

# Louisiana Believes

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**School Operations and Reopening Office Hours  
September 3, 2020**

# ATTENTION: Instructions for participants

During this meeting, participants may submit questions **via the online chat feature** throughout the presentation. Submitting questions via the chat allows LDOE the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

# Strong Start Reopening Office Hours

Strong Start School Reopening Office Hours will occur each Thursday, beginning July 23, from 3-4 p.m. and run *through September*.

*\*please note the updated Zoom log in for next week's office hours*

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Thursdays at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94130675139>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 301-715-8592
- **Meeting ID#:** 941 3067 5139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 573243

# Reopening Weekly Office Hour Calls

The purpose of the weekly reopening calls is for school system leaders and support staff to join our Zoom session to hear the **latest updates** on policy implementation, supportive guidance, and tool development.

Each weekly call will begin with an overview of recent updates followed by a moderated Q&A session on policy implementation, supportive guidance, and tool development.

# Resource Documents

**Guidelines:** Baseline public health requirements for school systems to follow when reopening school facilities to students in Fall 2020 policy implementation, supportive guidance, and tool development.  
**\*\*updated during the week as needed - remember to clear your cache for the latest version\*\***

**Best Practices:** Supportive guidance and resources for implementing guidelines

**Planning Template and Checklist:** A template with questions to guide school systems in planning for reopening, with an accompanying checklist for reopening

**FAQ Document:** LDOE released and is maintaining a dynamic FAQ document for implementation support. **\*\*updated during the week as needed\*\***

**Self Monitoring Checklist:** School system checklist to ensure BESE adopted requirements are being met.



# Agenda

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### **Updated Resources:**

1. Assessment Update
2. Vision/Hearing Screening Proclamation
3. LDH Early Warning System Update
4. LHSAA Spectator Guidelines
5. CHNOLA Town Hall Updates and Resources

### **Reminder Resources:**

6. Facial Coverings

# Resource Updates

# Resource Update: Assessment Update

## Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessment Administration

- Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessments administration is currently scheduled for December 1-18. *In response to delayed school openings, a second window has been scheduled for January 6-26.* School systems will be asked to submit their choice of window to the Department in October through DRC INSIGHT.
- Additional dates and reminders are forthcoming



# Resource Updates: Vision/Hearing Screening

## Vision/Hearing Screening:

- Governor John Bel Edwards recently issued State of Emergency [Proclamation Number 111](#) which states:
  - The provisions of La. R.S. 17:21 I2(A) (1) requiring that vision and hearing tests be done within the first semester of the school year are suspended. School districts are instructed to continue such tests as much as possible, prioritizing students who have not been previously tested.
- The provisions of this proclamation are effective from Friday, August 28, 2020 to Friday, September 11, 2020, or as extended by any subsequent Proclamation, unless terminated sooner.

# Resource Updates: Vision/Hearing Screening

## Vision/Hearing Screening:

- The Louisiana American Academy of Pediatrics has issued a [memo](#) outlining an updated recommended schedule for vision/hearing screening updates for the 2020-21 school year. The following children will undergo vision and hearing screening this fall:
  - All Pre-K and Kindergarten students, as new enterers
  - Any student with a reported concern
  - Individual students for Special Education, Title or SBLC requests
- Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 will have screenings suspended until it is safe to do so in a mass assembly format.

# Louisiana Department of Health Early Warning System

## COVID-19 Early Warning in Louisiana Schools

Louisiana's State Public Health Officer, Dr. Jimmy Guidry, issued an [Emergency Order](#) that allowed for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), to develop an early warning system for COVID-19 in Louisiana schools.

This system was created to aid schools and public health officials in monitoring and mitigating the potential for school-based outbreaks. Participating in this initiative will provide schools with guidance on what information to collect in the event of a COVID-related illness in their facility, and will also allow them to collect case information in one centralized location with the ultimate goal of keeping our students safe.

Information included in this system will be critical for school-based contact tracing and guiding schools in decision-making. Information reported in this system will also be available to public health officials, allowing for the ability to lend assistance where needed.

# Louisiana Department of Health Early Warning System Resources

- LDH has developed resources for schools to navigate the early warning system:
  - [Guide for School Reporting](#)
  - [COVID Schools Worksheet](#)
  - [Contact Tracing Guide](#)
  - [Contact Tracing Worksheet for Parents](#)
- For more information, please visit [COVID-19 Resources for Schools](#)
- Inquiries related to COVID-19 spread in the school setting and the reporting system process should be directed to the following LDH email address: [schoolcovidreporting@la.gov](mailto:schoolcovidreporting@la.gov).
- LDOE will continue to work in conjunction with LDH to facilitate additional technical support, tools, and resources.

# LHSAA Spectator Guidance

Outdoor and indoor spectator capacity for LHSAA-sanctioned athletics shall be set in accordance with the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's guidelines developed in conjunction with the Office of the Governor and the Louisiana Department of Health at [opensafely.la.gov](https://opensafely.la.gov)



# Supports from Key Partners: CHNOLA

**The Children's Hospital New Orleans Hotline for School Wellness and Virtual Care (504-837-7760)** offers guidance to school nurses and school administrators.

**The Children's Hospital New Orleans Town Hall Series for Schools** will continue through September, every other Tuesday with **a new time of 3 pm**. The Zoom link and information will be shared in our weekly newsletter.

# Supports from Key Partners: CHNOLA

| Date                      | Time          | Zoom Link  |
|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>September 15, 2020</b> | <b>3-4 pm</b> | Please click the link to join the webinar:<br><a href="https://zoom.us/j/95094135523?pwd=U0p4Zmp4R3d2TndkQjdUai9EcDE4dz09">https://zoom.us/j/95094135523?pwd=U0p4Zmp4R3d2TndkQjdUai9EcDE4dz09</a><br>Passcode: 9152020 Dial-In: +19292056099 Meeting ID : 95094135523#<br>Passcode: 9152020# |
| <b>September 29, 2020</b> | <b>3-4 pm</b> | Please click the link to join the webinar:<br><a href="https://zoom.us/j/99348692454?pwd=eko5eUpEa1dnMGZJMWxWSFhJWnpFUT09">https://zoom.us/j/99348692454?pwd=eko5eUpEa1dnMGZJMWxWSFhJWnpFUT09</a><br>Passcode: 9292020 Dial-In: +13017158592 Meeting ID: 99348692454#<br>Passcode: 9292020#  |

# Supports from Key Partners: CHNOLA

Children's Hospital of New Orleans has provided a [School Wellness page](#) with resources for school systems to use throughout the school year. These resources include:

- [Printable school signage](#) to remind students and visitors of social distancing measures, handwashing hygiene and facial covering use.
- [Parent resources](#) for school systems to use for communication needs with parents surrounding a safe and healthy return to the classroom.



# Resource Reminders

# Resources: Facial Coverings

## Facial Coverings update:

- CDC recommends that people wear [cloth face coverings](#) in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other [social distancing](#) measures are difficult to maintain.
- Cloth face coverings are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. This is called [source control](#). It is not known if neck gaiters provide any benefit as source control to protect others from the spray of respiratory particles.
- **CDC does not recommend use of neck gaiters as a substitute for cloth face coverings. Neck gaiters should only be used until an appropriate cloth face covering can be secured.**



## Moderated Q&A Session

Additional questions following the Q&A can be sent to:  
[LDOECOVID19support@la.gov](mailto:LDOECOVID19support@la.gov)