



Supporting Students with Unfinished Learning and Diverse Needs

District Academic Leadership
Job Alike Session

May 11th, 2021



District Management Group | Helping Schools and Students Thrive

Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Sharing Insights pt. I

Learning from Peers pt. I

Sharing Insights pt. II

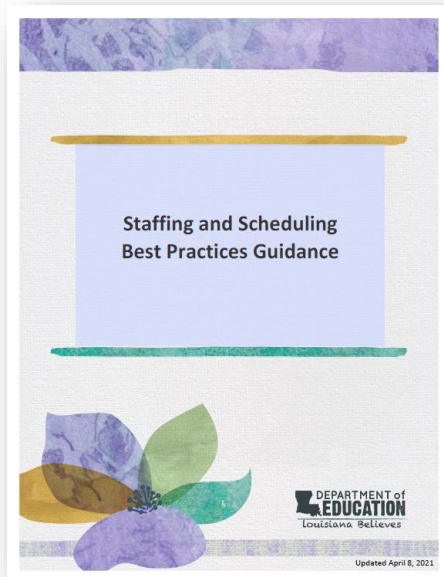
Learning from Peers pt. II

Closing



The Louisiana Department of Education has partnered with District Management Group, a Boston-based public education consulting firm.

LDOE Partnership with District Management Group (DMGroup)



Comprehensive Guidance Document

- Details best practices for addressing unfinished learning and meeting the needs of diverse learners
- [Document Link](#)



Supports for LEAs in Implementing Best Practices (*Spring – Fall 2021*)

- Live webinars, resource sharing sessions, and question & answer sessions
- Opt-in intensive regional technical support and district specific coaching



LEAs can opt into additional supports with DMGroup for targeted and more personalized technical assistance for a small fee.



Regional Technical Support Series

- Three regional technical support sessions for LEAs to **receive in-depth training and guidance** on best practices from DMGroup experts.
- Individualized **“just-in-time” coaching sessions** for LEAs with DMGroup experts to discuss LEA-specific questions and challenges.

Pricing: \$2,500 per LEA – Covers Regional Technical Support Series and Coaching Support.

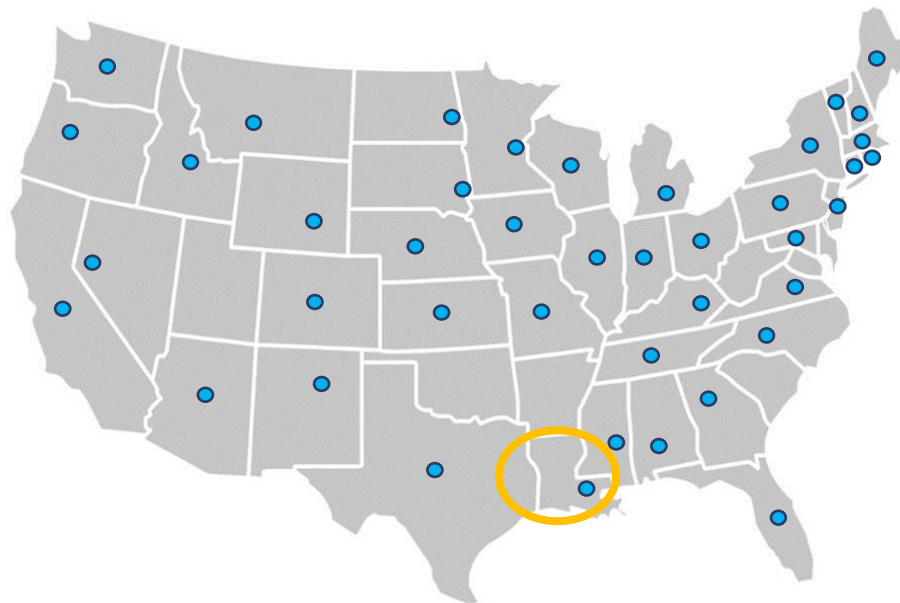
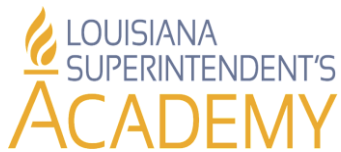
Note: This support is subsidized by LDOE and qualifies for CARES Act Funding. Systems may bring a team of up to 8 leaders.

