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District Planning Call
May 18, 2016

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Agenda

I. **Teaching and Learning**
   A. Legislative and Standards Update
   B. Academic Planning Resources
   C. Compass
   D. Believe and Prepare

II. **Measuring Student Success**
   A. 2015-2016 Test Administration
   B. 2016 Assessment Results
   C. 2016 Accountability Resources

III. **Early Childhood**
   A. 2016-2017 Expectations
   B. Early Childhood Surveys

IV. **Graduation Pathways**
   A. TOPS Determinations
   B. Course Choice Update
   C. Financial Aid Study Group
   D. 2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan
   E. Jump Start Summer Institute Registration

V. **Funding**

VI. **Call Summary**

The following supervisors are recommended to participate in this call:

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Assessment and Accountability
- Data
- Principal and Teacher Support
- Early Childhood
- High School
- Special Education
- Finance
- Career and Technical Education

Teaching & Learning: Standards Update

Legislative Action Related to Standards Transition

The Legislature is currently considering a compromise regarding standards and accountability.

- The new Louisiana Student Standards will be implemented in 2016-2017.

- The accountability, student promotion, and Compass transition policies will continue through the 2016-2017 school year.

- After the transition policies conclude and the calculation of value-added data resumes, student growth will continue to count for 50 percent of a teacher's evaluation. However, value-added will make up only 35 percent of a teacher's evaluation.

For the 2016-2017 school year, as in the past three years, BESE's transition policies will remain in place, resulting in the following:

- Promotion decisions will continue to be made locally.

- Teacher value-added data will not be calculated.

- School and district letter grade distributions will not drop below the 2012-2013 distribution.

Email assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP 2025 Assessments

The Department will seek a vendor through a competitive bid process to provide a uniquely Louisiana test called LEAP 2025 with questions based on Louisiana Student Standards.

The procurement process determines a vendor; the Louisiana Student Standards determine the content of the test.

The RFP will seek the following:

- Uniquely Louisiana summative assessments in grade 3 through high school (i.e., English I, Algebra I, English II, and Geometry)
- Optional non-summative assessments
  - Formative assessment tasks for K through 2, for use at the discretion of districts
  - Diagnostic assessments for grade 3 through high school, for use at the discretion of districts
  - Interim assessments for grade 3 through high school, for use at the discretion of districts
- Support resources (e.g., assessment guides, practice tests, released items)

LEAP 2025 Assessments

The uniquely Louisiana assessments will be

- aligned to the Louisiana Student Standards;

- designed to be accessible for use by the widest possible range of students (e.g., students with disabilities, ELL students);

- constructed to
    - yield valid and reliable test results,
    - report student performance using five achievement levels, and
    - be comparable with a significant number of other states;

- developed to limit the amount of testing time;

- developed and reviewed with Louisiana educator involvement; and

- administered online in grade 3 through high school and online or on paper in grades 3 and 4.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Student Standards and LEAP 2025 Projected Timeline

Timeline	Phase of Work
Spring 2016 (March–May)	Legislatively developed transition of accountability to new standards Adoption of new standards
Summer 2016 (June–August)	Implementation of new standards Release of all final standards materials Contract awarded to vendor for LEAP 2025 ELA and mathematics assessment system
Fall/Winter 2016 (Sept–Jan 2017)	Assessment guides released (fall) Practice tests released (winter)

Louisiana Student Standards Support Plan

The Department has and will continue to release multiple tools and resources to support the transition to the new Louisiana Student Standards for ELA and math.

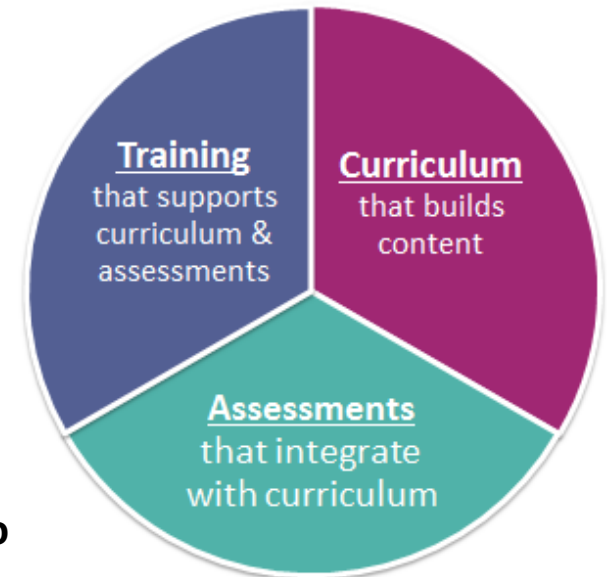|	
Support Documents	**Available now** • Updated Louisiana Student Standards documents for math and ELA (by EOW) • Enhanced crosswalk documents for ELA and math • Grade-level teacher companion documents for math • Updated math remediation guides • K–12 math standards by domain **Available by end of May** • ELA vertical progressions • Louisiana Student Standards Parent Guide and presentation
Math Tier 1 Curriculum Alignment	**Available now** • Bridges in Mathematics—posted here • Springboard—posted here **Available in June** • Eureka Math
Instructional Materials Reviews	• Updated guidance on alignment to Louisiana Student Standards—available in the fall

Teaching & Learning:
Academic Planning Resources

Academic Planning: Academics

Increasing student learning and improving teacher instruction requires access to high-quality resources and targeted, ongoing professional development to help teachers use those resources effectively.

Below are a few of the new resources released by the Department to support school systems in making academic planning decisions:

- **Selecting a standards-aligned curriculum**
  - ELA Guidebook 2.0 borchure and access guide
- **Choosing and reducing assessments for early childhood through grade 12**
  - K–3 Literacy Assessment Guidance
- **Choosing professional development opportunities aligned to standards**
  - Updated Professional Development Vendor Course Catalog
  - Teacher Leader Advisor applications
  - Jump Start Super Summer Institute

Training that supports curriculum & assessments

Curriculum that builds content

Assessments that integrate with curriculum

Academic Planning: Curriculum Resources

English Language Arts Guidebooks 2.0

The goal for students in English language arts (ELA) is to read and understand complex, grade-level texts and express their understanding of those texts through writing and speaking.

- ELA Guidebooks 2.0 is a curriculum for whole-class instruction made by Louisiana teachers for teachers to ensure all students meet the ELA goal.

- The content is free and openly licensed under a CC-BY 4.0 license. This means the units can be used, printed, shared, and adapted without any permission needed.

- What makes ELA Guidebooks 2.0 different from other curricula?

  o Real learning grounded in text

  o Plan for students, not programs

  o Support is central to the design

English Language Arts Guidebooks 2.0

In advance of the release of additional units of ELA Guidebooks 2.0 in June, the Department has created a new ELA Guidebooks 2.0 webpage.

The ELA Guidebooks 2.0 page will house the necessary resources in one location for ease of use.

