Update/progress on agency initiatives

**New Vision for the Louisiana Special School District:**
The Louisiana Special School District (SSD) released a strategic framework for improvement and is seeking public feedback. The draft framework and process for submitting written feedback can be found here: [https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/special-school-district](https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/special-school-district)

Additionally, the SSD will be hosting the following public engagement sessions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What: Alexandria Listening Session</th>
<th>What: Baton Rouge Listening Session</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When: October 22, 2018</td>
<td>When: October 29, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where: 5400 Coliseum Boulevard</td>
<td>Where: 2888 Brightside Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria, LA, 71303</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA, 70820</td>
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**Back to School Resources:**

The Louisiana Department of Education released a suite of free resources to help parents and educator transition back to the classroom and support student learning. These resources are aligned to the state’s academic goals for the next year and beyond and include:

- **The 2018-2019 Educator Resource Guide**, which highlights instructional priorities and resources to support educators with the start of the 2018-2019 school year. The guide is located in the School System, Principal and Teacher Toolboxes and will be updated each month.

- An updated **2018-2019 School System Support Calendar**, which details in-person training sessions, virtual support, tools and resources, and communication streams designed to support educators.

- A customizable **Back-to-School Night Presentation** that school leaders can use to provide parents with information on 2018-2019 academic goals, standards, and assessments that help to meet parent engagement requirements required by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

- **Parent Back-to-School Guides** that provides families with information and resources to support learning at home for the 2018-2019 school year. Guides are currently available for parents of students in grades 3-12, English learners, and students with disabilities, and translated versions are available in Spanish, Vietnamese and Arabic. A guide for parents of students in grades PK-2 will be released later this month.
**Career Exploration Pilot:**
The select school systems across the state are piloting a new course designed to help ensure all students are prepared for success following high school graduation. The course, called Quest for Success, allows middle and high school students to develop essential workplace skills, explore various careers and industry sectors, and learn about themselves and their interest in order to successfully navigate high school, post-secondary education and career pathways.


**Advisory Panels:**
The LDOE runs multiple advisory panels each comprised of diverse stakeholders charged with providing feedback on specific topics relative to the purpose of the panel. All advisory panel meetings follow open meetings law and DD Council members are encouraged to attend. To learn more about the advisory panels and upcoming meetings visit: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/state-advisory-councils

**all news releases linked in this document can be found at:** https://www.louisianabelieves.com/newsroom/news-releases