Register by June 18th

[**Link to Learn More**](#)

DMGroup brings experiences from hundreds of districts and agencies of all sizes and types from across the US, including many from Louisiana.

DMGroup Experience



700+
Districts

40+
States

10+ million
Students Supported



Job alike sessions are in direct response to the request of school and district leaders across Louisiana for a forum to collaborate with peers.

Rationale Behind Job Alike Sessions

- **LDOE and DMGroup interviewed districts and networks across Louisiana :**
 - Resounding feedback that there was a desire for:
 - Opportunity to collaborate between districts across the state
 - Collaboration needed to be virtual and easy to access
 - Discussion topics needed to be relevant and practical



- **LDOE and DMGroup are responding to your needs:**
 - 4 Job Alike Groups, with 3 rounds of sessions over the next several months
 - Topics for discussion are and will continue to be based on the input and voices of participants
 - Job alike sessions are a new format for us and for you
 - We will incorporate your feedback and continue to improve the structure and focus of sessions.



Job Alike sessions bring together individuals from across the state who serve in similar positions.

Overview of Job Alike Session



1. **Sharing Insights** – DMGroup will share relevant guidance and best practices based on the input of session registrants.

Today's topics include:

- Finding Time for Acceleration
- Finding Staff for Acceleration



2. **Learning from Peers** – Session participants will join breakout sessions to have small group discussions with their peers.

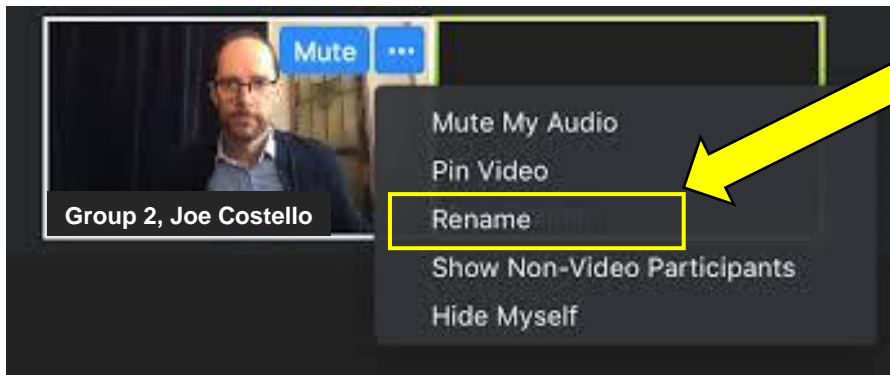


Please change your 'name' on zoom based on the breakout room that best fits you.

Directions for Breakout Rooms

- There will be 3 types of breakout rooms for this session based on specific criteria:
 - Group 1: Large Districts/Networks (>10k Students)
 - Group 2: Medium Districts/Networks (2 to 10k Students)
 - Group 3: Small Districts/Networks (<2k Students)
- Change your name on Zoom to the following:
 - Group #, Name
 - Ex.

Group 2, Joe Costello



To rename on Zoom:

- Click on your picture in the Zoom window
- Click on the three dots (...), then select 'Rename'
- Rename yourself according to your desired breakout room.



Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Sharing Insights pt. I

Learning from Peers pt. I

Sharing Insights pt. II

Learning from Peers pt. II

Closing



There are established best practices to help address unfinished learning—our session today will focus on two interrelated topics.

Overview of Best Practices

High-Quality Core and Literacy Instruction

- 1 High-quality core instruction is the foundation.
- 2 Effective literacy instruction is central to student success.

Today's Focus

Extra Instructional Time from Content Strong Staff

- 3 Students with unfinished learning and diverse learners need extra instructional time to catch up.
- 4 Both core instruction and acceleration must be provided by content strong staff.

Social & Emotional Needs and Equity Matter Greatly

- 5 Meeting the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students supports academic achievement.
- 6 Equity should be at the forefront of all these strategies.