Resources Released	Resources Coming Soon
ELA Guidebooks 2.0 pilot units	Additional ELA Guidebooks 2.0 units (June)
Release schedule for ELA Guidebooks 2.0	Units materials page on LearnZillion (June)
ELA Guidebooks 2.0 Quick Guide	Printable student materials (July)
Guidebook 2.0 Access Guide	Unit readers for purchase (July)

English Language Arts Guidebooks 2.0

Next Steps for Districts

- Determine whether the district will adopt guidebooks district-wide or for some portion of the district (i.e., particular schools or grade levels)

- Select which units to teach or leave to schools/teachers to decide

- Develop and implement a district plan for guidebooks:
  - Access all materials
  - Communicate to principals and teachers
  - Identify, locate, and/or provide upfront training for teachers to set them up for a good experience with the guidebooks
  - Identify, locate, and/or provide training for teachers as they implement the guidebooks

Email classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

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English Language Arts Guidebooks 2.0

<u>Summit ELA Guidebooks 2.0 sessions</u>

- Guidebooks 2.0: Policies and Best Practices to Support Implementation (Supervisors)
- Getting Started with Guidebooks 2.0 (Supervisors/Teachers)
- Guidebooks 2.0: Overview and SRCL Pilot Panel Discussion (Teachers)
- Guidebooks 2.0: How Do the Units Work? (Supervisors/Teachers)
- Guidebooks 2.0: How Can You Engage in Purposeful Planning? (Teachers)
- Additional sessions by Louisiana teachers on their guidebook implementation process

Academic Planning:
School Leadership Resources

Principal Support: District Grant Updates

DATES	OVERVIEW OF PRINCIPAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES
Tuesday, April 26	2016-2017 grant applications were due to the Department of Education
Week of May 23	2016-2017 district notifications* will be emailed to the grant contact and superintendent *funding is contingent on legislation
Week of June 15	Principal Support Grant Webinar for district points of contact: 2015-2016 recipients and 2016-2017 applicants

Email compass@la.gov for additional support.

Principal Support: 2016-2017 Resources

The 2016-2017 **Louisiana Principal's Teaching and Learning Guidebook** will be available online next week and includes key actions and current resources that guide principals in the following areas:

- Workforce Planning and Decisions
- Curriculum, Assessment, Professional Development, and Collaboration
- Goals and Educator Support

To learn more about the guidebook and how it can be used to support school leaders, principals and district staff are invited to participate in a Principal Virtual Town Hall scheduled for May 23 at 3:00 p.m. To access this presentation via livestream, click here.

Next Steps
- Principal supervisors should plan to attend the town hall meeting and invite other principals to attend.

Email questions to compass@la.gov

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Academic Planning: Assessment Resources

2016-2017 K–3 Literacy Assessment

The department is proposing modifications to K–3 literacy assessment administration.

Pending BESE approval, these changes will go into effect in the 2016-2017 school year.

	2015-2016	2016-2017
Assessment	DIBELS Next	Assessment options for kindergarten and grades 1–3
Waiver	DIBELS Next Waiver Application For districts interested in administering a DIBELS alternate assessment	K–3 Assessment Waiver For districts interested in administering an assessment not included in the list of approved K–3 literacy assessments
Assessment Schedule	Fall, Winter, Spring Administration	Fall administration required Additional administrations optional
Reporting	Fall Winter Spring	Fall

Recommended K–3 Literacy Screeners

- Pending BESE approval, districts will only be required to administer one K–3 assessment approved by the LDOE to each grade.
- Districts will administer the assessment as a screener and will report results in the fall to meet reporting requirements.

Grade	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
Skills	Phonological Awareness	Phonics	Oral Reading Fluency	Comprehension
Approved Assessments	• DIBELS Next First Sound Fluency • iSTEEP Initial Sound Fluency • Fountas & Pinnell Initial Sounds • STEP Phonemic Awareness First Sounds	• DIBELS Next Nonsense Word Fluency-CLS • iSTEEP Nonsense Word Fluency • easyCBM Word Reading Fluency • Fountas & Pinnell Phonograms • STEP Reading Record • TOWRE • WRET	• DIBELS Next Oral Reading Fluency (Passage 1 only) • iSTEEP Oral Reading Fluency • Fountas & Pinnell Oral Reading Rate • STEP Reading Rate/Fluency	• DIBELS Next Retell (Passage 1 only) • iSTEEP Advanced Literacy Fountas & Pinnell Comprehension • STAR Reading • STEP Comprehension • SRI/HMH RI

K–3 Literacy Assessment Schedule

Districts that were interested in administering an alternate assessment were invited to submit a waiver application by April 19. The Department reviewed applications and contacted districts with the status of their waiver requests.

All districts, including districts approved to use an alternate assessment, must adhere to the assessment schedule below.

K–3 Literacy Assessment Schedule				
K–3 Literacy Assessment Collection	Beginning of the K–3 Literacy Assessment Window	Length of the K–3 Literacy Assessment Window	Timeline for Reporting K–3 Assessment Data to the LDOE	K–3 Literacy Assessment Results Reporting Deadline
Fall 2016	1 week after the starting date of school	Three weeks or 15 school days	Within two weeks after the assessment period ends	September 30, 2016

K–3 Literacy Assessment Reporting

Pending BESE approval, districts will only be required to report K–3 assessment results to the LDOE in the fall, by September 30, 2016.

The Department will post a file template, in the assessment library, that districts will use for K–3 literacy assessment reporting.

Additional details and guidance on K–3 assessment reporting will be provided in forthcoming LDOE newsletters and DPC and DTC monthly calls.

Email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Academic Planning:
Professional Development Resources

2016 Teacher Leader Summit: Registration Update

Registration for the [2016 Teacher Leader Summit](#) has closed. We look forward seeing many of you there!

Location: Morial Convention Center, New Orleans

Agenda

| Wednesday, June 1		Thursday, June 2		Friday, June 3	
Teachers, early childhood		*Teachers, early childhood, supervisors*		*Supervisors*	
10:30–12:30	Sign-in	7:30–8:30	Sign-in	7:30–8:30	Sign-in
12:30–2:00	Session 1	8:30–9:15	General Session	8:30–10:00	Session 6
2:20–3:50	Session 2	9:45–11:15	Session 3	10:20–11:50	Session 7
		11:30–1:00	Lunch (provided)		
		1:00–2:30	Session 4		
		2:50–4:20	Session 5		

Arriving at the Summit

1. Registration will take place in Hall B-2 and is organized alphabetically by last name.
2. Please sign in each day you are attending.
3. Please wear your name badge at all times onsite, as it will be used to allow you into rooms.

Teacher Leader Summit App: Step 1 Download the App
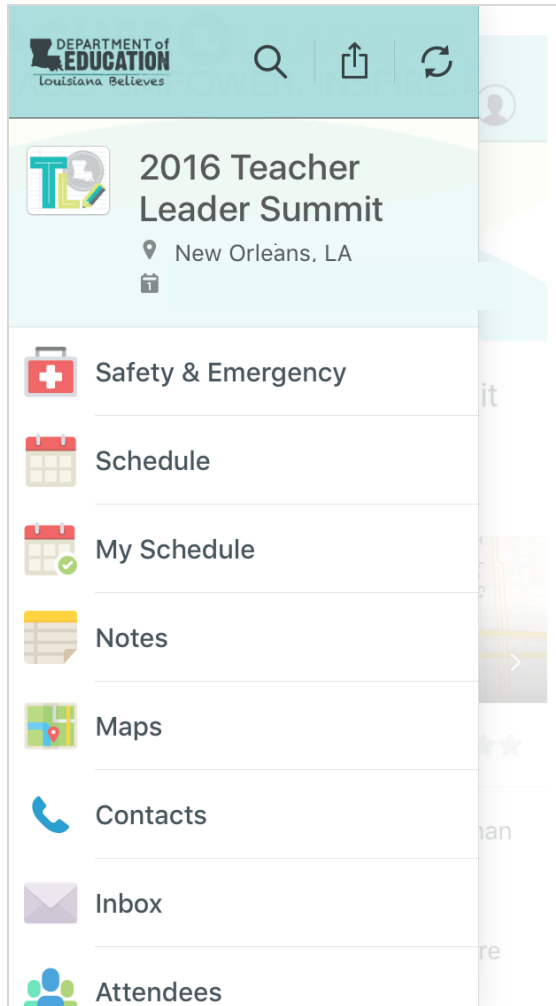
In preparation for the 2016 Teacher Leader Summit, all participants must download the new mobile app.

Benefits of the app
- Houses the most current information about sessions, including the schedule, room number, and materials.
- Allows you to easily search for sessions that fit your needs and add them to a personalized schedule
- Provides the LDOE with information that will help us improve your experience at the event

Downloading instructions
- To download the app to your **tablet and phone**, search "LDOE" in the Apple App store or the Android Market Google Play Store.
- Click here to access the app on your **computer** *(recommended)*.
- Please **enable push notifications** for this app so you receive critical updates during the event.

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Teacher Leader Summit App: Step 2 Search for Sessions
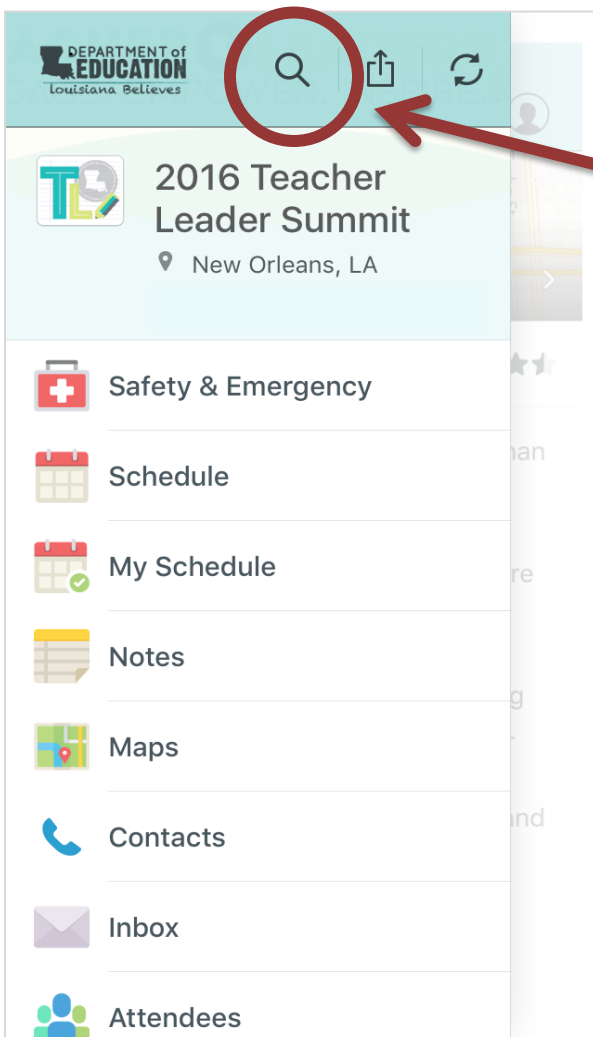
Search for sessions in two ways:

1. If you know the exact session you want, **select the magnifying glass** and type in your session code (e.g., S201) from the session list.
2. If you want to see a variety of sessions that might apply to you, **select the filter** on the lower right hand corner of the schedule tab and filter by topic.

NOTE
- **Session code S**= supervisors
- **Session code T**= teachers
- **Session code E**= early childhood
- **Session code A**= all/general
- The numbers in parentheses at the end of session titles are the grades the session targets.
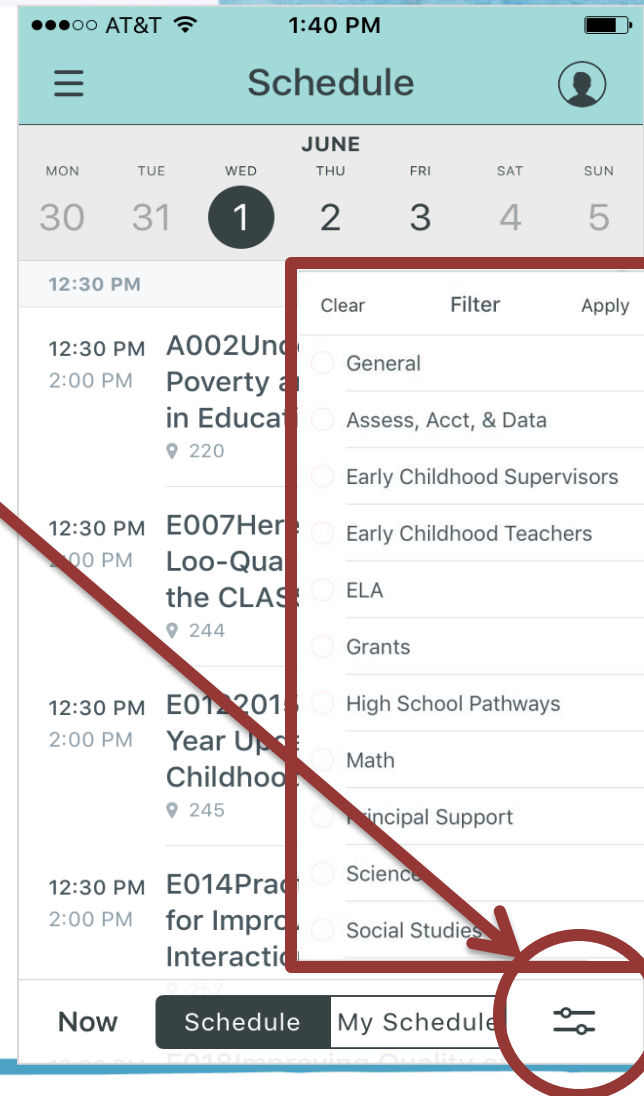
Teacher Leader Summit App: Step 3 Build a Personalized Schedule
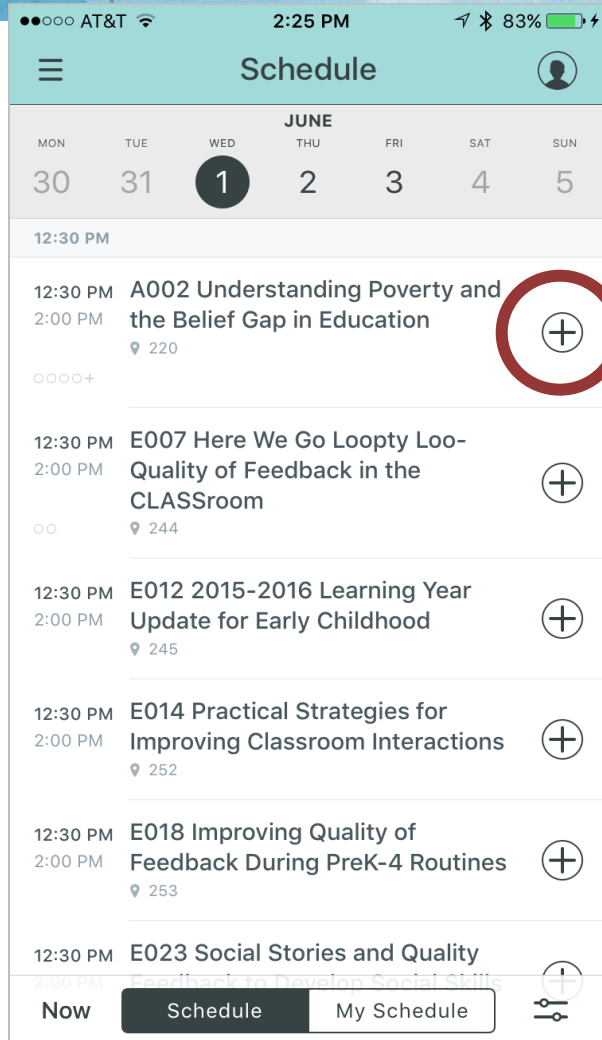
There are two ways to add a session to your personalized schedule:

1. From the full schedule, **click the plus sign**. That session will automatically be added to your personalized schedule.

2. Click on a session from the full schedule to open it and select **"add to my schedule"** to create a personalized list of your top sessions during the event.

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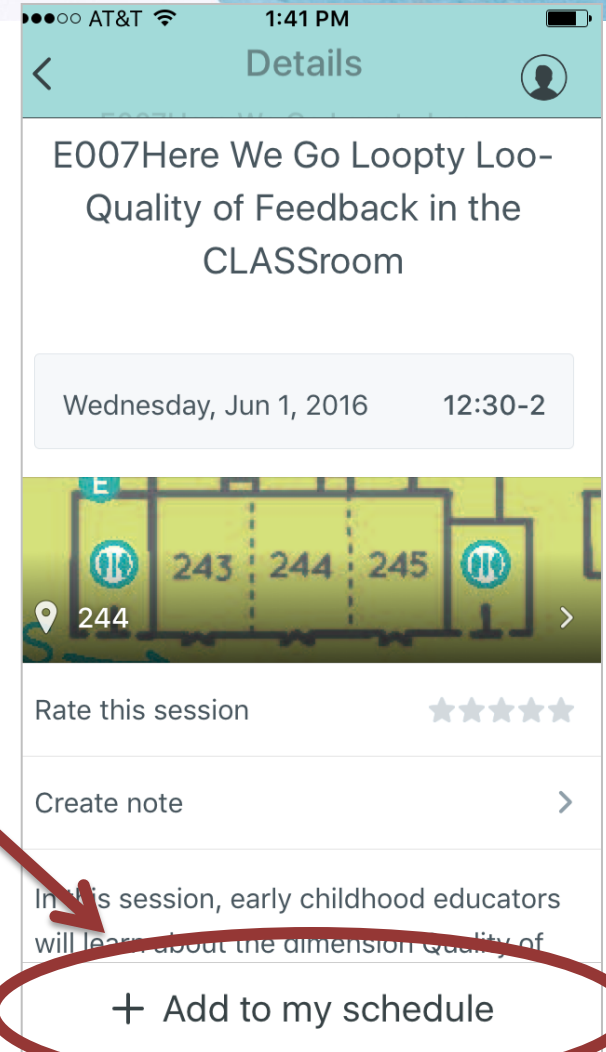
Teacher Leader Summit App: Step 3 Build a Personalized Schedule

Add your top 10–15 sessions to your personalized schedule.

This will help you build your schedule and will allow us to project room size more accurately.
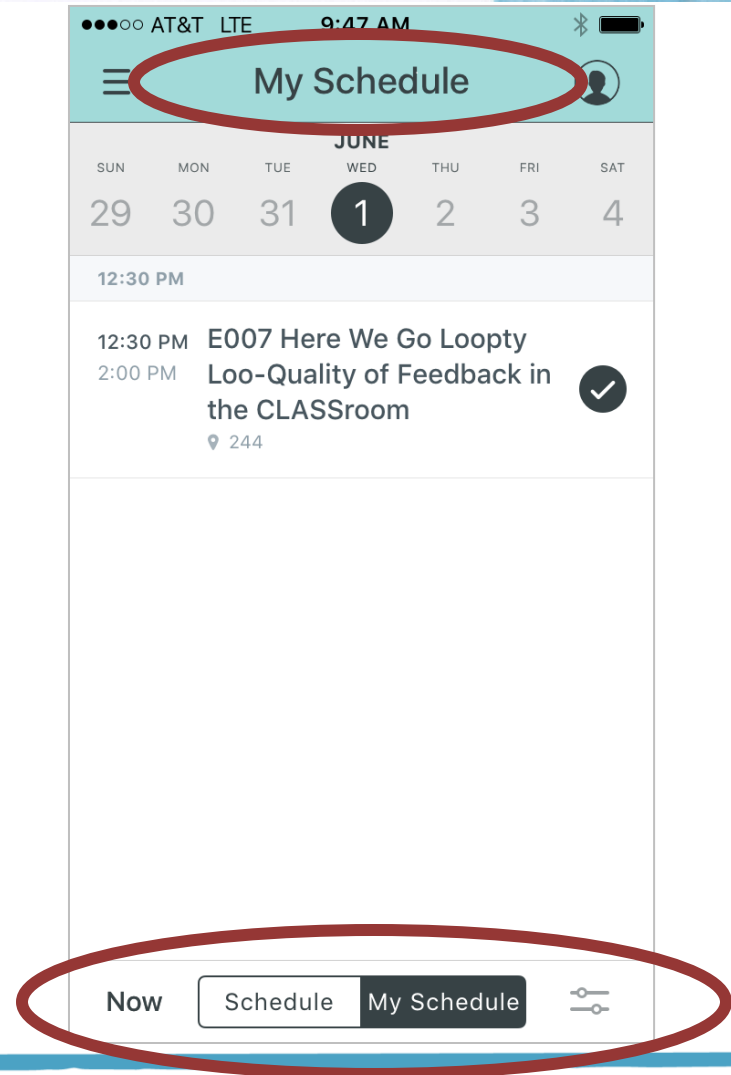
Summit Next Steps

1. Make final travel arrangements for all participants.

2. Download the app on both your phone/tablet and your computer.

3. Create a personalized schedule with the top 10–15 sessions you would like to attend.

4. Download session materials for any sessions in which you are interested (available beginning May 20).

5. Ensure all of your summit registrants complete steps 2–4 as well.

For questions please email Louisianateacherleaders@la.gov or DistrictSupport@la.gov.

2016-2017 Teacher Leader Advisor Application

- The Department is pleased to announce the release of the 2016-2017 Teacher Leader Advisor applications for [ELA](#), [math](#), [social studies](#) and [early childhood](#).

- Teacher Leader Advisors are educators from across the state who have strong skills in math, ELA, and social studies instructional planning.

- This group will create the next wave of high-quality instructional materials and support for fellow Louisiana educators.

- Becoming a Teacher Leader Advisor provides an opportunity to expand and refine your instructional skills, learn about key statewide projects, and deepen your understanding of planning and teaching.

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 13.

Please reach out to louisianateacherleaders@la.gov with any questions.

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2016 Jump Start Super Summer Institute

2016 Jump Start Super Summer Institute (SSI) is being held July 18–22 at the South Louisiana Community College in Lafayette, Louisiana. SSI will provide teacher certification training for [Jump Start Statewide Industry-Based Certifications](#) and the opportunity for teachers take the culminating certification assessment at the end of the training week.

The Department will pay training costs and provide lunch for secondary instructors attending SSI. Districts or charters are responsible for all travel expenses and a nominal registration fee ($150.00/instructor) for which districts may use their Career Development Funds (CDF) or 2015-2016 Carl Perkins Funds.

Each district or charter will be invoiced for total registration fees due and should submit payment to the LDOE no later than June 17, 2016, at the following address:

> Louisiana Department of Education
> Appropriation Control
> ATTN: Michelle S. Hill
> P. O. Box 94064
> Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

Please email JumpStart@la.gov with questions.

Professional Development Vendor Guide

The goal of the [PD vendor guide](#) is to support local school systems in making informed decisions regarding professional development that are aligned to top-tiered curriculums.

- This document provides a list of vendors who offer a range of high-quality PD packages that help teachers in the following ways:
    - Implementing a high-quality curriculum
    - Building content knowledge, especially around the [key instructional priorities](#)
    - Analyzing quality student work
    - Managing a classroom environment
    - Providing teacher practice and feedback
    - Offering ongoing support through mentoring, coaching, or PLCs

- May updates include the following:
    - Additional vendors
    - More specific information about the PD options each vendor provides

Contact DistrictSupport@la.gov if there are additional vendors that you think should be included in this guide.

Academic Planning: Early Childhood Resources

2016-2017 Early Childhood Guidance

What matters most in early childhood settings is that children have opportunities to develop competencies and skills across all domains of development, from social-emotional to language and literacy, so they enter kindergarten prepared for success.

This means early childhood educators must focus on key areas:
- Providing effective classroom interactions and instruction connected to content and routines
- Using high-quality resources, including curriculum materials and assessment tools, to strengthen children's development and learning

The Department has released guidance to support early childhood teachers in implementing strong and coordinated curriculum, assessments, and professional development that promote the quality and continuity of practice across early childhood and early elementary settings.

Please contact jill.slack@la.gov with questions.

2016-2017 Early Childhood Guidance

Next Steps	
Curriculum	• Read the early childhood education curricular reviews and K–2 curricular reviews to understand the common characteristics of high-quality curriculum across the age spans. • Select and implement a Tier 1 or Tier 2 early childhood education curriculum. • Provide high-quality narrative and informational read-aloud texts for infants and toddlers and preschoolers.
Assessments	• Set up the GOLD system and support teachers in using this assessment system on an ongoing basis or in using assessment tools embedded in a Tier 1 or Tier 2 curriculum. • Schedule time for preschool teachers to meet with kindergarten to use assessment data to improve transitions to kindergarten.
Professional Development	• Attend different professional development sessions—which will cover curriculum, assessment, and improving interactions and instruction—at the June Teacher Leader Summit. • Network with early elementary colleagues at the summit and during the school year to exchange ideas and knowledge and reflect on how to adapt new practices. • Review professional development options in the Vendor PD Course Catalog and select the resources that best meet the needs of your teachers.

Teaching & Learning: Compass Updates

Compass: End-of-Year Ratings

Evaluators of principals and teachers are able to use multiple measures of student growth and professional practice to support improvement through the year and to determine end-of-year ratings.

Student Growth: Multiple Measures

Teachers:
- Student learning targets (goals)
- Student growth data (VAM/TSGD where available)

Principals:
- Student learning targets (goals) based on School Performance Scores (SPS)

Starting in 2016–2017, leaders may adjust the student outcomes score for teachers with value-added data by +/-1 from the VAM rating, based on SLT results.

Final Evaluation

Both the Student Outcomes and Professional Practice components contribute equally to the final evaluation rating for both teachers and principals.

50% | 50%
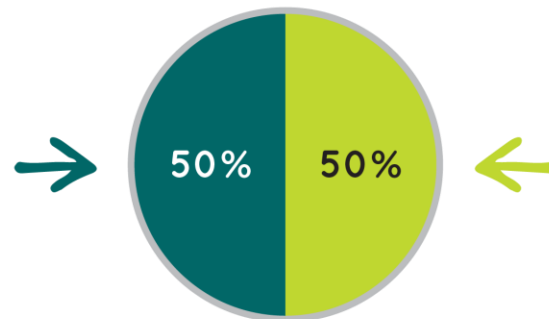
An ineffective rating on student outcomes or professional practice no longer overrides a principal's evaluation of his/her employees.

Professional Practice: Multiple Measures

Teachers:
- At least two observations measured using a tool aligned to instructional standards

Principals:
- At least two site visits to observe evidence of leadership practices
- Measured using a tool aligned to established leadership standards

School systems and school leaders decide the following regarding teacher observations:
- *number and length of observations beyond the minimum*
- *scope of observations including number of rubric indicators and type of evidence collected*

For the complete set of EOY guidance, click [here](#) or access the April 14 webinar [recording](#).

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Compass: End-of-Year Process

	COMPASS EOY ACTION STEPS
District Staff	- Support principals with teacher EOY conversations and evaluations - Complete principal EOY conversations and evaluations - Monitor progress toward completion and ensure EOY results are posted to CIS - Confirm all teachers and principals have completed roster verification in CVR
Principals and Evaluators	- Complete evaluations using multiple measures of student growth and professional practice - Complete teacher EOY conversations - Support and confirm roster verification in CVR (for teachers of certain grades and subjects)
Teachers	- Review Student Learning Target EOY data and submit results - Participate in EOY conversations - Complete roster verification in CVR (for teachers of certain grades and subjects)

Deadlines	Compass Evaluations
	    - Teachers: August 15, 2016
	    - Principals: August 15 or fall of 2016
	Roster Verification and Corrections
	    - Closes May 20

Compass: Resources and Support

End-of-Year Compass Resources
- Compass End-of-Year [webinar presentation](#) and [recording](#)
- [CIS-CVR User Guide](#)
- [Curriculum Verification and Results (CVR) Reporting Portal](#)
- [Louisiana Principal's Teaching and Learning Guidebook](#)
- [End-of-year conversation guiding questions and fillable form](#)
- [District Compass contacts and administrators](#)

Planning Resources
- [PK–12 planning resources](#)
- [LDOE professional development opportunities](#)
- [Teacher Leader Summit](#): LDOE Principal Goal-Setting Sessions

Additional Support
- **Compass end-of-year processes:** Email compass@la.gov.
- **Roster verification support:** Email ldoecvr@la.gov.
- **Regional Compass trainings:** New evaluators and those seeking an update are invited to attend. [Coursewhere](#) registration will be available in June. For information related to district-led trainings, contact compass@la.gov.

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Teaching & Learning:
Believe and Prepare Updates

Believe and Prepare Policy Development

Believe and Prepare pilot leaders, as well as academic research, depict promising practices in teacher licensure and preparation that could be the basis for long-term, statewide policy after years of committed study.

In order to expand these practices, the Department seeks to make policy changes. But the Department proposes that policies first be piloted, ensuring regular review and adjustment before final effect. Thus proposed bulletin changes include the following elements:

- Preparation program experience descriptors, including a gradual, year-over-year shift to competency-based program designs and yearlong residencies for all teacher candidates
- Teacher licensure policies, including piloting and potential adoption of content knowledge assessments aligned to Louisiana Student Standards
- Preparation program approval policies, including a multi-measure, quality rating system (that is Higher Education Act-compliant) with comparable measures for both traditional and alternative providers to be phased in over six years

This summer, BESE will be asked to approve a schedule for continued design, piloting, and regular evaluation of policies over the next six years, to be fully phased in by 2020-2021.

Believe and Prepare Grant Opportunity

School system and preparation provider leaders have identified further opportunities for the Believe and Prepare community, including the following:

- Growing **competency-based** preparation experiences that include **yearlong residencies**
- Increasing the number of teachers in **high-need schools and certification areas**
- Expanding the cadre of **effective mentor teachers**
- **Expanding partnerships** to geographically remote districts
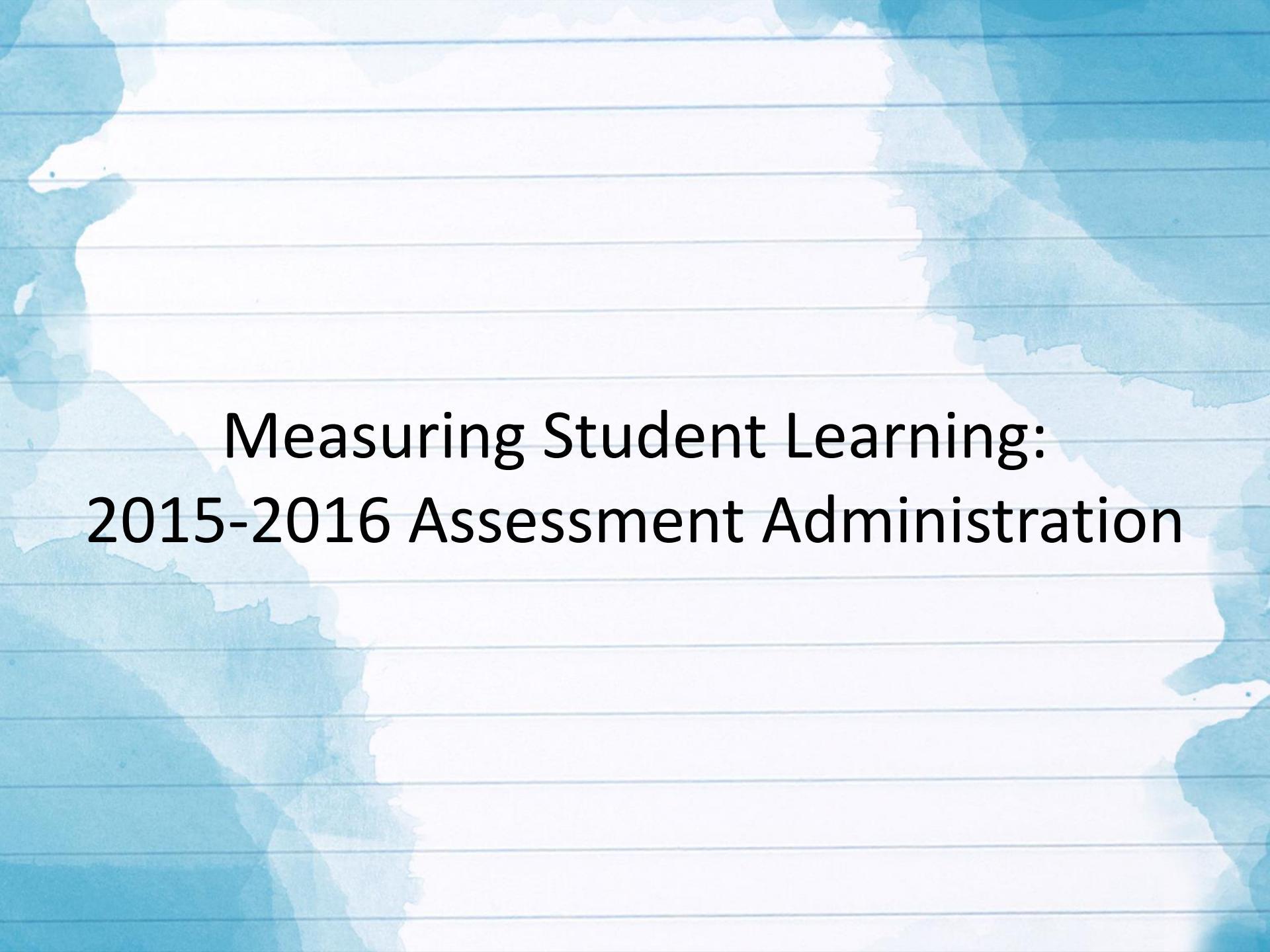
The Department plans to release a **Believe and Prepare Cohort 4 RFA** in **early summer**. The RFA will prioritize supporting program changes and expanding partnerships through 2016-2017 and allow preparation providers to serve as the lead applicant.

The application period will extend through August to allow school systems and preparation providers to collaborate on the application.

