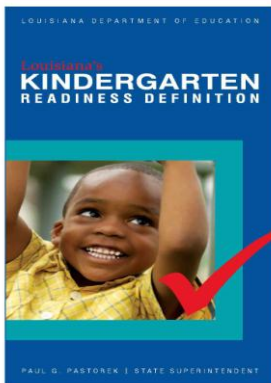


AUGUST 2011



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Louisiana Adopts Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Instrument

The Board of Secondary and Elementary Education recently adopted the Developing Skills Checklist (DSC) instrument as the sole instrument for assessing the readiness of children entering kindergarten. Using one instrument, as opposed to the nine different instruments currently permitted, will provide a uniform standard for determining if a child entering kindergarten is "ready to learn." A standard instrument will help kindergarten teachers, Pre-K providers, and parents to better prepare children for kindergarten.

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Education's Next Horizon Holds First Statewide Summit on Quality Afterschool

On August 25, 2011, over fifty leaders from across Louisiana came together in Baton Rouge for a one-day "Achieving Outcomes" Summit organized by the Louisiana Center for Afterschool Learning (LACAL) to create a vision for high-quality afterschool and school-age care so that all children and youth have access to learning opportunities once the school bell rings. LACAL is a new initiative of Education's Next Horizon. Across the state, working parents need more programs to keep their children safe, supervised and supported, and young people need more opportunities to successfully learn, develop and contribute. The goal of the summit was to build more statewide partnerships working together to create a system of quality improvement for school-age programs.

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