

# **Teacher Leader Newsletter**

October 30, 2014

Hi fellow teachers! My name is Tammy Schales, and I am 4th grade teacher in Ruston, LA at Ruston Elementary School. I have been very honored to serve as a Louisiana Teacher Leader and Teacher Leader Adviser for two years.

Last week I was afforded a wonderful opportunity to lead two of our Regional Teacher Leader Collaboration meetings in Alexandria and Bossier (meetings were also held in Lake Charles and Baton Rouge). During these meetings, Teacher Leaders shared information about this year's end of year assessments and how to use the <a href="math">math</a> and <a href="ELA">ELA</a> guidebooks and <a href="EAGLE">EAGLE</a> to help teachers in our journey to prepare students for the upcoming testing and for career and job readiness. I'm very excited about these great items that the state has provided for us as teachers to further grow education in Louisiana!

We can't wait to see you back out at those events again in December! Check out the resources and tools below to help you continue collaborating with educators across the state.

# **December Regional Teacher Leader Collaboration Event**

Last week's Regional Teacher Leader Collaboration Events were a success, and we're already looking forward to the next one! Our second Teacher Leader Collaboration Event will take place the week of December 8 in Lafayette, Jefferson and Ruston. These meetings will focus on ELA and math instructional strategies. We will share more information about dates, locations and how to register for these events in mid-November.

# **EAGLE Interim Assessment Support**

One of the tools we discussed during last week's Teacher Leader Collaboration is the new and improved <u>EAGLE</u> system, which is an online bank of items and tasks aligned to PARCC and the EOCs. I sincerely believe that EAGLE will help my students make great strides in their academic progress and will help me to evaluate student strengths and needs. In November we'll release new questions for math and ELA and will continue to each month through March.

#### **ELA Guidebook Virtual Book Clubs**

I was also excited to share news of the Virtual Book Clubs, which are hosted by Louisiana Teacher Leaders. The Virtual Book Clubs provide an opportunity to investigate the tasks included in the ELA Guidebook units so you can ensure your students are making sense of and talking and writing about complex texts. You can use the Virtual Book Club recorded modules independently or during staff development. Learn more about how to access the modules here.

# **Share Your Success Story with Fellow Teacher Leaders**

Helping our students achieve success not only on the PARCC and the EOCs assessments but in college and career will require that we do more than just practice test items with our students. We must go deeper to help them develop these **key skills in math and ELA**.

We know that many of you are already teaching in this way and seeing it pay off with your students. We would love to hear from you and share your success with other Teacher Leaders by highlighting your work in future Teacher Leader newsletters! If you have a success story related to developing these key skills in math and ELA or would like to nominate a fellow teacher, please email louisianateacherleaders@la.gov.

### **October Regional Teacher Leader Collaboration Event Materials**

Click <u>here for the session materials</u> and <u>here for the sign-in sheets</u> from October's Regional Teacher Leader Collaboration Event.

# **Engage with Pre-Service Teachers**

Looking for opportunities to engage with organizations across the state? Partner with the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to impact professional field experience in teaching and learning for pre-service teacher candidates. Share your enthusiasm, leadership, and expertise in raising expectations for student learning through meaningful engagement with pre-service teacher candidates to impact future generations of Teacher Leaders and Louisiana students. For more information, contact susan.kahn@louisiana.edu.



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EMAIL US YOUR COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, & FEEDBACK: LouisianaTeacherLeaders@la.gov

COLLABORATE & SHARE RESOURCES: www.edmodo.com; Group Join Code: LKEAQ4

SEE CURRENT COMMUNICATION & UPCOMING TRAINING:

<u>www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/classroom-support-toolbox/</u> teacher-support-toolbox/collaboration-teacher-leadership