

BE PREPARED:

What teachers
need to know
about the new
evaluation system

This year, all Louisiana teachers will be evaluated under a new program called COMPASS. It includes a value-added evaluation for teachers in tested, graded subjects; student learning targets for all teachers; and observations.

A new law, Act 1 of 2012, links your evaluation to employment decisions, including tenure, RIF and termination policies. The Louisiana Federation of Teachers believes the law is educationally unsound and legally wrong. The Federation has filed suit to halt the law.

Until that suit is decided, COMPASS will be a big part of your professional life. Here are some things you can do to be prepared for this new evaluation system.

Learn what you need to know. The Department of Education has a Web page, www.doe.state.la.us/compass/, dedicated to COMPASS. If you don't understand what you see there, call your Federation representative for clarification.

Check the Curriculum Verification and Results portal. If you teach a graded, tested subject, you already have a value added score posted in the CVR portal. Next spring you will have a chance to update your student roster. Make sure that your rosters are updated accurately within the time frame provided.

Keep a profile of the students you teach. Create a spreadsheet including past test scores, current test results and pertinent data like attendance for each of your students. Track iLEAP, LEAP and EOC scores of your students to see if there have been gains in their test results.

Report It! As soon as you detect any problems or potential problems with your evaluation, visit the LFT Web site and click on Report It! Please fill out a short form explaining the problem. We'll need your e-mail address so that we can respond, but be assured that it will not be shared with anyone outside the LFT.

LFT understands that these are tough times to be a teacher, and the Jindal administration is making it much harder to do your job. We're on your side, and are working hard in the courts, in the legislature and at your local school board to fix what the governor has broken.



Louisiana Federation of Teachers

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