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Educational Technology Monthly Call

December 8, 2022

https://bit.ly/EdTech-Dec2022

Agenda

- Digital Learning Updates
- Cybersecurity
- Emergency Connectivity Fund, E-Rate, and ACP
- Important Reminders and Other Information

Suggested participants
for this call:

- Chief Technology Officers
- Information Technology Staff
- E-Rate Coordinators
- Privacy Coordinators
- Digital or Virtual Learning Staff
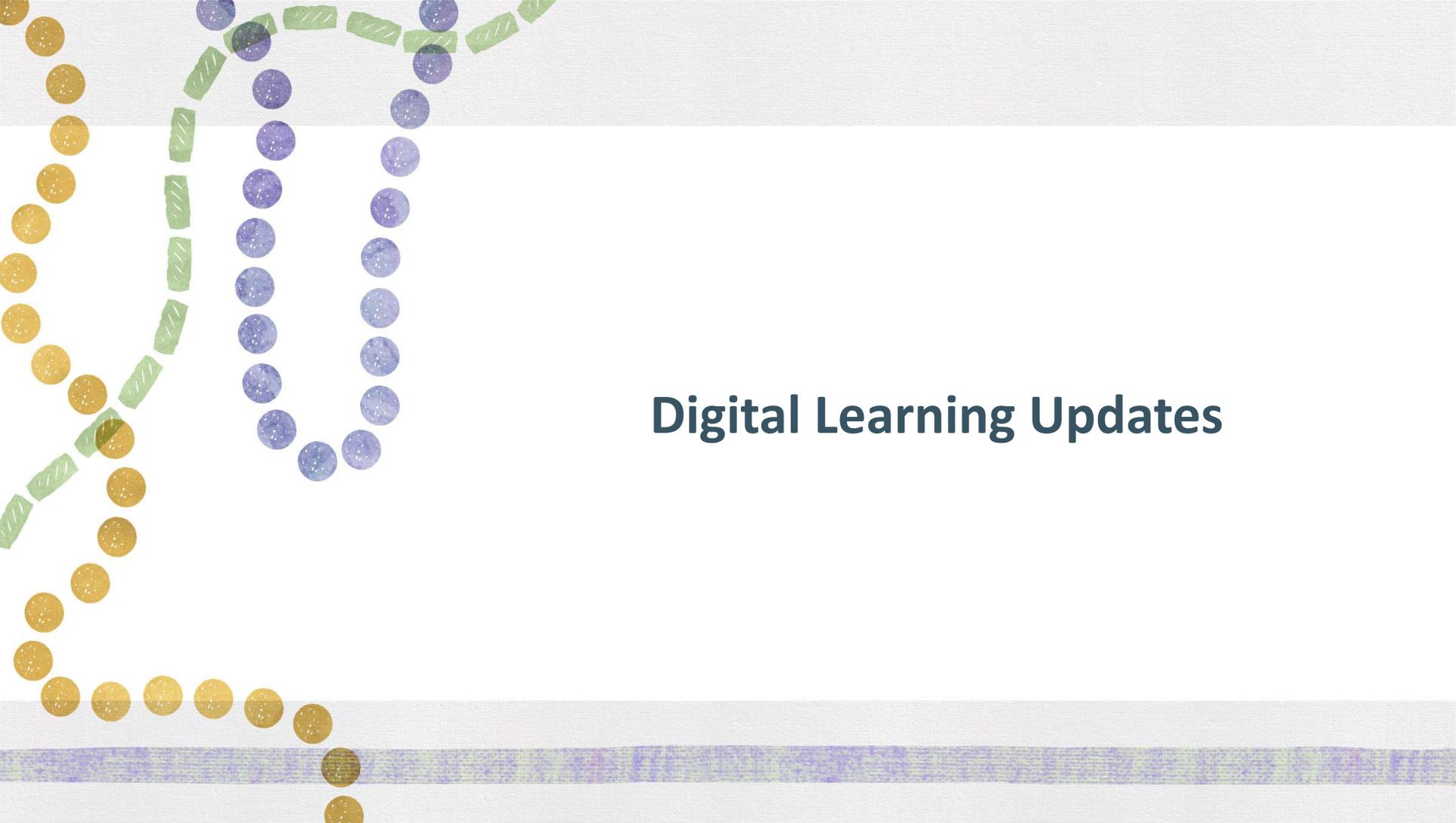
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Digital Learning Updates

Celebrations

Congratulations to

South Beauregard High School

New Orleans Science & Mathematics High School

as being selected as a CS Leaders Prize recipient!

K-12 Computer Science Education Engagement Opportunity

The Department is currently seeking feedback to inform the work within computer science education in our state.

Educators can be involved by registering for one of the upcoming listening sessions in January. Educators teaching and supporting grades **K-12 with any level of experience with computer science** are encouraged to participate.

During the listening sessions, participants will:

- explore possible guidance for developing Computer Science standards and
- share thoughts on professional learning possibilities for 6-12 teachers in computer science.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

SPED Camera Policy & Application in eGMS

School systems received funding for the installation and operation of cameras in self-contained classrooms and are required to submit their approved camera policy to the Department through the sped camera policy submission form by December 31 or within 60 days of receipt of funding.

The SPED camera application is now available in eGMS.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

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EdTech Teacher Leader Advisors

- This year will be the first time that the Department has contracted teachers from around the state to create resources and support technology integration.
- This 8 member cohort will be focused on creating technology integration resources tied to academic standards.
- EdTech TLAs will also create resources around LMS guidance and strategies.
- These teacher leader advisors will present at Teacher Leader Summit.

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Teacher Leader Summit 2023

Save the Date! The 2023 Teacher Leader Summit will be held **May 30 - June 1, 2023** at the Ernest N. Memorial Convention Center in New Orleans, LA.

The 2023 Teacher Leader Summit is an annual professional development conference which brings together Louisiana birth to grade 12 educators and content experts who inspire, innovate, and impact meaningful growth for every student. Educators participating in the event will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2023-2024 school year.

Additional details regarding registration and session topics will be available this winter.

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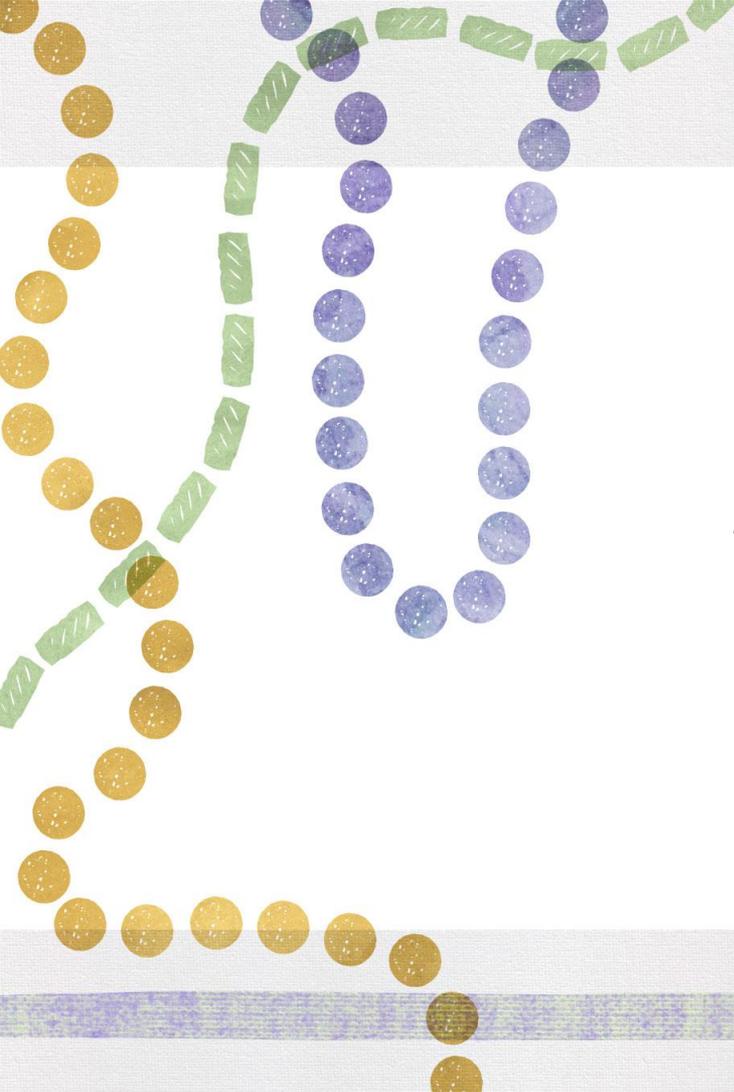
**E-Rate,
Affordable Connectivity Program
and
Emergency Connectivity Fund**

E-Rate Entity Validation for 2023-24 Applications

We are still awaiting final data from LDOE's Data Management team but it should be released soon. As soon as we receive the data we will send out validation emails for preparing the State's Valid file for USAC. If you have not complete out updated District Contact Form, please do that now so that we are sure to send this information to the correct E-Rate contact in your LEA. **The Contact Form can be found** [here](#).

This validation will include your student counts, Individual CEP percentages, group CEP percentages, NSLP numbers and ED numbers by school. You will need this information to update your entity profile data.

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Updating Entity Profiles in EPC

School systems must update their entity profiles for the FY 23-24 application window. Previous years student counts and discounts which were allow over the past several years in response to COVID exemptions and free lunch for all students can no longer be used.

Changes in student counts and NSLP data will not change an entities Category 2 budget. The only exception to this rule is if an entity has not yet established a Category 2 budget in previous years.

SAM.GOV Registration Expiration Notices

Applicants need to make sure their SAM.GOV registrations are up to date and not expired. USAC will be sending out notices to any applicant who may have a registration that will expire within 30 days to prevent any delays in processing SPI or BEAR payments.

Potential "SPAM" bids to a Form 470

Each year applicants tend to receive automated email "bids" that appear to be generated each time an applicant files a Form 470 and that do not meet the applicant's minimum bid requirements and/or is not responsive to the applicant's service requests on the form 470. Applicants would like to disregard and not review these 'robo-bids' but applicants must acknowledge these bids. Applicants should be sure to include verbiage in their 470 and/or RFP that spam or robotic bids will not be considered and will be disqualified. Applicants can then send a notification to the proposer acknowledging they received the bid and their bid has been disqualified as a 'robo-bid'. This acknowledgement should be memorialized in the bid files as well.

Increased Support for Cybersecurity Eligibility

In a letter to the FCC, five major E-rate suppliers — Cisco Systems, ENA by Zayo, Fortinet, Hewlett Packard, and Microsoft — urged the FCC to permit applicants to use their existing Category 2 budgets to provide discounted funding on next-generation firewalls. A similar position was espoused by the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband ("SHLB") Coalition.

The suppliers' proposal to permit advanced firewall support within existing Category 2 budgets was perhaps triggered by earlier FCC comments in response to a General Accounting Office ("GAO") report indicating the need for additional Federal coordination to enhance K-12 cybersecurity protection.

As a fallback position to full Category 2 budget funding for advanced firewalls, the five-suppliers, SHLB and CoSN also expressed support for a more modest three-year pilot program recently proposed to the FCC by Funds For Learning ("FFL") that would:

- Offer up to $60 million per year in annual Category 2 funding for advanced firewalls.
- Seek public comment on mechanisms for the FCC to support cybersecurity.
- Continue the FCC's interagency cybersecurity work.

If E-Rate applicants want the FCC to take up this issue, they provide submit comments in support of these proposals and/or provide their own comments via the FCC's Express Comment site.

Increased Support for Cybersecurity Eligibility

To submit an Express Comment, go to the FCC's Express Comment site, select Proceeding 13-184, "Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries", fill in your basic contact information, type (or paste) your "Brief Comments" into the textbox, review and submit.

FCC Adopts New Order
Dealing with National Security Threats

The FCC issued a new Report and Order, Order, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 22-84) dealing with the identification and treatment of Chinese "covered companies" and their equipment deemed to present a national security threat to the national communications supply chain. The new Order deals with such issues as:

- The FCC's legal authority.
- Revisions to the equipment authorization program.
- Definitions of "covered" equipment.
- Other issues including cost-effectiveness and economic impact.

The Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking includes considerations for revoking existing equipment authorizations. Comments on these issues will be due 30 days after publication in the *Federal Register.*

E-Rate Important Dates and Reminders

- Upcoming Form 486 Deadlines
  - Dec. 9 - Wave 17
  - Dec. 16 - Wave 18
  - Dec. 23 - Wave 19
  - Dec. 30 - Wave 20
- EPC will be down for system maintenance on Dec. 11-12

*The filing window is expected to open early/mid January -- so school systems should begin planning.*

Cybersecurity Updates with ESF-17

LOUISIANA CYBER ASSURANCE PROGRAM (LCAP)

- **Participating Agencies:** GOHSEP, LSP, LMD, and OTS.
- **Purpose:** Create a digital ecosystem that will **collect**, **analyze**, and **distribute** cyber threat intelligence, with active 24/7 monitored environment.
- **Independent Operational Objectives:**
  - Cyber Risk Assessments and Identification
  - Advanced Forensic Analysis
  - Threat Monitoring and Alerting
  - Platform and Service Management
- **Benefits:**
  - Scalable to include any eligible entity (of any size).
  - Compliant with State and Local Cybersecurity Grant requirements.
  - Utilizes resources previously deployed through ESF-17 to maximize return on previous investments.
  - Creates job opportunities to retain local talent.
- **Proof of Concept:** Designed and tested through ESF-17 responses.
- **Entities Eligible for LCAP Participation:**
  - Political Subdivisions of Louisiana
  - Elements of Critical Infrastructure as determined by GOHSEP Exec. Director.

STATE OF LOUISIANA
Cyber Assurance Program

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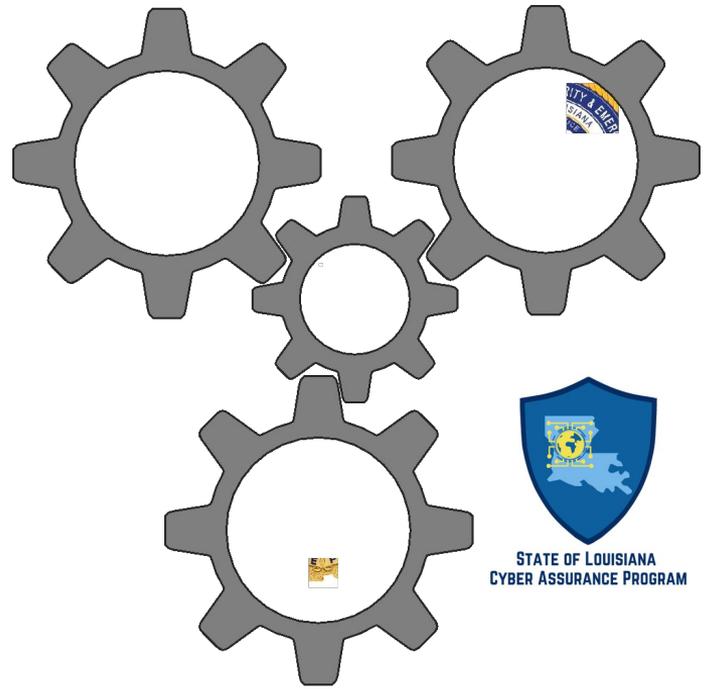
CYBER ASSURANCE PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Executive Steering Committee Members:

- **GOHSEP Executive Director** (HSA)
  - Mr. Casey Tingle

- **The Adjunct General** (TAG)
  - MG Keith Waddell

- **State Police Superintendent**
  - Col. Lamar Davis

- **State CIO**
  - Mr. Dickie Howze

- **Commissioner of Administration**
  - Designee TBD

STATE OF LOUISIANA
CYBER ASSURANCE PROGRAM

Executive Cyber Assurance Steering Committee

Chief Cyber Officer (CCO)

Cyber Counsel

Assurance Coordination

Managed Cyber Services

Currently Provided	Next Phase
• Managed End Point Protection	• Cyber Risk Assessments
• Managed Firewall	• Advanced Threat Sharing
• Incident Management	• Active Threat Monitoring
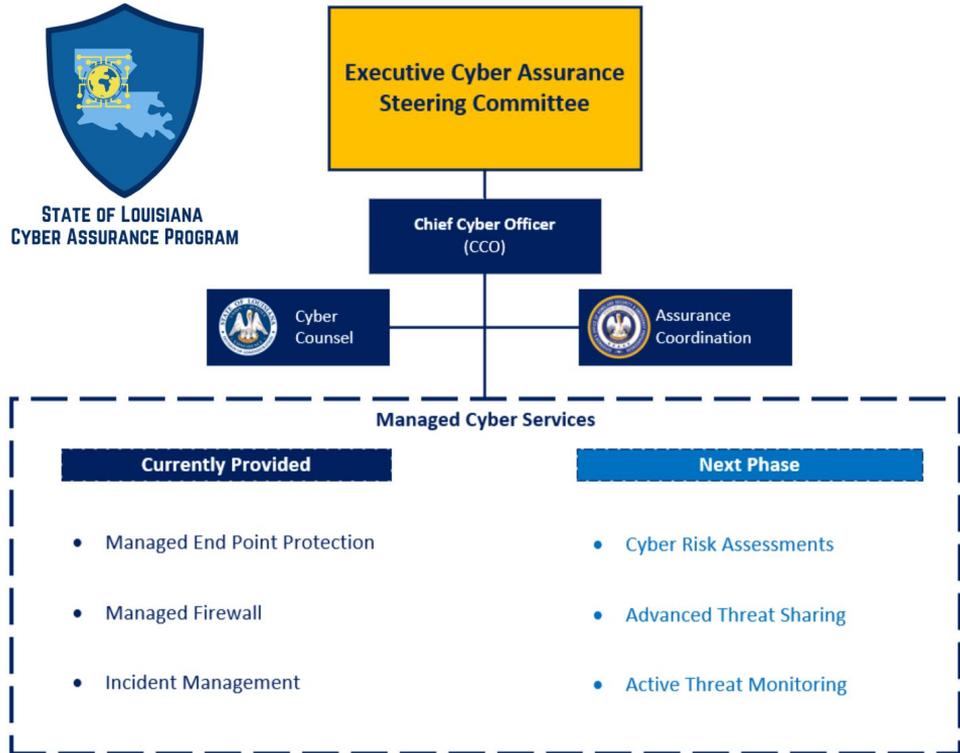
LCAP ADVANCED OPERATIONS
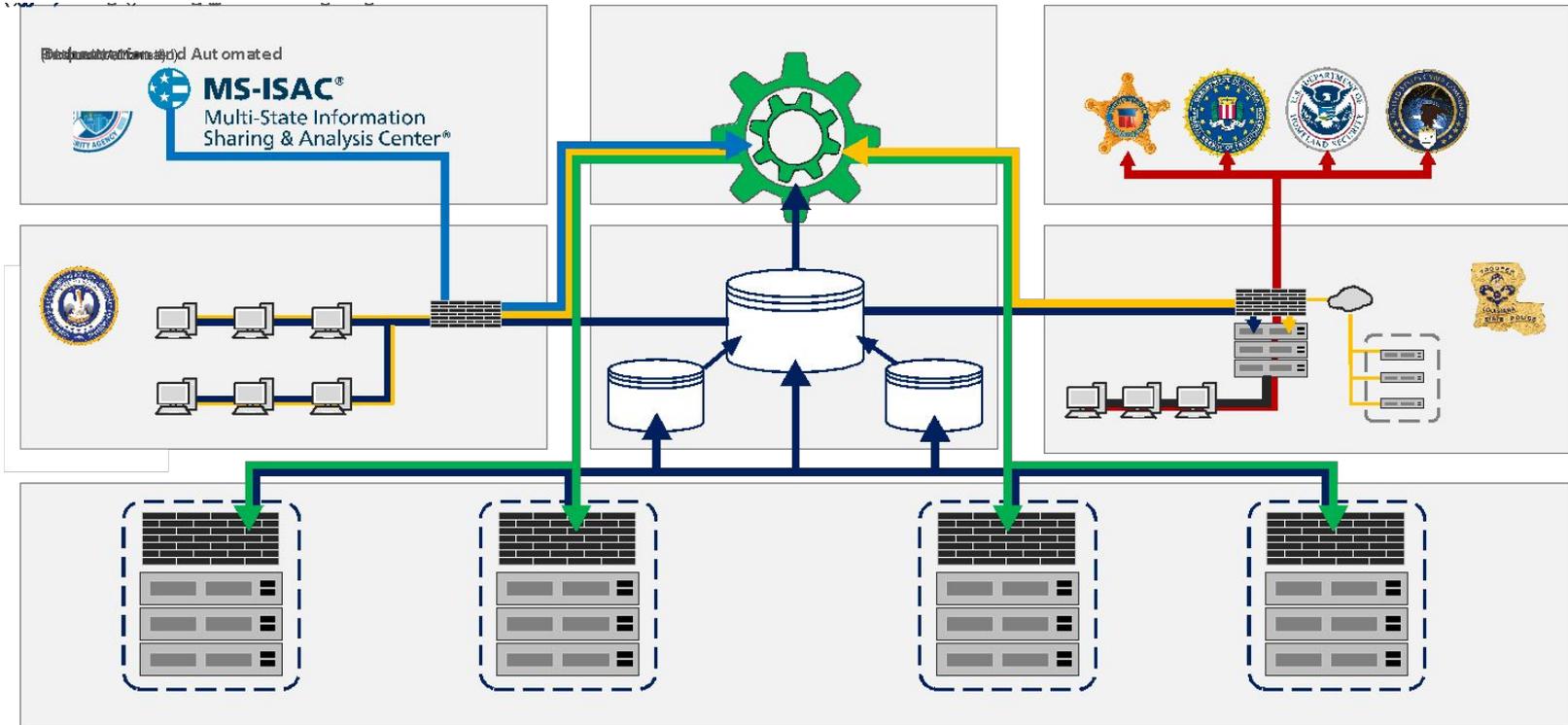
Interdependent operational objectives, using modern technology platforms, creates consistently reinforced layers of cybersecurity maturity that quickly identify and mitigate threats based on shared threat intelligence and monitoring alerts.

LCAP : CYBER ASSESSMENTS

"**Office of Cyber Readiness**"
(OCR)

New office in the Louisiana Military Department.

Concept of Operations:

- Eligible Entities are invited to subscribe to services from the Office of Cyber Readiness.
    - Participation is **purely voluntary**.
    - Eligible Entities that participate referred to as "Service Recipients."
    - Requires cost-recovery element – *still in development.*
- Requires executed Memorandum of Agreement to authorize vulnerability assessments, network monitoring, threat response, and periodic re-evaluations.
- OCR to utilize state-of-the-art commercial software and hardware, as well assessment and documentation processes established by OTS.

LCAP – ACTIVE THREAT MONITORING

"**Cyber Threat Analysis Center**" (CTAC)

Collaborative efforts from new and existing GOHSEP, OTS, and CCU Personnel.

Concept of Operations:

- OTS and CCU to share responsibility for Active Threat Monitoring with GOHSEP.
- Using resources from the Office of Cyber Readiness, Active Threat Monitoring achieved with:
    - Next Generation Firewalls;
    - Security Incident and Event Management ("SIEM") tool;
    - Security Orchestration Automatic Response ("SOAR"); and
    - Information digested through *new* Cyber Threat Analysis Center.
- The SIEM tool captures firewall traffic and EDR software alerts and sends them onto the SOAR, which then **automatically pushes responsive commands** to defend the networks.
- Once received at the network level, that command is documented through the SIEM logs to validate that the defensive command was successful.

STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT

- Funding rules:
  - Only 5% of total funding may be used for administration, oversight, and implementation
  - 25% of funds must impact rural areas | 80% of funds for State and Local Infrastructure
  - State Cost-Shares increase each year:
    - FY 22: 90% Fed / 10% State
    - FY 23: 80% Fed / 20% State
    - FY 24: 70% Fed / 30% State
    - FY 25: 60% Fed / 40% State
  - Funds CANNOT be used to supplant current funds, pay cost-shares, pay ransoms, recreational or social purposes.
- Entities eligible for grant: State / local governments | Applications submitted through GOHSEP
- Requires a "qualified cybersecurity plan" overseen by a "Cybersecurity Planning Committee"
  - Committee requires representatives from the state, parishes/local entities, public education, and healthcare entities in Louisiana.
  - ***Not less than ½ of these representatives must have professional experience in cybersecurity or information technology.***
- Cybersecurity Plan **requires state CIO and CISO (or equivalent) consultation and approval**.
- Cybersecurity Plan must meet certain, pre-set elements.

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STATE AND LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT ALIGNMENT BY LCAP

IIJA Grant Requirement Categories

Manage, monitor, and track state and local technology assets.

Enhance preparation, response, and cyber resiliency for state and local governments (including safe and trustworthy online services).

Conduct vulnerability assessments and mitigate identified threats (includes promoting cyber hygiene and cybersecurity best practices).

Ensure continuity of operations following cyber events.

Promote cyber resiliency for critical infrastructure and key resources.

Enhance information sharing at all levels of government.

Ensure adequate access to, and participation in, the services and programs for local governments and rural areas.

Identify workforce gaps and promote recruitment, retention, and education of technology workforce.

Louisiana Cyber Assurance Program

✔ OCR function achieved through endpoint detection and response ("EDR") software and vulnerability assessment reports.

✔ OCR function achieved through Firewalls, EDR Software, and SIEM; requires ISP compliance with the OTS Information Security Policy.

✔ OCR function achieved through pre-set vulnerability assessments and reporting processes for Service Recipients, with periodic reevaluations.

✔ Achieved through ESF-17 training on Cyber Incident Management and Response Plans and improve network architecture.

✔ GOHSEP function, identified CIKR elements are offered OCR services.
✔ Achieved through Cyber Threat Analysis Center.

✔ Achieved through coordinated outreach efforts with associations of various government groups (example: Louisiana Board of Regents).

✔ Partially assisted by new jobs created by LCAP; *requires further assistance from Board of Regents and/or individual universities.*

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Reminders and Other Information

2022-2023 Education Technology Webinar and Office Hours

Slides from each meeting will be posted on the Educational Technology Leaders website. Recordings are available on request. A complete calendar of LDOE events can be found on the Louisiana Believes website.

Monthly Call Dates
November 10, 2022
December 8, 2022
January 12, 2023
February 9, 2023
March 9, 2023
April 13, 2023
May 11, 2023
June - Meet at LaCUE TLS
July - No Call

Time:	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/575223228?pwd=NDNlN01SS3c0Rk4wV25aNkZhTEc2Zz09
Phone Number	1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID	Meeting ID: 575 223 228 Password: 2020-202!

Office Hours Dates
Nov - No office hours
Dec - No office hours
January 26, 2023
February 23, 2023
March 23, 2023
April 27, 2023
May - No office hours
June - Meet at LaCUE TLS
July - No office hours

Thank you for joining today's call.

Schedules, access links, and information for the Department's webinars can be found in the LDOE Weekly Newsletter and LDOE School System Support Calendar.

Helpful Links

- A+PEL PD for Educators
- LACUE
- Louisiana Believes Homepage
- School Improvement Library

Support Toolboxes

- Teacher
- System
- Principal
- Counselor
- Education Technology Staff

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION
louisiana Believes

Reminders and Repeats

Reminder: Technology Contacts

- To ensure continuous and effective communication, Educational Technology is requesting updated contact information for Education Technology leaders and IT leaders for school systems.
- Submit this form to update contact information.

Contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

Statewide Zearn Access for Louisiana Schools K-8

The Department has partnered with Zearn to provide **Zearn School Accounts** to all public schools serving grades K-8. This opportunity will support systems' efforts to accelerate math learning and will include the following:

- **high-quality, evidence-based resources**

- **aligned professional learning**

Key actions

- Plan for implementation to begin in January.

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2022 SETDA

- The U.S. Office of Educational Technology (OET) is partnering with the State EdTech Directors Association (SETDA) to revise the [National Educational Technology Plan](#)
- OET is also focusing on the [Digital Equity Education Roundtables (DEER) Initiative](#) which provides information on closing the digital divide.

Additional 2022 SETDA Resources:

- [SETDA Cybersecurity Frameworks: What K-12 Leaders Need to Know](#)
- [CoSN + SEDTA Cybersecurity Staffing Resource for K-12](#)

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