



Teacher Leader Newsletter



September 2025



Hello, fellow educators! I am Tessa Cay Bryant Flournoy, the Principal of Brown Upper Elementary School in Webster Parish. I am also a Dyscalculia Interventionist and LDOE Certified Math Content Leader. I am overjoyed to be a part of the development of the first numeracy screener in Louisiana with other math educators across the state. The Numeracy Screener Assessment Committee's student-centered conversations are expected to have a lasting impact.

The mastery of numeracy skills is equally important as literacy for students. The Numeracy Screener intends to progressively check the pulse of mastery of foundational and important numeracy skills within grades K-3 at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year. As an advocate for math esteem and

dyscalculia awareness, I understand the importance of early identification of student strengths and areas for growth. This allows teachers and interventionists to plan effective interventions and pinpoint students who may require additional screening for disabilities and learning differences, setting students up for success early on. This pioneering initiative can help close the achievement gap for students across the state.

I am hopeful that the response to numeracy screening will lead to accelerated math learning similar to the reading revival that we have seen in the past few years in Louisiana. During this learning year of the Numeracy Screener, educators can look forward to providing feedback on the administration of the assessment. I encourage all educators to read the [Numeracy Screener FAQ](#) to find more information about the Numeracy Screener. Every teacher plays a vital role in student success, and knowing the purpose of the Numeracy Screener helps us move students forward together.

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NUMERACY RESOURCES

Math Night Activities

Planning a Math Night to engage your students and families? Check out the [Louisiana Math](#) page for [Math Night activities](#) aligned with the Louisiana Student Standards for Mathematics for grades K-8. Each grade level includes three engaging, hands-on activities to support learning and encourage family participation. These ready-to-use resources are designed to make math fun, interactive, and meaningful for everyone involved.

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.

SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

New Resources to Support English Learners

Educators can now access new resources that bring practical strategies and ready-to-use tools to support English Learners (ELs). Explore the [Manual for Special Education Referrals of ELs](#) for accurate referral guidance, the [Secondary English Learner Toolkit](#) for middle and high school strategies, and [Supporting ELs Through the Writing Process](#) for scaffolds that build strong writers. These ready-to-use tools are designed to support ELs and accelerate their growth across content areas.

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

ELA RESOURCES

ELA Guidebooks 6-8 Resources

The LDOE has updated the [ELA Guidebooks](#) webpage to include the [ELA Guidebooks 6-8 \(2024\) Standards Overview Document](#). This document provides information on student standards addressed in each grade-level unit, ensuring alignment and students' opportunities to meet the requirements of the grade-level standards.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

SOCIAL STUDIES RESOURCES

Social Studies Office Hours

The LDOE social studies team will hold its second office hours session of the 2025-2026 school year on October 1 at 3:15 p.m. This session will feature strategies for enhancing student engagement during guided reading. For access to past office hours slides and information on upcoming sessions, please refer to the [Social Studies Office Hours flyer](#) on the [K-12 Social Studies Planning](#) webpage.

Webinar Date and Time: October 1 at 3:15 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92800306323?pwd=eObx7y79EwbnVD7OGfK2nHap7GN7qV.1>

Webinar Phone Number: 346 248 7799

Meeting ID#: 928 0030 6323

Meeting Passcode: 644638

Please contact socialstudies@la.gov with questions.

Bayou Bridges and Foundations of Freedom Pacing Guides

The LDOE has released detailed alternate pacing guides for [Bayou Bridges: A K–8 Social Studies Curriculum](#) and [Foundations of Freedom: A Louisiana Civics Program](#). Developed by social studies educators, these guides offer standards-aligned pacing options that are coherent, flexible, and organized to support student needs. Units 1 and 2 are available now, and the remaining units will be released on a rolling basis. Teachers should utilize these pacing guides to adjust instruction and better meet the needs of their students.

Please contact socialstudies@la.gov with questions.