District Academic Leadership Topics

1 Finding Time for Acceleration

2 Finding Staff for Acceleration



Students with unfinished learning should receive extra support in addition to and *not instead of* their regular instruction.

Sample Elementary Acceleration*

Best Practice Elementary Schedule

Reading

Math

Acceleration /
Enrichment

Lunch & Recess

Art / Music / PE

Science

Social Studies

Built-in Acceleration Block:

- For all students
- Allows for extra-time instruction
- Helps ensure students are not pulled from core reading or math

**This example is one of many options to provide effective acceleration.*



In addition to core instruction, students with unfinished learning need dedicated time for intervention typically in reading, math, or writing.

Secondary Acceleration

1

Best Practice Schedule for Students with Unfinished Learning

Period 1

Math

Period 2

English

Period 3

Elective

Period 4

Social Studies

Period 5

Science

Period 6

Math
Acceleration

Period 7

Elective

- First presentation of content
- 100% grade level standards
- Learn from peer questions

- Support identified needs of striving students
- Accelerate current year and prior year content via just-in time supports
- Clarify misconceptions



Schools should avoid creating an “all hands-on deck” acceleration period, which often does not allow students to receive targeted instruction.

Avoiding Flex Periods

1

Sample Schedule

Period 1

Math

Period 2

Elective

Period 3

Science

Period 4

Elective

Period 5

ELA

Period 6

Science

Period 7

Elective

Period 8

“Flex” Period

Caution!

“Flex” or “all hands-on deck” acceleration periods often **do not** effectively facilitate students receiving regular, targeted, and content-specific acceleration from content experts.



Schools can find time to address unfinished learning in the schedule by reallocating non-instructional time.

Sample School Schedule

1

	Sample Schedule
Period 1	Math
Period 2	Elective
Period 3	Science
Period 4	Elective
Period 5	ELA
Period 6	Science
Period 7	Directed Study or Daily Advisory

Classes that could be repurposed for acceleration include:

- Directed Study
- Daily Advisory
- Resource Room



At the high school level, prioritize acceleration during 9th and 10th grade years by delaying subjects that don't require 4 credits for graduation.

Strategies to Schedule Acceleration at the Secondary Level

1

TOPS University

College Diploma Course Requirements

Subject	Required # of Units for Graduation	Suggested Grade-Level			
		9	10	11	12
English	4	✓	✓	✓	✓
Math	4	✓	✓	✓	✓
Science	4	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Studies	4	✓	✓	✓	✓
Foreign Language	2		✓	✓	
Art	1			✓	
Health/PE	2			✓	✓
Electives	3		✓	✓	✓

Option for Scheduling:
 Delay courses such as foreign language, art, health/PE, and electives to make room for acceleration.



Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Sharing Insights pt. I

Learning from Peers pt. I

Sharing Insights pt. II

Learning from Peers pt. II

Closing

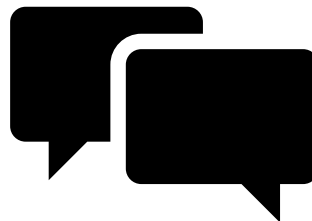


Opportunity to Learn from Peers

Directions:

- Identify a facilitator for the group, if no volunteers, the person with a birthday earliest in the calendar year will serve as facilitator.
- Discussion Questions:
 1. ***What is one strategy that you are going to use in the upcoming school year related to finding time for acceleration?***
 2. ***What is one challenge for which you would like help from the group related to finding time for acceleration?***
- Group members are then encouraged to ask clarifying questions and respond.

