scope and sequences.
- The Genetics unit will appear on both the Grade 7 and Grade 8 scope and sequences.

The LDOE will host informational webinars this spring to provide further explanation of this guidance. School and system leaders may choose to attend one of the following webinars:

Webinar Option 1

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 6 at 9:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95611340785>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 956 1134 0785

Webinar Option 2

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 8 at 8:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97433796902>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 974 3379 6902

Webinar Option 3

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 14 at 1:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98940491433>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 989 40496 1433

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

2024-2025 Seclusion and Restraint Verification Forms

Please share with special education directors and gifted coordinators.

The 2024-2025 seclusion and restraint data is now available in the Data Management FTP. School systems should verify their data for accuracy, as these are the counts that will be used to run the analysis and data disaggregation for the public report. If the data does not accurately reflect seclusions and restraints in your school system for the 2024-2025 school year, update the information in SER by May 29. In accordance with Act 479, the signed attestation and the updated policy are due May 31 via [JotForm](#).

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

FFY 2023-2024 Final LEA Determinations

Please share with special education directors and gifted coordinators.

The LDOE is required to issue a determination to each school system on the provision of special education and related services under IDEA, which are called LEA Determinations.

The final FFY 2023 LEA Determinations is available in the data management FTP in the Diverse Learners (Purge in 30 days) folder.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

SPED Fellow Academy Application

Please share with special education leaders, system leaders, and special education teachers.

The Division of Diverse Learners is excited to announce that the SPED Fellow Academy application for the 2026-2027 school year is now open! This opportunity is designed for novice special education leaders who are eager to grow their leadership skills, enhance their expertise, and make a lasting impact in the field of special education.

The [application](#) will close May 1.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

New Teacher Experience (NTE) Transitions to System-Based Model

Please share with system leaders, school leaders and HR directors.

Beginning in 2026–2027, Louisiana’s New Teacher Experience (NTE) will transition to a system-based [Train-the-Trainer model](#). Systems will send 2–4 facilitators to three required training days in June and November, then deliver all five NTE modules locally using LDOE materials. [Registration](#) is now open.

Please contact mentorandcontentleaders@la.gov with questions.

LES Evaluation End-of-Year Tasks

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

Systems may begin finalizing educator evaluations in the Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) portal. All educators and evaluators should log in to [LES](#) and complete any remaining end-of-year tasks, including SLTs, self-assessments, and observations, to ensure evaluations are finalized.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

2026–2027 Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring Workbook

Please share with system leaders.

The [2026–2027 Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring Workbook](#) is now available to support Act 771 planning for the upcoming school year. This resource is designed to help system leaders get ahead by analyzing data early to identify student needs and plan intentionally.

The workbook also supports key components of strong implementation, including staffing, scheduling, and progress monitoring. In addition, it will guide you in preparing your eGMS plan submission to ensure alignment and readiness for approval.

We encourage you to begin using this workbook now to set your team up for a strong launch.

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.

High-Dosage Tutoring: Quarter 3 Fiscal Reporting Due

Please share with system leaders.

Quarter 3 fiscal reporting for High-Dosage Tutoring (HDT) expenditures is due in eGMS by April 30.

Supporting documentation must be uploaded to match all reported expenditures, including:

- Salary and benefits for full- or part-time LEA staff providing tutoring, based on the percentage of time spent delivering high-dosage tutoring. Documentation should include staff names and amounts paid.
- Services provided by approved external tutoring providers.

Please refer to the [Accelerate: High Dosage Tutoring Guidance](#) document for additional details.

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

Teacher Leader Summit Session List

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

Our [event website](#) has many new features to explore to ensure attendees have all the information needed for the Teacher Leader Summit. Learn about our 500+ speakers and explore the 92 exhibitors participating in our Education Expo.

A full session list with session descriptions and target audiences will be available on the [event website](#) on **May 1**. Use this list for pre-planning. Be sure to have a few backup sessions in mind as sessions fill up quickly. On May 15, an email will be sent to all attendees with the TLS event ID and QR code for the Cvent app. Once attendees receive that email, they may begin adding sessions to their agenda in Cvent. Attendees will not be able to schedule sessions or access the event in Cvent until **May 15**.

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

Policy and Governmental Affairs

Federal Programs

Title IV, Part A Waiver Application Process Webinar

Please share with all LEA federal program directors.

The LDOE is hosting a webinar to provide general information on the Title IV, Part A Waiver Application. This webinar will outline the Title IV program requirements and provide a detailed, step-by-step guide to completing the application.

- **Date and Time:** May 6 at 10 a.m.
- **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93796886671>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552
- **Zoom Meeting ID:** 937 9688 6671

Please contact terri.byrd@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Mental Health in Schools Survey

Please share with principals or designees.

[R.S. 17:173.1](#) requires each public school to report at the end of each school year to the LDOE, by grade level, the number of screenings administered to students in grades 3-12 under its jurisdiction.

The deadline to submit the [Mental Health in Schools Survey](#) is June 30.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

Behavioral Health in Schools Survey

Please share with the school system leaders.

[R.S. 17:416.23](#) requires school systems to report the number of students having behavioral or emotional challenges, the number of students for whom a conference was scheduled, and the number of students referred for supportive services.

The deadline to submit the [Behavioral Health in Schools Survey](#) is June 30.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Charter Schools

BESE Authorized Charter School Submissions

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

As outlined in the [Charter School Reporting Calendar](#), the following items are to be submitted in May: Act 108, Board Financial Disclosures, Local SEAC Reporting, LEA Determination Review - Final Due, Literacy Screener Gifted Referral Data - MOY and EOY, SLT and Evaluator Ratings, Teacher Roster Verification for VAM, IDEA MOE Verification, ESSA MOE Verification.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.

2026 Mid-Year RFA Informational Sessions

Please share with school and system leaders.

The Office of School Choice will host informational sessions for the Mid-Year Application Cycle. Informational sessions are designed for applicants interested in applying as a Type 2 or 4 charter.

Available dates are listed below and interested parties may utilize the [Jotform](#) for registration:

- May 13 or 20 at 9 a.m.
- June 3 at 9 a.m

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.