Funding will be available this fall, pending BESE approval.

Email believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Measuring Student Learning

Measuring Student Learning: 2015-2016 Assessment Administration

May and June Month-by-Month Checklist

Communication and Support
- **June 1–3:** Teacher Leader Summit
- **June 3:** Data Coordinators Call/Webinar
- **June 9:** Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call and Webinar

Assessment Preparation and Administration
- **May 9–20:** Administer optional social studies field test
- **May 20:** Last day to administer EOC Spring 2016 tests
- **May 20:** Last day to administer WorkKeys online
- **May 30:** Enter DIBELS Next Spring 2016 data in DDS
- **Through May:** Continue to evaluate and revise students' IEP, IAP, LEP, and PNP documents as needed
- **June 3:** Last day for DTCs to submit Special Education Graduation Waiver application for Spring 2016
- **June 7:** STCs register and assign students to Spring Administrative Error Retest rosters
- **June 8–10:** EOC Spring 2016 Administrative Error Retest administration window
- **June 13–17:** EOC Summer 2016 registration window
- **June 20–24:** EOC Summer 2016 administration window

Computer-Based Testing Update

- In this first year of computer-based testing in grades 3 through 8, 16 traditional school districts and a number of nonpublic and charter schools chose to test one or more schools or grade levels using the online testing platform, INSIGHT.

- During the math and ELA window, over 100,000 sessions were completed by these schools.

- Almost every district across the state participated in online practice tests in the same platform with over 160,000 tests completed and another 18,000 currently in progress.

- The social studies field test window will end May 20. All but a few districts across the state participated in the online field test. These districts have already completed over 250,000 test sessions.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Continuous Support

The Assessment team offers continuous support to districts, schools, and teachers seeking information or assistance about assessment administration and accountability.

Assessment@
- All stakeholders are encouraged to email assessment and accountability questions and/or concerns to assessment@la.gov.

Assessment Hotline
- For immediate assistance regarding assessment and accountability, district-level staff may call the Assessment Hotline at 1-844-268-7320.

DRC Customer Service
- DRC provides customer support to district test coordinators each day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 1-888-718-4836 or by email at LAHelpDesk@datarecognitioncorp.com.

Assessment Office Hours

Assessment Office Hours

Assessment office hours are available every Thursday at 11:00 a.m. and include an overview of the weekly newsletter and a Q-and-A session for test coordinators, technology coordinators, and other stakeholders.

Office Hours Login Information *(*No pre-registration required)*
- Click here to join the meeting or go to https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/dtc/
- Enter the meeting room as a guest and provide your name.
- Select the "listen only mode" if joining the meeting via computer or smartphone or access audio via phone bridge: 1-800-832-0736 / room number: 3423602

This Thursday, May 21, will be the last office hours session for the 2015-2016 school year.

Measuring Student Learning: 2016 Assessment Results

2016 Assessment Reporting Timelines

Test Administration	Reporting Timeline	Location
ELDA/LAA 1	Released on May 13	eDirect
LEAP Science	Early June	eDirect
ACT	Mid-July	FTP
LEAP ELA/Math	Late July	eDirect
End-of-Course	Late July	EOC System
Advanced Placement	Early August	FTP

Please email assesment@la.gov with questions.

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Measuring Student Learning: 2016 Accountability

Accountability Resources

In preparation for the fall release of school performance scores (SPS), the Department posted important resources to the accountability library:

- The 2015-2016 SPS Overview PowerPoint includes policy updates that are applied to 2016 school performance scores.

- The 2015-2016 SPS calculator is available to help districts and schools estimate SPS.

- Fact sheets for calculating progress points and Jump Start graduation cohort indices provide important information for SPS components.

Email assessment@la.gov with questions.

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K8 Social Studies Index

In 2015-2016, test results from the social studies field test will not be used for accountability purposes. The 2016 K8 school performance score will include the 2013-2014 or 2014-2015 social studies assessment index, whichever is higher. The Department posted the social studies indices for schools and districts to the secure FTP on April 29 with filename "2016 K8 SPS Social Studies Index LEAcode."

The index should be used with the 2015-2016 School Performance Score Calculator.

SPS Calculator				
Assessment Index				
	K-8		**HS**	
Test Type	**Total Points Weighted**	**Total Test Units Weighted**	**Total Points Weighted**	**Total Test Units Weighted**
LEAP/EOC	11250.0	150.0	0.0	0.0
LAA1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Social Studies Adjusted	0.0	0.0		
ACT			0.0	0.0
Sum	11250.0	150.0	0.0	0.0
Assessment Index	75.0		0.0	

Social Studies Assessment Index from 2013-2014 or 2014-2015*	0

Early Childhood

Wrapping up 2015-2016

The state is near completion of the learning year:

- All spring *CLASS* observations must be confirmed by May 20.
  - Every early childhood classroom in a publicly funded site must have a local observation entered for the spring semester.
  - These observation scores will be used for the practice performance ratings that will be released in the fall.

- The Final Teaching Strategies *GOLD* Checkpoint is May 31.
  - Completing a checkpoint for every publicly funded child helps teachers and administrators understand where each child is and how they can best support the child.
  - Teachers and administrators should also enter their informational metrics in *GOLD*, including their ratio, curriculum, and degrees/credentials.

- The Department is reviewing lead agency applications, which were due on May 16. Lead agencies will coordinate observations, enrollment, and administration for community networks.

For questions, contact Jenna Conway at jenna.conway@la.gov.

Louisiana Believes

Preparing for Next Year

The Department is preparing for 2016-2017:

- The Department is making revisions to Bulletin 140 in the following areas based on feedback from the field via roundtables in April:
  1. Adjust scale from 3 levels to 4 levels to show differences in performance
  2. Implement consequences for consistently very low-performing sites
  3. Publicly honor excellence and improvement
  4. Focus greater attention on local observer accuracy

- Policy shifts are being reviewed at the [Early Childhood Advisory Council](#) meeting currently taking place and at June BESE.

For questions, contact Jenna Conway at jenna.conway@la.gov.

Engaging Teachers and Families

Surveys to engage families and teachers are now available.

In partnership with United Way and LSU, the state is currently conducting a family survey:
- The survey includes a sample of families from all types of publicly funded early childhood, including child care, Head Start, and school-based pre-K.
- Families have the opportunity to provide their input on how well their programs serve their children, whether they would choose those programs again, and how satisfied they are with their communities' enrollment processes.
- Results will be reported for informational purposes only.
- **Click here for link to online survey, which is available through May 15th.**

The state is also surveying early childhood teachers:
- An online survey is being used to assess teachers' perception on how well they are supported by their community network to prepare children for kindergarten.
- The survey has been **disseminated through teacher emails** and results will be reported for informational purposes only.

Contact Nasha Patel at nasha.patel@la.gov with any questions.

