



Summary of School-Related Louisiana Legislation from 2024



Law	Subject	Description	public?	charter?
Act 1	vouchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● creates the Louisiana Giving All True Opportunity to Rise (LA GATOR) Scholarship Program, a new voucher scheme ● a participating nonpublic school or service provider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shall not be required to alter its creed, practices, admissions policy, or curricula in order to accept account funds ○ shall not be required to offer special education services ○ may adhere to its own admissions policy in considering admission of students participating in LA GATOR ● there's so much more in this law 	-	-
Act 4	teacher and support staff stipend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● schools must pay stipends equivalent to \$2,000/teacher and \$1,000/school employee ● stipends must be paid prior to December 15, 2024 (bit.ly/stipends2425) ● schools are also given differentiated funding, which they can spend at their discretion on critical shortage areas, highly effective teachers, teachers in high need schools, and/or teacher leadership positions ● this differentiated funding amount is calculated at \$289.93 per teacher, but the school doesn't have to allocate it equally among teachers (bit.ly/diffcomp2425) 	YES	YES
Act 115	sick leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● a teacher may donate sick leave directly to another teacher in an amount not to exceed one-half of the donating teacher's accumulated leave as calculated at the beginning of the school year ● an employee may donate sick leave directly to another employee in an amount not to exceed one-half of the donating employee's accumulated leave as calculated at the beginning of the school year ● a school bus operator may donate sick leave directly to another school bus operator in an amount not to exceed one-half of the donating bus operator's accumulated leave as calculated at the beginning of the school year ● at least 90% of the leave balance in the bank shall be retained in the bank from one school year to the next 	YES	NO



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Act 172	chartering authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● changes the initial period of a charter school approval from 4 to 5 years, contingent upon a review after the fourth year ● charter renewal criteria shall include academic performance and progress indices, as well as distinguish between charter schools with selective admissions criteria, charter schools without selective admissions criteria, and alternative charter school educational models ● allows chartering authorities to reconstitute the board of a charter holder under certain circumstances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NOTE: the purpose of this provision is to provide a pathway for charter advocates to challenge the National Labor Relations Board's jurisdiction over charter schools 	NO	YES
Act 191	school board consent agendas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● adds parish school boards to an existing law that says when parish governing authorities have a meeting with a consent agenda that contains more than fifty items, the board may take action without reading the description of each item aloud ● however, in such a case, the board must allow a public comment period and any item listed on the consent agenda may be removed from the consent agenda by a member of the board if a person objects to the presence of the item on the consent agenda and provides reasons for individual discussion at the meeting 	YES	NO
Act 204	school board members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● requires school board members to possess a high school diploma or its equivalent ● prohibits any person who has been convicted or has pled nolo contendere to certain crimes from qualifying for membership on a school board 	YES	NO
Act 211	computer science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● requires each public high school student to complete one credit of Computer Science as a requirement for high school graduation ● each public school with students in grades 6 through 8 shall provide instruction in explanatory computer science to its students ● each public elementary school shall provide instruction in the basics of computer science and computational thinking 	YES	YES



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Law	Subject	Description	public?	charter?
Act 216	mandatory reporters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● a mandatory reporter shall immediately report suspected child abuse or neglect to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Department of Children and Family Services if the reporter has reason to believe that the perpetrator is a parent or caretaker, a person who maintains an interpersonal dating or engagement relationship with the parent or caretaker, or a person living in the same residence with the parent or caretaker as a spouse whether married or not ○ a local or state law enforcement agency if the reporter has reason to believe that the abuse or neglect by someone else 	YES	YES
Act 247	nativism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● neither the state board nor the department may approve or implement an appeals process allowing a student who has not met the achievement level required to pass the state-administered end-of-course assessments required for high school graduation to become eligible for graduation through the submission of a portfolio (previously this was allowed for english language learners) 	YES	YES
Act 311	work beyond prescribed duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● salaries must cover all prescribed duties and responsibilities outlined in job descriptions ● teachers who are not provided the minimum uninterrupted planning time must be compensated, calculated at their effective hourly rate ● governing authorities must develop a uniform supplemental salary schedule, with certified employees earning a minimum of \$30 per hour for additional duties and nonexempt employees compensated according to the Fair Labor Standards Act 	YES	NO
Act 313	student cell phones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● no student shall possess, on his person, an electronic communication device throughout the instructional day ● if a student brings a device in a school building or on school grounds during the instructional day, it must be turned off and stowed away for the duration of the instructional day or prohibited from being turned on and used during the instructional day ● school boards must adopt policies stating how the law is to be implemented 	YES	YES