SCIENCE RESOURCES

Updated Implementation Guidance for High-Quality Science Instructional Materials

Following the release of the updated [2025 Science Released Items Guides](#), the Science Academic Content team has updated the LDOE Formative Assessment Resources in the Louisiana Guides to Implementing High-Quality Science Instructional Materials. These documents support teachers in integrating assessment resources within relevant high-quality science units. Updated implementation guidance documents are now available on the [K-12 Science Planning webpage](#) for grade 3, with additional grades to follow soon.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND STEM RESOURCES

New Micro-credential Program for K-5 Computer Science and STEM

We're excited to announce a new pathway for K-5 teachers to obtain a [certification add-on](#) in Computer Science and STEM! In partnership with Louisiana Tech University, the LDOE is offering a micro-credential program beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. Vouchers are available for the first 25 teachers to cover the \$450 program cost. Interested teachers may [register](#) now for the fall semester.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Energize Project Praxis (5652) Computer Science Content Exam Preparation for 6-12 Teachers

The [Energize Project](#) offers 40 hours of no-cost preparation to 6-12 teachers for the Praxis (5652) Computer Science content exam. Formats include virtual, hybrid, and in-person, with cohorts beginning this fall. The deadline to [register](#) for the fall online cohort is **September 29**.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Ignite Initiative: Computer Science for K-5 Teachers

The Ignite Initiative offers 24 hours of no-cost teacher training in computational thinking, block programming, and cyber safety. The training prepares K-5 teachers to integrate computer science education experiences into existing instruction. Cohorts are available in virtual, in-person, and hybrid formats, with the first cohort beginning this fall. Interested teachers may register using the [Ignite Initiative website](#).

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Transportation Research Center STEM Grant Opportunity

The Louisiana Transportation Research Center STEM Grant program will award grants of up to \$500 to full-time Louisiana K-12 classroom teachers to purchase STEM classroom activities and consumable materials for STEM lessons. Any STEM-discipline teacher may apply for this grant using the [online application](#). The application portal closes on **October 10**.

Please contact LTRCOutreach@la.gov with questions.

EDTECH

2025 LACUE Annual Conference

The [Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators \(LACUE\)](#) will host its annual conference December 9-11 at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans. This is an opportunity to connect with fellow educators, discover innovative classroom strategies, and explore the latest in edtech.

Interested in sharing information about a successful digital tool implementation? Educators are encouraged to submit a [presentation proposal](#). The deadline for proposals is **October 1**.

This is a fantastic chance to learn from inspiring speakers and network with peers from across the state. Lock in your discounted [registration](#) before the Early Bird pricing ends on **November 7**.

Please contact lacue@lacue.org with questions.

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

School Support, Health Provider, and Physical Activity Award Nominations Open

The LDOE is currently seeking nominations for the following awards initiatives:

- Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year
- School Health Service Provider of the Year
- School Physical Activity Awards

The [nomination portal](#) is now open and will close on **September 12**. Multiple nominations are accepted, as well as self-nominations. After the portal closes, school systems will receive the nomination information for their consideration. For more information about awards initiatives, please see the [Awards](#) page.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov or healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

Seeking Nominations for Excellent Educators

The LDOE is currently seeking nominations for the following awards initiatives:

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

Please submit nominations via the [nominations portal](#) by **September 30**. Multiple nominations are accepted, as well as self-nominations. After the portal closes, school systems will receive the nomination information for their consideration.

Please contact the following with questions:

- Teacher/Principal of the Year- excellenteducators@la.gov
- New Teacher of the Year- laurie.carlton@la.gov
- Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year- shallan.jones@la.gov

CONTACT US

For questions related to...	Contact:
AP Courses and Exams Contact	highschoolacademics@la.gov
Assessments and Related Supports	assessment@la.gov
Collaborations	districtsupport@la.gov
Compass	compass@la.gov
Content Leaders and Mentor Teachers	believeandprepare@la.gov
EdTech/Digital Learning	digitallearning@la.gov
Educational Leader Licensure Policy Update	believeandprepare@la.gov
Educator Background Credentialing	educatorclearance@la.gov
ELA and ELA Guidebooks	elaguidebooks@la.gov
Environmental Education	environmentaleducation@la.gov
Financial Aid Assistance	ldefinancial@la.gov
Graduation Requirements	highschoolacademics@la.gov
Instructional Support and Resources	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
Jump Start	jumpstart@la.gov
Literacy	louisianaliteracy@la.gov
Numeracy	math@la.gov
PD Vendor Guide	louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov
Pupil Progression Plan	ppp@la.gov
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit	ldoeevents@la.gov
STEM	STEM@la.gov
Teacher Certification	certification@la.gov
Teacher Leaders and Teacher Leader Advisors	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov