

System Leaders Monthly Call



May 1, 2026



Doris Voitier
Superintendent
St. Bernard Parish Public Schools

Thank you for 55 years of service!



Office of Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Deputy Superintendent



New Teacher Experience Program Updates

New Teacher Experience: Louisiana's New Teacher Experience (NTE) will transition to a system-based [train-the-trainer \(TTT\) model](#). Systems will deliver NTE locally using LDOE-developed materials and district-trained facilitators. [Registration](#) is now open.

- [NTE: Summer Kick Off](#) will be held in Baton Rouge on July 24, bringing together up to 400 new teachers to welcome them to the profession and provide a day of professional learning and foster statewide networking opportunities. [Registration](#) is now open.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.



LEADS Principal Survey

The Principal Survey deadline has been extended to May 8 in the Louisiana Evaluation System (LES). The survey is anonymous and provides educators with an opportunity to share feedback on their principal's leadership and effectiveness.

To increase participation, the [Principal Survey Guide for Educators](#) is available to support completion. Additionally, the [Best Practices for Administering the Principal Survey: A Guide for System Leaders](#) is available to guide system-level planning and administration.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.



LEADS Updates and Reminders

- The [Louisiana Education Portal \(LEP\)-Roster Verification System](#) is open until **May 28**. This is required and allows teachers/principals to verify rosters for VAM scores. The [LEP User Guide](#) is available to reference.
- Systems may begin finalizing 2025-2026 educator evaluations in the [Louisiana Evaluation System \(LES\)](#). All educators and evaluators should log in to LES and complete remaining end-of-year tasks, including SLTs, self-assessments, and observations, to ensure evaluations are finalized.
- Summer and fall [training sessions](#) are available for new evaluators, observers, and mentor teachers.
- Currently certified evaluators may begin to take the mandatory 2026-2027 evaluator certification assessment.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



System Leader Regional Collaborations

System Leader Collaborations will be held in the afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. [Registration](#) is now open.

Session 1		Session 2	
Monroe	Sept 23, 2026	Baton Rouge	Jan 21, 2027
Shreveport	Sept 24, 2026	Monroe	Jan 26, 2027
Baton Rouge	Sept 30, 2026	Shreveport	Jan 27, 2027
Lafayette	Oct 1, 2026	Lafayette	Feb 2, 2027

Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.



Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring Workbook

The 2026–2027 [Act 771 Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring Workbook](#) is now available to support system planning for the upcoming school year.

This resource can be used to:

- Analyze data before the school year begins
- Plan staffing, scheduling, and progress monitoring
- Prepare for eGMS plan submission and implementation

Additional guidance can be found in the [Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring School System Implementation Guide](#).

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.



Math Standards Institutes

Registration is open for the [2026 Math Standards Institutes](#). Share registration information with the following educators:

- Teachers
- Instructional Coaches
- Master Teachers
- Curriculum Leaders
- School Leaders.

Registration is limited.

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



ELA Standards Institutes

Registration is open for the regional [ELA Standards Institutes](#). Share the registration information with the following educators:

- Teachers
- Literacy Coaches
- Master Teachers
- Instructional Coaches
- School Leaders

Registration is limited.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.



Zearn

To prepare for Zearn implementation for the 2026-2027 school year, leaders should consider the following actions:

- Sign the updated data sharing agreement and submit to LDEData@la.gov
 - The update will be published on the [DSA site](#) in May. The link will be included in System Leader Newsletters once it is finalized.
- Consider joining the [Louisiana Lift Initiative](#).

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



TLS Sessions: Academic Content



- Setting the Standard: Introduction and Expectations of the Updated ELA Student Standards (Grades K-5 and 6-12)
- ELA Teacher Collaboration for School and Instructional Leaders: Refusing to Descend
- PE Standards in Motion: Progress, Updates, and What's Next
- K-2 Social Studies: Manageable and Meaningful
- What Are We Looking For? Utilizing the LDOE Social Studies Walkthrough Tool to Strengthen Educator Development
- From Stories to Strategy: Guiding Effective HQIM Implementation in Science
- Unlocking Connections: Leadership Moves that Empower Science Learning
- A Leader's Guide to System-Level CS Implementation
- AI for Leaders: Creating a Path for the Future of Education



TLS Sessions: Literacy



Focus topics for literacy sessions this year include:

- K-2 Accountability
- Unit and Lesson Preparation
- Strengthening Reading in Grades 6–12: Tools and Strategies for Adolescent Literacy
- Understanding Dyslexia: What Educators Need to Know
- Enhancing Student Outcomes Through High-Dosage Tutoring
- Leaders: Creating a Path for the Future of Education



TLS Sessions: Diverse Learners



Diverse learners sessions include:

- Solution-Oriented Partnerships: Navigating Conflict and the Special Education Dispute Resolution Process
- Special Education Playbook: Full Implementation Across Louisiana
- Accelerating Success: Lessons from High-Growth Systems for Students with Disabilities



TLS Sessions: Numeracy



Focus topics for math sessions this year include:

- Standards
 - Standards Institutes
 - Math Makeover: Fresh Standards, Fresh Strategies in High school
- Leading Early Math Success: Supporting Implementation of the Louisiana Numeracy Screener
- Unit Study and Lesson Internalization sessions from HQIM partners



TLS Sessions: Educator Development



- From Rubric to Results: Practical Strategies for Implementing the Louisiana Educator Evaluation
- The New Teacher Experience: A State-wide Program System of New Teacher Support
- Strengthening Mentor Support for New Teachers
- The Power of Guidance: Unlocking SLT Potential
- An Alternate Pathway to School Leadership-240 Clock Hour Portfolio

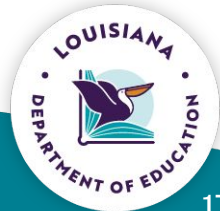


Teacher Leader Summit 2026



- Session list, descriptions and target audiences will be available on the [event website](#) May 1.
- Session registration begins at 6 a.m. on May 15 on the Cvent app.
 - Cvent will email QR code and event ID to all attendees.
- Encourage attendees to take advantage of early check-in Monday, May 25 from 4-6 p.m.

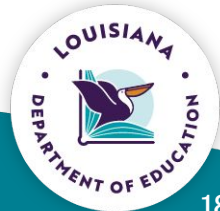
Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.



Teaching and Learning Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Diverse Learner Office Hours	<u>May 12 at 2 p.m.</u>
EdTech	<u>May 14 at 9 a.m.</u>
Numeracy Training Office Hours	<u>May 20 at 9 a.m.</u>
Teaching and Learning	<u>May 20 at 1 p.m.</u>
Preparation Provider	<u>May 20 at 10 a.m.</u>

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



Office of Chief of Staff

Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



School System Planning

School System Planning will host Super App Office Hours to review the steps school systems should take following approval for the 2026-2027 Super App. Business managers and federal program directors from each LEA are encouraged to attend.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 14 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97010033791?pwd=vbhsYOsYobhkOsJYu3wAKPL1tAcYzU.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 970 1003 3791

Please contact LDOEOperations@la.gov with questions.



TLS Sessions: School System Planning



Session Title: Making CSI/TSI Work: Real LEA Stories and Interactive Strategies

Session Description: In this interactive session, LDOE staff will provide an overview of the why behind CSI/TSI plans. The session will then feature a panel of LEAs sharing experiences creating and implementing these required plans under ESEA 1111(d)(1)(B), which guide schools to improve student outcomes through evidence-based interventions, needs assessments, and addressing resource inequities. Panelists will discuss successes and challenges, with active audience participation through Q&A and discussion to share strategies for effective school improvement planning.

Presented by: Jodi Crockett

Please contact LDOEPOperations@la.gov with questions.



TLS Sessions: FSGR

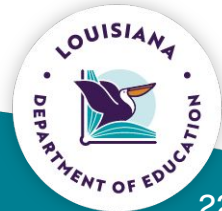


FSGR will present two session during 2026 Teacher Leader Summit.

Session Title: For the Love of Federal Programs

Session Description: Attendees will be provided information on effective use of federal funding as it aligns with the Agency's priorities. In addition, information around braiding of funding and allowable fund use will be provided. Attendees will develop a deeper understanding of the effective use of federal funding to support district initiatives as it relates to their identified needs as it aligns with the Agency's priorities.

Presented by: Bernell Cook



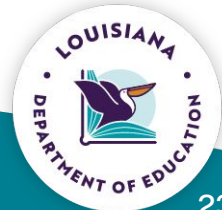
TLS Sessions: FSGR



Session Title: eGMS: Errors and Comments — How to Address

Session Description: This session will allow attendees to work through the resolution of the most commonly experienced Consistency Check errors for applications in eGMS. In addition, information will be provided regarding addressing comments provided by LDOE reviewers during the application review. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of how to successfully resolve issues with the grants system, as well as, addressing review comments in a manner that allows for a more efficient approval process.

Presented by: Randy Littleton and Dr. John Underwood



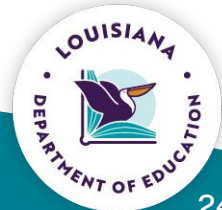
TLS Sessions: Attendance



Session Title: District Attendance — Setting the Standard

Session Description: This session will support system leaders in establishing local attendance expectations and developing plans to achieve attendance goals. It will also focus on effective summer strategies educators can utilize to proactively address potential attendance issues for the 2026-2027 school year.

Presented by: LDOE Attendance Team



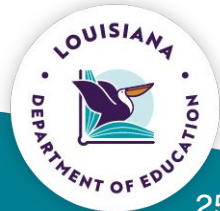
TLS Sessions: Attendance



Session Title: Addressing the Why Behind Student Absences — Identifying Barriers and Implementing Targeted Interventions

Session Description: This session will focus on the effective use of attendance data for identifying areas of needs and attendance barriers. It will also explore effective progress monitoring practices for assessing the impact of attendance supports and interventions.

Presented by: LDOE Attendance Team



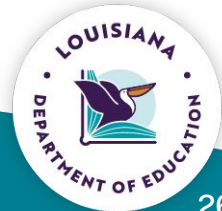
TLS Sessions: Attendance



Session Title: Maximizing Attendance Tools in Your Student Information System

Session Description: Student information systems (SIS) can be a valuable resource in supporting student attendance. In this session, school and system leaders will learn about specific attendance tools within their SIS and how to leverage them to promote the successful implementation of their attendance strategy.

Presented by: LDOE Attendance Team and SIS Vendors



Office of Chief of Staff Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Nutrition Support	<u>May 5 at 1 p.m.</u>
Attendance	<u>May 7 at 8 a.m.</u>
Federal Support and Grantee Relations	<u>May 21 at 10 a.m.</u>
Nutrition Support	<u>June 2 at 1 p.m.</u>
Attendance	<u>June 4 at 8 a.m.</u>

Overall Honorees Announced

- State Level Honorees Celebrated and Overall Honorees Announced
 - Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year:
 - Richard Aaron Spring, Paraprofessional, St. Tammany Parish Schools
 - School Health Service Provider of the Year:
 - Lacie Thomas Fontenot, Speech Language Pathologist, Livingston Parish Schools
 - School Physical Activity Award
 - Edward Hynes Charter School Lakeview Campus
 - Roseland Montessori School, Tangipahoa Parish School System
 - Zachary Elementary School, Zachary Community School District

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.



Office of Policy and Governmental Affairs

Ashley Townsend, Assistant Superintendent



TLS Sessions: Education Policy



Letting Teachers Teach: Policy and Practice for Effective Implementation

- This panel discussion will examine policy shifts and best practices for supporting implementation of the Let Teachers Teach recommendations.

Professional Autonomy: Elevating the Art and Science of Teaching

- This session will explore “professional autonomy,” which is now codified in policy in response to Let Teachers Teach recommendations and ultimately centered on student outcomes.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics

Thomas Lambert, Assistant Superintendent



Spring LEAP Test Accountability Codes

The LEAP spring testing window for all grades will close on May 15.

- Testing coordinators should apply accountability codes, for which they have documentation, to the student record in DRC INSIGHT prior to the close of the testing window.
- It is not necessary to apply a code to a high school student who is retesting.

Contact assessment@la.gov for more information.



Early Childhood Accountability

All Early Childhood Spring 2026 CLASS® observations must be entered into the [EC CLASS® Portal](#) by May 15, 2026.

- By May 15, 2026 Community Network Lead Agencies & their participating sites must have reviewed the data and have processed any updates directly in the [Early Childhood CLASS® Portal](#).
- All informational metrics should reflect the data captured on October 1, 2025.

Contact accountability@la.gov for more information.



LA 4, NSECD, and CNLA Allocations

- 2026-2027 allocations were approved during the April 15, 2026 BESE meeting.
- Networks and sites should have received a notice of BESE approval on April 16, 2026.
- Final amounts are subject to legislative appropriation.

Contact accountability@la.gov for more information.



Data Collections

VAM Roster Verification

- Value-Added Model (VAM) rosters are currently able to be modified and verified in the Louisiana Educator Portal (LEP).
- Rosters must be verified by Thursday, May 28, 2026.

Student Interventions

- Students receiving high-dosage tutoring in ELA and/or math must be submitted to EdLink 360 no later than 5 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2026.

Please submit a ticket to the [Data Systems Support portal](#) for questions or additional information.



Data Collections Continued

Student End-of-Year Collection

- This collection is now open to capture comprehensive student data for the 2025-2026 school year.
- All extracts must be submitted to EdLink 360 no later than 5 p.m., Wednesday, July 8, 2026.

Staff End-of-Year Collection

- This collection is now open to capture comprehensive staffing data for the 2025-2026 school year.
- All extracts must be submitted to EdLink 360 no later than 5 p.m., Wednesday, August 5, 2026.

Please submit a ticket to the [Data Systems Support portal](#) for questions or additional information.



Annual FERPA Notification to Parents

School systems are obligated under the FERPA to provide parents with an annual notice of their FERPA rights. The annual notification must include:

- The procedure to inspect and review education records;
- The procedure to request amendment of education records;
- A specification of criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest if the educational agency or institution discloses or intends to disclose PII from education records to school officials without consent; and
- The right of parents to file a complaint with the SPPO.

For the full USDOE guidance, please see the [Notice to Superintendents](#). A [model FERPA notification](#) is also available. This information was also communicated in the April 28 LDOE Weekly Newsletter

Contact ldedata@la.gov for more information.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdLink 360 Weekly Office Hour	<u>May 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 11 am</u>
EdLink Ops-SPS Weekly Office Hour	<u>May 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 9 am</u>
eScholar Office Hours	<u>May 14 and 28 at 10 am</u>
Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar	<u>May 7 at 1 pm</u>
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	<u>May 19 at 3 p.m.</u>

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



Career and College Readiness

Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent

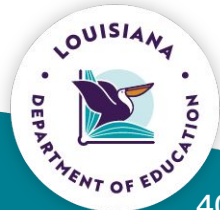


2026-2027 High School Planning Guidebook

The [Louisiana High School Planning Guidebook](#) is now available.

- This resource is designed to consolidate policies and programs that are relevant to educators as they plan for the upcoming academic year and prepare students for career and college success.

Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions



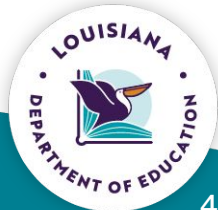
Mental Health Screening Annual Report

[Act 504](#) of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session requires that each public schools to offer a mental health assessment to certain students as the beginning of each school year.

- Each public school shall annually report at the end of the school year to the state Department of Education, the number of screenings administered to students, by grade level, including grades 3 through 12, under its jurisdiction.

Each public school principal/designee should complete the [survey](#) by June 30.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.



Behavioral Health Screening Annual Report

[Act 324](#) of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session requires school systems to report annually to the state Department of Education the number of students:

- Having behavioral or emotional challenges
- For whom a conference was scheduled
- Referred for supportive services

Superintendents should complete the [survey](#) by June 30.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.



TLS Sessions: Fast Forward



Session Title: Changing the "College vs CTE" Mindset

Session Description: Career and Technical Education (CTE) is often viewed as a “lesser” pathway compared to a traditional university degree. This mindset not only undervalues CTE but also limits students' opportunities to pursue careers that match their skills, interests, and the needs of today’s workforce. This session will highlight that CTE and university pathways are complementary, not in competition, and can both lead to success, emphasizing to the audience that there are multiple paths to success.

Presented by: Moderated Panel

TLS Sessions: Apprenticeship



Session Title: Apprenticeships 101

Session Description: This session will focus on the basics of Registered Apprenticeships (RA). An effective RA provides districts with opportunities to enhance workforce development and bolster the local economy. From soliciting business partners to navigating Louisiana Works (formerly Louisiana Workforce Commission), the participant can expect to gain a broader understanding of RA to begin building a program that meets their specific needs.

Presented by: Moderated Panel

TLS Sessions: Safe and Healthy Schools



Session Title: Enhancing School Safety: Collaboration and Best Practices

Session Description: Ensuring the safety of students and staff is a top priority for every school leader. This professional development session is designed for administrators who play a critical role in shaping, implementing, and sustaining effective school safety systems. Participants will explore best practices in safety planning, crisis prevention, and emergency response, with an emphasis on collaboration across departments and community partnerships. Through case studies, policy reviews, and guided discussions, administrators will strengthen their capacity to lead proactive, data-informed safety initiatives that protect and empower their school communities. This session will be delivered in two parts (A and B) to cover all material.

Presented by: Stephen Guccione, et. al.



TLS Sessions: Alternative Education



Session Title: Exemplary Alternative Education Schools and Programs

Session Description: Exemplary alternative education develops a guiding mission and purpose that drives the overall operation of the alternative education site. All stakeholders contribute to the development, implementation, direction, and maintenance of the mission and purpose. During this session, participants will engage with a panel of district and site-based leaders who are experienced in gaining buy-in for the mission and purpose, and earn the designation of exemplar alternative education sites.

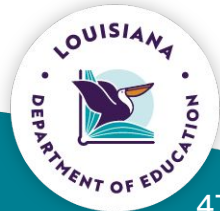
Presented by: Moderated Panel



Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Office of Career and College Readiness	May 21 at 3 p.m.
Safe and Healthy Schools	No Call in May or June
Alternative Education	No Call in May or June

Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.



School Choice

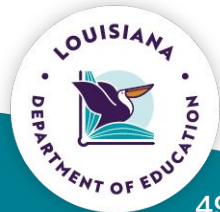
Germain Gilson, Assistant Superintendent



2025-2026 New Charter School RFA Timeline

Date	Process
March 9, 2026 by 5 p.m.	Eligibility determination forms due by email to charters@la.gov
March 30, 2026 by 5 p.m.	LDOE submission deadline for the full application for Types 2 and 4 applicants by email to charters@la.gov
April 13, 2026	LDOE to notify local school system leaders of the submission of charter school applications within their districts
June 9, 2026	Type 2 and 4 Applicants: Charter proposal presentations to BESE
June 2026	Type 2 and 4 Applicants: Capacity interviews conducted by third-party evaluator
August 18, 2026	Type 2 and 4 Applicants: BESE considers applicants for new charter schools

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Charter Authorization Updates

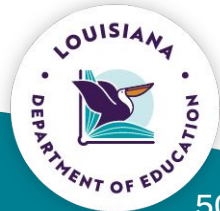
2026 Mid-Year RFA Informational Sessions

We will host informational sessions designed for applicants interested in applying as a Type 2 or 4 charter.

[Registration](#) is now available for the dates below. Each begins at 9 a.m.

- May 13
- May 20
- June 3

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



School Choice Monthly Calls

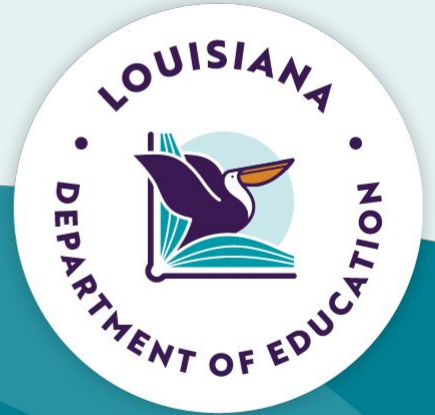
Monthly Call Title	Date/Time
Local Authorizer Call	<u>May 13 at 11 a.m.</u>
BESE-Authorized Charter	<u>May 14 at 9 a.m.</u>

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



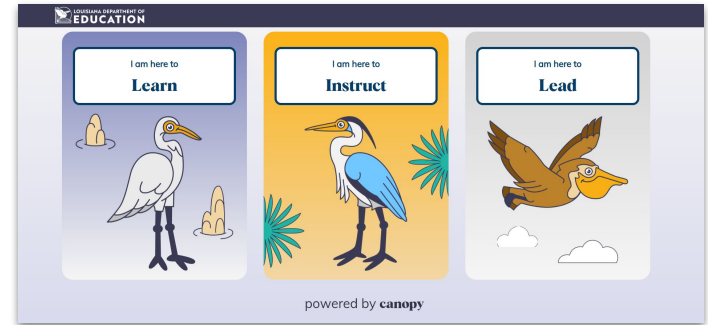
Early Childhood Care and Education

Barry Carter, Assistant Superintendent



Science and Art of Reading Training

The Early Childhood Science and Art of Reading courses are now available in the [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#).



The training helps early childhood educators build the knowledge and skills needed to provide scientifically based literacy instruction.

- **Eligible educators:** School-based pre-K educators
- **Stipend:** \$250 for completing the training
- **Course code:** C100N1N9

Contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.

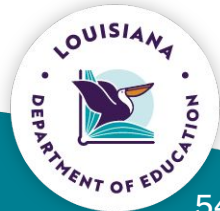


TS GOLD® Checkpoint Completion

The Spring TS GOLD® checkpoint is due May 31.

- The LDOE has set a program expectation of at least 90% network completion for the Spring checkpoint.
- This assessment is mandated through program assurances and included within *Bulletin 140*:
 - *Sites ensure all required information for classrooms containing children from birth to five years is entered in the GOLD® online system. Additionally, all child assessment results for publicly-funded infants, toddlers, and pre-K children must be entered and checkpoints finalized by October 31, February 28, and May 31.*

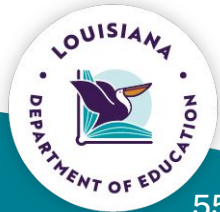
Contact Emily.Coussou@la.gov for more information.



Office of Early Childhood Care and Education Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Early Childhood Community Network Office Hours <i>(occurs the second Tuesday of each month from 3:00-4:00 p.m.)</i>	May 12 at 3 p.m.

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



Questions



Thank you for joining today's call!

This is our final call of the school year. Have a great summer!

Schedules, access links, and information on webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and the [School System Support Calendar](#).

Helpful Links

- [LDOE Website](#)
- [School Improvement Library](#)

Support Toolboxes

- [Teacher](#)
- [System](#)
- [Principal](#)
- [Counselor](#)