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Act 315	physical contact pay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all school board employees who are disabled (as certified by a physician) while acting in their official capacity because of physical contact with a student while providing physical assistance to a student to prevent danger or risk of injury to the student, are now entitled receive sick leave for a period up to one year without reduction in pay and without reduction in accrued sick leave days while disabled because of rendering such assistance. 	YES	NO
Act 326	white supremacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adds the following language to the Parent’s Bill of Rights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “That the school shall not discriminate against their child by teaching the child that the child is currently or destined to be oppressed or to be an oppressor based on the child’s race or national origin.” NOTE: Governor Landry reiterated this in Executive Order JML 24-132 	YES	YES
Act 334	charter schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> redefines charter schools from being experiments to being school choice options for parents, teachers, and pupils spams the words choice and autonomy throughout state charter law defines the areas over which every charter school in the state (not just those in New Orleans) has full autonomy, unless mutually agreed by the chartering authority and the charter school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> school programming, instruction, curriculum, materials, texts, calendars, schedules, personnel, employment, salaries and benefits, educator certification and evaluation, performance management, participation in retirement planning, collective bargaining, budgeting, purchasing, procurement, contracts, food service, and management of transportation 	YES	NO
Act 394	retiree reemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> permits members who retired after July 1, 2020, to be reemployed full-time or part-time without a 12-month waiting period or a suspension of benefits, if they return to a position with a critical shortage of properly certified candidates 	YES	YES



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Act 400	student discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● when a student’s behavior prevents the orderly instruction of other students or poses an immediate threat to the safety or physical well-being of any student or teacher when a student violates the school’s code of conduct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the teacher shall have the student immediately removed from his classroom and placed in the custody of the principal or his designee ● upon the third removal from the same classroom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the teacher and the principal shall discuss the disruptive behavior patterns of the student and the potentially appropriate disciplinary measure before the principal implements a disciplinary measure ○ a conference between the teacher or other appropriate school employee and the student’s parent or legal guardian is required prior to the student being readmitted to that same classroom ○ such conference may be in person or by telephone or other virtual means ○ if such conference is required by the school, the school shall give written notice to the parent ● if the disciplinary action that the teacher takes is in accordance with policy adopted by the public-school governing authority, no principal or administrator shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ prohibit or discourage a teacher from taking disciplinary action, recommending disciplinary action, or completing a form to initiate disciplinary action against a student who violates school policy or who interferes with an orderly education process ○ retaliate or take adverse employment action against a teacher for taking disciplinary action against a student 	YES	YES
Act 428	grading scale downgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● lowers uniform grading scale from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A (100-93), B (85-92), C (84-75), D (74-67), and F (66-0) ● to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A (100-90), B (89-80), C (79-70), D (69-60), and F (59-0) 	YES	YES



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Act 495	public employee personal info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> designates the home address, home, and personal wireless telephone numbers of public employees as confidential without requiring employees to request this confidentiality 	YES	NO
Act 539	live broadcast of school board meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> in parishes of 25,000 or more people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> school board meetings, including committee meetings, must be broadcast live all written public meeting notices must provide sufficient information to locate the broadcast for viewing 	YES	NO
Act 617	notifications of public meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> requires public boards to send notifications of its meetings to any member of the public who requests notice of its meetings at the same time and in the same manner it is given to members of the public board 	YES	YES
Act 641	DEIB surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> requires each public elementary and secondary school to submit a written report of each campus program related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 fiscal years to its school board by October 31, 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the law says this means “any program, activity, initiative, event, instruction, action, or policy that classifies or references individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, culture, gender identity, or sexual orientation or promotes differential or preferential treatment of individuals on the basis of such classification” each report must include the purpose and expected outcome of each program, a brief description of each program, the number of personnel dedicated to the program, the total amount of funding expended to support or implement the program (including salaries, stipends, and benefits), and the total amount of state funds spent to support the program requires each school board to develop a written report containing the information reported by each school, disaggregated by school and by the nature of the program and the funding of the program, and submit the report to LDOE by December 31, 2024 also directs higher education institutions to follow this process and submit their reports to the Board of Regents by December 31, 2023 	YES	YES



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Law	Subject	Description	public?	charter?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> requires LDOE and the Board of Regents to prepare aggregate reports to send to several legislative committees by January 31, 2025 		
Act 650	numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> requires the Department of Education to provide screeners for measuring the development of foundational numeracy skills in kindergarten through third grade numeracy interventions and supports are mandated for students identified as having numeracy skills below grade level 	YES	YES
Act 659	enrollment requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reduces requirement that certain charter schools enroll a percentage of students equal to 85% of the number disabled or economically disadvantaged students in the district to 70% 	NO	YES
Act 661	residential protests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> outlaws petitioning, picketing, demonstrating, or assembling with other persons within fifty feet of an individual's residence in a manner which interferes, disrupts, threatens to disrupt, or harasses the individual's right to control or use their residence 	-	-
Act 676	Judeo-Christian nationalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no later than January 1, 2025, each public school governing authority (including postsecondary) shall require each institution under its jurisdiction to display the Ten Commandments in each classroom on the institution's campus at a minimum, the Ten Commandments shall be displayed on a poster or framed document that is at least eleven inches by fourteen inches the text of the Ten Commandments shall be the central focus of the poster or framed document and shall be printed in a large, easily readable font the exact translation of the Ten Commandments is prescribed in the law the Ten Commandments must also be accompanied by a three-paragraph context statement, the text of which can be found in the law 	YES	YES
Act 680	deadnaming and misgendering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a school's board cannot adopt a policy that provides for an inquiry of a student's or an employee's pronouns or preferred name school employees, independent contractors, and students cannot be required to: 	YES	YES



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ use a person’s name if it is not the name on their birth certificate, or a derivative of that name ○ use a person’s pronouns if they do not match the person’s sex on their birth certificate ○ identify their own pronouns ● parents may seek corrective action from the school if an employee or independent contractor refers to a minor by a pronoun that is inconsistent with the student’s birth certificate sex or the student’s legal name or a derivative of that name ● within in two years of a violation, parents have the right to injunctive relief, monetary damages, reasonable attorney fees and costs, and any other appropriate relief from a school that doesn’t implement corrective action or an employee that continues to use the pronouns of a student that are inconsistent with the sex on the birth certificate or a name that is not the student’s legal name or a derivative of that name 		
Act 681	cisheterosexism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● school employees and presenters may not engage in discussions with K-12 students in either classrooms, school-sponsored extracurricular (academic, athletic, or social) activity about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ topics of sexual orientation or gender identity in ways that deviate from state-approved content standards or curricula ○ their own sexual orientation or gender identity 	YES	NO



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Act 686	training requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● repeals existing laws that required student instruction on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ adoption awareness, breast and cervical exams, CPR and AED, child assault, dating violence, eating disorders, internet and cell phone safety, litter, mental health, organ donation, parenthood, safe haven laws, shaken baby syndrome, substance abuse, and water safety ● repeals existing laws that required teacher training on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ bullying, adverse childhood experiences, trauma-informed education, first aid, classroom management, communicable disease and control, sudden cardiac arrest, and suicide prevention ● BESE is directed to consider requiring the repealed topics to be included in required student instruction and teacher training 	YES	NO