Graduation Pathways

TOPS Processing: 2015-2016 Graduates

- In order for LOSFA to process TOPS awards for 2015-2016 in a timely manner, LEAs should complete data submissions for all high school graduates in the Student Transcript System (STS) no later than **5:00 p.m. on May 30, 2016.**

- Please verify graduation requirements are met, ensure all graduate records contain a graduation date, and certify all sites.

- The STS system will be reopened as soon as the LOSFA harvest is complete on May 31, 2016, so LEAs can continue to process remaining students.

For assistance, contact SystemSupport@la.gov.

Jobs for America's Graduates–Louisiana (JAG-LA)

The JAG-LA Program is an affiliate of the Jobs for America's Graduates Program (JAG), the nation's largest dropout prevention and recovery program serving youth 12 to 21 years of age.

JAG-LA delivers a unique set of services for at-risk students to help them earn a high school diploma and for out-of-school youth, to assist them in earning a Louisiana High School Equivalency Diploma. Services are provided by a job specialist and are centered on the national JAG competencies which include: career development, job attainment, job survival, communication skills, workplace skills, and life survival skills.

The program also provides 12 months of post-graduation follow-up services, with the graduate pursuing postsecondary education and/or entering the workforce in a quality job leading to a career.

- JAG-LA programs are expanding for 2016-2017 school year.*

- JAG-LA Grant funding will be $50,000 per program.*

- A Request For Application (RFA) for the JAG-LA Grant is available here. **Grants are due Wednesday, June 8, 2016, at 4:00 p.m.**

For information on the JAG-LA Grant, please email dianna.keller@la.gov.

*Contingent on funds available

Career and Technical Education (CATE) Data System

The CATE system supports CTE data collection, analysis, and reporting. CATE is used to compile CTE data reports submitted to U.S. Department of Education, and provides longitudinal CTE information about students, schools, districts, and the state.

- **The CATE data system is now open through July 1, 2016,** for LEAs to submit 2015-2016 Career and Technical Education (CTE) school and student-level data.

- In early May, the LDOE provided a series of webinars to give guidance to LEAs and school users regarding required data submission and "new" system functionality. The webinar deck can be found at the following [link](#).

- Online resources are available to assist new and experienced end-users of CATE with submitting the required data and can be found under the "Documentation" menu tab in CATE.

For additional information, please email JumpStart@la.gov.

Career and Technical Education: All Data Submission Locations

Student Transcript System (STS)

- Final coursework/grades.
- Indication of highest level IBC earned for graduates in the career and tech endorsement code.

eScholar FTP Site

- Documentation of every credential earned by a student (one credential per file) named in the following format SiteCode_StudentLocalID_BeginningSchoolYearEarned_3DigitIBCCode (e.g. 001005_123456789_2015_009.pdf). Acceptable file types include pdf, doc, docx, jpg, jpeg, gif, bmp.

CATE

- Program Offerings/AOCs
- Articulated Credit Courses
- State-Approved Skills Certificates
- Individual Graduation Plan
- Jump Start Internships Programs
- Work-based Learning Programs
- School-based Enterprise Programs
- Student Participation Data in IBC Programs (Tested Participants)
- Concurrent Enrollment Data

For assistance, contact Jacqueline.Edwards@la.gov

Financial Aid Working Group Update

On April 21, the Department held the second meeting of the **Financial Aid Working Group** to ensure that parents, students, and districts have a forum to provide feedback to the Department on Louisiana's financial-aid access. This group represents a diverse group of organizations with an interest in increasing postsecondary access to Louisiana's students.

The group is tasked with the following:

- Developing a state action plan for school-level completion of financial-aid forms and proposing recommended policy or funding changes to ensure that the new policy is effectively implemented
- Assisting the Department in the ongoing identification of support services and programs available for secondary schools and families
- Assisting in the development of partnerships and alliances with financial-aid support programs, services, and other stakeholders

Next Meeting: June 9—Finalizing the Statewide Action Plan

2016-2017 Course Choice/SCA Registration

- A new SCA provider directory will be released in mid-May and will include an overview of the 2016-2017 course providers and a link to the catalog of course offerings from each provider.

- In order to provide school systems with a more streamlined process for enrolling students in Course Choice and SCA courses, the Department will no longer process registration through the Agilix System in 2016-2017.

- LEAs will directly register students with approved providers and report back aggregate enrollment information to the LDOE.

- Students will register directly with Louisiana postsecondary institutions as they have in the past—no change.

- More information on the 2016-2017 Course Choice enrollment process will be provided in an upcoming district newsletter.

Please email sca@la.gov with questions.

2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan

- The **Pupil Progression Plan (PPP)** is the comprehensive plan developed and adopted by each LEA that establishes policies and guidelines that local school districts use to determine whether students will be promoted to the next grade, retained in the current grade, or advanced (or skipped) to higher grades. PPPs also outline the criteria for high school graduation.

- The new 2016-2017 PPP template will be released in June following the legislative session, via the superintendent's weekly newsletter and will be posted to the Department's website. As such, **the deadline for submission will be extended into mid-October.**

- For more information on the 2016-2017 Pupil Progression Plan, please email your request to PPP@la.gov.

Funding

Allocation Cycle

NCLB and IDEA Preliminary Allocations—April/May Release

- Calculations completed and internally approved
- 90 percent of projected allocation is released as the preliminary allocation
- Preliminary GANs are published
- Preliminary allocation amounts are loaded into eGMS

Action Items

- Original applications must be completed and submitted by June 30 to be considered substantially approved

Contact your POC or Randy.Littleton@la.gov with questions.

Call Summary

Call Summary

Month	Actions/Deadlines	Resources and Support
May	• Roster verification closes in CVR: 5/20 • EOC and WorkKeys test administration ends: 5/20 • Deadline to enter DIBELS data: 5/30 • High school graduate data submissions due in STS for the purposes of TOPS awards: 5/30 • Download Teacher Leader Summit app: by 5/31 • Final Teaching Strategies *GOLD* checkpoint: 5/31	• Spring 2016 LAA 1/ELDA results released in eDirect • Principal Virtual Town Hall Meeting: 5/23 • ELA resources: new standards crosswalks, ELA Guidebook 2.0 Quick Guide and webpage • Math resources: new standards crosswalks, math standards by domain and remediation guides • Early childhood guidance • Principal Guidebook: available week of May 23 • PD vendor guide • Compass End-of-Year webinar presentation and recording
June	• June Data Coordinator call: 6/3 • Deadline to submit SPED graduation waivers: 6/3 • JAG-LA grants due: 6/8 • June DTC Call: 6/9 • EOC summer registration window: 6/13–6/17 • Teacher Leader Advisor applications due: 6/13 • Jump Start Super Summer Institute fees due: 6/17 • EOC summer administration window: 6/20–6/24	• Teacher Leader Summit: 6/1–6/3 • ELA Guidebook 2.0 additional units • LEAP science results released in eDirect: early June • Financial Aid Working Group meeting: 6/9 • Principal Support Grant webinar: 6/15 • New 2016-2017 PPP template