

Dana Dauzat

From: Dana Dauzat
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 3:27 PM
To: Dana Dauzat
Subject: Important News for School Districts

From: John White [mailto:ladepteduc@la.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 4:03 PM
To: Dana Dauzat
Subject: Important News for School Districts

LDOE Weekly Newsletter



August 11, 2015

Superintendent's Message

Dear Colleagues,

The school year is off to a good start. As you ready your schools, I wanted to provide brief updates on three important and fast-moving items at the state level.

First, as you know, the Governor's Division of Administration has approved requests for proposals (RFPs) for 2015-2016 testing vendors. Assessment overviews providing the most current information about grades 3-8 and EOC assessments have been posted for [English language arts](#), [mathematics](#), [social studies](#), and [science](#). Grade 3-8 ELA and math assessments will be aligned with [current state standards](#) and will be academically consistent with 2014-2015 tests. Teachers should use [EAGLE](#) and 2014-2015 [sample tests and items](#) to guide their preparation. Grade 3-8 social studies assessments will be aligned for the first time with standards established in 2011, but the tests will be field tests and not used for accountability or evaluative purposes. You and your teachers can find more detail on all tests in the [back-to-school package](#) distributed to teachers in the last two weeks.

Next, the Legislature and BESE have initiated a process to review and develop Louisiana English and math standards. In turn, BESE has approved committees of educators nominated by school systems and professional organizations across the state to

review and develop the standards. Yesterday the Department announced that public commenters have submitted [nearly 30,000 comments](#) on the state's current standards. The Standards Review Committees will meet for the first time to review these comments Wednesday, August 19, at 9 a.m. in Baton Rouge.

Finally, in the last year Regional Teams statewide have created 47 Jump Start [graduation pathways](#), each culminating in industry-valued credentials allowing graduates to continue their education in college and attain entry-level employment. Last week the Department launched the "[All Things Jump Start](#)" web site, providing easy access to details on Jump Start policy, course work, credentials, and funding. I urge you to make use of the site and to distribute it widely as we expand career and technical education course access to Louisiana students.

Our state's schools continue to create opportunity for our state's children. Have a great start to the year.

As always, thank you for all you do for our children,

John

Louisiana Department of Education
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CLICK HERE TO VIEW
THE MOST CURRENT
LEA CALENDAR EVENTS

To view the current District Support Calendar, please click [here](#).

District Support

Registration for Supervisor and Teacher Leader Collaborations Now Open

The Department will host a series of statewide [Supervisor Collaboration Events](#) the week of September 14, 2015 to provide district leaders with access to high-quality tools, resources and professional development designed to help them plan and achieve their goals for the 2015-2016 school year.

These events will take place in the following locations:

- September 14: Lafayette
- September 15: Bossier City
- September 17: Greater New Orleans area
- September 18: Baton Rouge

Sessions are reserved on a first come, first serve basis, therefore please [register today in Coursewhere](#).

The Department will also host [Teacher Leader Collaborations](#) in the afternoon immediately following each Supervisor Collaboration. Please encourage your Teacher Leaders to [register](#) for these events to gain access to a variety of content-specific tools, information and instructional strategies to support student learning. District staff attending the Teacher Leader event should also register separately for this event.

Registration for both collaborations is on a first-come, first-served basis. Network teams will followup with districts in the coming weeks to discuss these events and the planning and registration process.

Please email louisianateacherleaders@la.gov with questions about these events.

2015-2016 Back-to-School Resources

Please share with Principals and Teachers.

The Louisiana Department of Education is committed to providing educators at each level of the education system - teachers, principals, and districts - with the [supports and resources](#) they need to continue raising the bar for students in Louisiana.

To this end, the Department will offer a combination of in-person trainings, virtual support, high-quality tools, and ongoing communication throughout the 2015-2016 school year.

The [2015-2016 Back-to-School Package](#) provides all educators with resources, tools, and support structures to support planning and instruction, goal-setting, and assessments for the start of the 2015-2016 school year. Please share this resource with principals and teachers in your district.

Email districtsupport@la.gov with questions.

High School Opportunities

Course Choice/SCA School Level Information

Course Choice funded through the Supplemental Course Allocation (SCA) will provide students and schools with access to a broad variety of course offerings from online, face-to-face, industry training, and dual enrollment course providers. These course offerings will enable schools to provide courses not currently available to their students, including:

- Career and technical preparation, supporting the Jump Start program
- Academic work required to achieve TOPS
- Advanced coursework not available at the school due to limited resources
- Dual Enrollment
- Intensive remediation for students struggling to stay on pace for graduation

The registration process opened in July. Each high school should have an account on the system to approve registrations.

If you are unsure of the user account for your school please send an e-mail to SCA@la.gov requesting account information. Please include your school name and school district in the body of the message.

Course Choice/SCA Registration System: <http://lacourses.net/>

Note: All post-secondary dual enrollment course choice requests originate with the post-secondary institution.

SCA Counselor Webinars

Webinars are scheduled to provide an overview of the registration process to Professional School Counselors. The content of the webinars are the same each week.

- **August 10, 2015: 2:00 pm - 3:00 p.m.**
- **August 17, 2015: 2:00 pm - 3:00 p.m.**

Web Conference Link: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/r3q1d9pf11q/>

To connect by telephone only (no computer): 1.800.832.0736 Access code 1053465

2015-2016 SCA Allocation

LEAs/Independent Public Schools can determine their SCA allocation by reviewing this document:

[http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/minimum-foundation-program/2015-16-circular-no-1159b---hb1-appropriation-of-\\$2-6-million-for-supplemental-course-allocation.pdf?sfvrsn=4](http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/minimum-foundation-program/2015-16-circular-no-1159b---hb1-appropriation-of-$2-6-million-for-supplemental-course-allocation.pdf?sfvrsn=4).

Supplemental Course Allocation Dual Enrollment Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA)

All post-secondary dual enrollment course choice requests originate with the post-secondary institution. Districts and Charter schools can voluntarily choose to execute a cooperative endeavor agreement (CEA) for the purpose of utilizing the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Grant Award System to pay participating postsecondary institutions for student dual enrollment course tuition. This CEA is intended to streamline the payment process for LDOE's Course Choice postsecondary dual enrollment course offerings funded through Supplemental Course Allocation.

Execution of the CEA is voluntary and has absolutely no implications on SCA funding. Please find the CEA [here](#).

Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Tops Tech Early Start and SCA Bulletin [here](#).

The deadline to submit the CEA for 2015-2016 is **August 21, 2015**.

Please email any questions you may have about the CEA to SCA@la.gov.

Getting Started with CLEP

The College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP) helps students receive college credit for completion of advanced coursework.

District Test Coordinators, Administrators, Professional School Counselors, and Lead Teachers are encouraged to participate in one of the face-to-face trainings from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at one of the following locations:

- **Monday, August 24** at the Bossier Instructional Center in Bossier City
- **Tuesday, August 25** at the Bossier Instructional Center in Bossier City
- **Wednesday, August 26** at the Student Support Services Building in West Monroe
- **Thursday, August 27** at the Gladys Higdon Instructional Center in Alexandria
- **Tuesday, September 22** at the Calcasieu Parish School Board Assessment Building in Lake Charles
- **Wednesday, September 23** at EBR Professional Development Center in Baton Rouge
- **Friday, September 25** at the Treen Technology Center in Mandeville

For more information or to register, click [here](#).

Please contact CollegeReadiness@la.gov with any questions or for additional information.

Assessment & Accountability

Summer Data Package Release

Please forward to all district assessment contacts, accountability contacts and data coordinators.

To maximize awareness, usage and impact of data, the LDOE is streamlining several reports into data packages that will be released in alignment with important phases of the school year.

The **Summer Data Package** includes the following data analytics and reports to assist educators in identifying school, school leader, teacher and content area performance trends in preparation for the 2015-2016 school year:

- **Spring 2015 LEAP/iLEAP Assessment Summary Reports:** Available on the LDOE SFTP site through August 31, 2015
- **Special Education Suite:** Available on the LDOE SFTP site through August 31, 2015
 - IDEA LEA Determinations
 - Act 833 Potential Eligibility Report
 - 1% & 2% Proficiency Cap Letters
 - IDEA Monitoring Rubric
- **ACT PLAN Reports:** To be delivered to districts along with ACT PLAN student letters by August 12.

Accompanying these resources is the Summer Data Package [coversheet](#), which describes each resource and gives insight on its intended audience and usage.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Finance

FY 2014-2015 Annual Financial Report (AFR) Collection Timelines

Please forward to business managers and financial officials of City/Parish School districts, Type 2 and Type 5 Charter Schools, LSMSA, NOCCA, OJJ, LSU Lab, and Southern Lab:

Louisiana R.S. 17:92 requires that local school systems and schools provide financial data to the Department no later than September 30 each year. The financial data is submitted via the LEADS portal. The LEADS portal is scheduled to be available for submission beginning **Friday, August 14**. The AFR documents that are needed to assist you in the submission of your data can be found at <https://leads13.doe.louisiana.gov/lug/AFR/AFR.htm>

If you have any questions concerning the preparation of the financial information or account classification, contact Keya Williams at Keya.Williams@la.gov or Jameka Henderson at Jameka.Henderson@la.gov.

For questions regarding the electronic submission or online update process, contact Miao Cao at Miao.Cao@la.gov or Rebecca Lamury at Rebecca.Lamury@la.gov.