~ Group Discussions will last for 20 Minutes ~



Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Sharing Insights pt. I

Learning from Peers pt. I

Sharing Insights pt. II

Learning from Peers pt. II

Closing



District Academic Leadership Topics

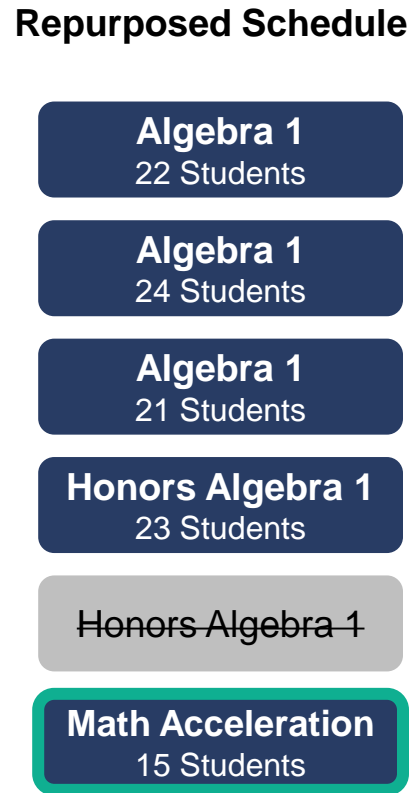
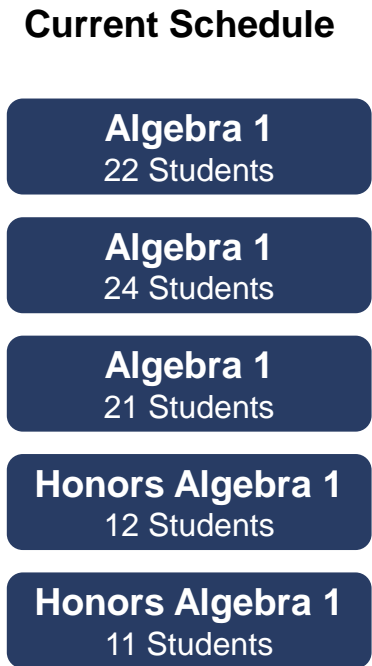
1 Finding Time for Acceleration

2 Finding Staff for Acceleration



Schools can find teachers to address unfinished learning by staffing more precisely.

Core Department Example



+ NEW

Replace a reduced section of an existing course with an acceleration section



Finding the highly skilled staff needed to implement the best practice guidance can be difficult, but creative strategies exist.

Strategies to Find Additional Staff for Acceleration

2

1

Retired Teachers

After consulting with TRSL

2

Teachers Who Left

to care for children or parents



3

Recent College Graduates

with math, science, and writing related majors

4

Current College Students

with math, science, and writing related majors

For high-dose tutoring



Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Sharing Insights pt. I

Learning from Peers pt. I

Sharing Insights pt. II

Learning from Peers pt. II

Closing

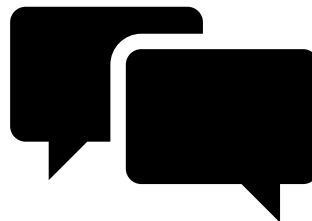


Opportunity to Learn from Peers

Directions:

- Identify a facilitator for the group, if no volunteers, the person with a birthday earliest in the calendar year will serve as facilitator.
- Discussion Questions:
 1. ***What is one strategy that you are going to use in the upcoming school year related to finding staff for acceleration?***
 2. ***What is one challenge for which you would like help from the group related to finding staff for acceleration?***
- Group members are then encouraged to ask clarifying questions and respond.

~ Group Discussions will last for 15 Minutes ~



Agenda

Welcome & Overview

Sharing Insights pt. I

Learning from Peers pt. I

Sharing Insights pt. II

Learning from Peers pt. II

Closing



The next round of job alike sessions, incorporating updated guidance and feedback, will take place in mid July.

Upcoming Support Activities

Participants must register in order to attend these sessions. Registration links will be forthcoming.

Date and Time	Webinar Title and Registration Link
July 13 at 11 am CST	Job Alike Session: District Academic Leadership
July 13 at 1 pm CST	Job Alike Session: Diverse Learners Leadership
July 14 at 11 am CST	Job Alike Session: Counselors and Counselor Leadership
July 14 at 1 pm CST	Job Alike Session: School Leadership



Survey



Q & A





District Management Group

Helping Schools and
Students Thrive

If you have any comments or questions about the contents of this document, please contact District Management Group:

Tel: (877) 362-3500

Email: info@dmgroupK12.com

Fax: (617) 491-5266

Web: www.dmgroupK12.com

Mail: 133 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110