Grant Management

2015 Believe and Succeed / School Improvement 1003(g) Grant Application

The Department released the 2015 Believe and Succeed application on August 3, 2015. This year, Believe and Succeed Grants will be funded out of federal School Improvement 1003(g) grant funds. LEAs may apply for 3-5 year grants focused on high-quality initiatives that will improve school performance at eligible Focus or Priority schools.

The application, complete list of eligible schools, all necessary forms, the rubric against which applications will be evaluated, and more information about the program can be found [here](#). Applications are due by **Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.** CT.

Please email david.shepard@la.gov with questions.

Data

Louisiana Secure ID Training

LEAs can register for Louisiana Secure ID Training on **August 18, 2015, 10:00 a.m.** at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8938863875254550529>.

This webinar will provide participants with training on how to use the Louisiana Secure ID application. Participants will learn how to upload a file to Louisiana Secure ID, complete the Secure ID assignment process and resolve near matches.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Please email Elizabeth.Laird@la.gov or Rebecca.Lamury@la.gov with questions.

Data Files Available via FTP

- **Assessment Summary Reports:** Assessment Summary Report files are available within the "2015 Assessment Summary" subfolder on the Data Management FTP site (with usernames ending in @datamgmt) from July 31, 2015, until August 31, 2015. Data Coordinators are to provide these files to district leaders and principals.
- **Special Education Data Suite:** Special Education Suite files are available on the Data Management FTP site from August 3, 2015, until August 31, 2015. Data Coordinators are to supply the files to the district staff indicated below.
 - IDEA LEA Determinations (filename ending in "LEA Determinations") - provide to Superintendent and Special Education Director
 - Act 833 Potential Eligibility Report (filename ending in "Act 833") - provide to Special Education Director
 - 1% & 2% Proficiency Cap Letters (filename ending in "2013-14_ProficiencyCaps") - provide to Superintendent and Special Education Director
 - IDEA Monitoring Rubric (filename ending in "IDEA Monitoring Rubric")- provide to Superintendent and Special Education Director
- **AP Assessment Results:** AP assessment result files within the "AP Comparison Report" subfolder will be available on the Data Management FTP site from August 5, 2015, until September 5, 2015. Data coordinators are to supply these files to the Superintendent, Accountability contact, and District Test Coordinator.

For assistance with accessing FTP, email LDEData@la.gov.

MFP Accountability Funding Data Available on the FTP

Please share with data and FTP coordinators

MFP Accountability for Weighted Student Funding: The MFP Accountability for Weighted Student Funding files for

FY2015-16 will be placed in your data management FTP (username ending in @datamgmt) July 27, 2015. This file will be named, "**LEA Code_LEA_15-16 MFP Weighted**" and will be available on FTP until August 21, 2015. Please supply this file to your Business and Financial Managers.

For assistance with accessing FTP, email LDEData@la.gov.

Statewide Monitoring

Save the Date: November 17, 2015, Methods of Administration Civil Rights Review Training for District and Postsecondary CTE Coordinators and Facility Managers

The Louisiana Community & Technical College System and the Louisiana Department of Education are planning a one-day event in the Baton Rouge metro area on **November 17, 2015, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**, on the subject of Methods of Administration Civil Rights Reviews. A representative of Brustein & Manasevit, Attorneys at Law, will present on the major civil rights laws that inform Methods of Administration Civil Rights Reviews. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Vocational Education Programs Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination and Denial of Services on the Basis of Race, Color and National Origin, Sex and Handicap) The target audience will be LEA/LEA Charter CTE Coordinators and Facility Managers and postsecondary Perkins Representatives and Facility Managers. Registration details and event location to follow. For more information at this time, please contact Terry Simoneaux, LDOE, at Terry.Simoneaux@la.gov or Patricia Felder, LCTCS, at patriciafelder@lctcs.edu.

Special Education Policy

SER Enhancements and PII Webinar Follow-up

The Department hosted a webinar to explain how the Special Education Reporting System (SER) has been enhanced to protect student privacy and support districts with appropriately planning educational experiences. To access the information about how Personally Identifiable Information (PII) impacts SER click [here](#). To access the information on how SER has been enhanced to capture Act 833 Implementation click [here](#).

Education in the News

[Baton Rouge's charter schools now number 25, with four new ones opening this week](#)

[In AP test participation, Louisiana records big gains](#)

[Technology bringing 'real world' closer to students](#)

[State launches web portal outlining Louisiana career education options](#)

[Iberville School Board approves School Choice Policy - students can transfer from low-performing schools](#)

[30k comments on La. Common Core; most OK the standards](#)

[More public money considered for Louisiana preschools](#)

[BESE asked to OK three charters, revoke Destrehan teaching certificate](#)

LDOE Contacts

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LDOE Links

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