

In this month's newsletter: a wrap up on the legislative session, new Bottom Line training sessions for charter school staff, a summer Lunch 'N Learn series and more!



June 2015

Closing out and looking ahead

We've had some major victories over the past few weeks, most notably winning our Type 2 charter school lawsuit and providing testimonies to defeat bills in the legislative session that would have, among other things, mandated a return of charter schools to the Orleans Parish School Board and prevented BESE from authorizing charters in "A" or "B" graded districts. Though we didn't get everything we wanted during the session, we're grateful for our partners and allies who have worked with us to make our voices heard on issues that are critical to the success of the charter school movement.

As we close out the legislative session, I want to call your attention to several key events, trainings and deadlines coming up, including:

- The National Charter Schools Conference (June 21-24). As a part of the event, we'll be hosting a [state meeting with the Urban League of Greater New Orleans](#) on Tuesday, June 23.
- [Call for Proposals](#) for the LAPCS 8th Annual Conference (deadline July 10). Please see below for more details on how to become a presenter, and share with your networks.
- [Special training on SPED, student rights, and finance/ops](#) (July 16-17). Mark your calendars for this day and a half training on essentials you need to know to start the 2015-2016 school year.
- A new [summer Lunch 'N Learn series](#) brought to you by select providers that have partnered with us to support your work. The first session will be held next Wednesday on June 17.

A final note of thanks and congratulations to all of our schools for finishing out another successful school year: thank you for your work behalf of our kids and our families! We look forward to providing you with continued support next year.

Sincerely,

Caroline Roemer Shirley

In this month's newsletter:

- [Call for Proposals for 8th Annual Conference: 20/20 Vision](#)
- [Bottom Line Essentials: Save the Date for SPED/Civil Rights/Operations Training](#)
- [New Summer Lunch 'N Learn Series](#)
- [Dr. Howard Fuller on Educating Louisiana](#)
- [The Top Shelf: Board Member Focus](#)
- [Featured School: Bricolage Academy of New Orleans](#)
- [Partner Connection Spot](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [In the News](#)

Call for Proposals: LAPCS' 8th Annual Conference



LAPCS will be hosting its 8th Annual Conference, "20/20 Vision: Celebrating 20 Years, Preparing for 20 More," on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

We are seeking proposals from presenters by July 10, 2015. Conference strands include advocacy; training, operations, human capital and legal; governance; leadership, and teaching and learning. For more information and to submit a proposal, visit lapcsconference.org/present.html.

We are also seeking exhibitors and sponsors for the conference! For more information, please visit our conference site at lapcsconference.org.

[Return to top](#)

Bottom Line Essentials: Save the Date for Training on SPED, Student Rights, and Finance and Operations



On July 16-17, LAPCS will host a day and a half training in New Orleans on three Bottom Line Essentials: SPED, student rights, and finance & operations.

- **July 16:** Sessions on special education and student rights, presented by national experts Renita Thukral and Lauren Baum of [Civil Rights Solutions](#). **The special education session will meet professional development requirements set for New Orleans schools by the federal SPED consent agreement.**
- **July 17:** Sessions on new HR law updates, strengthening internal controls & financial transparency, and developing your communications plan for the upcoming school year presented by LAPCS staff members Melissa Carollo, Tina Chong, and Sarah Vandergriff.

Though the training will be held in New Orleans, all Louisiana charter schools are encouraged to attend. [Click here to register for this training.](#)

[Return to top](#)

New Summer Lunch 'N Learn Series Starting June 17



Take a moment, enjoy a good (free!) lunch and find out more about select service providers that have partnered with LAPCS in support of the work you do through our new summer Lunch 'N Learn Series!

The first event will be held on **Wednesday, June 17 at 12 p.m. at Zea Rotisserie & Grill on 1525 St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans.**

Aaron Zetterower from Crystal & Company will be on hand to discuss various types of insurance coverage options available to you and your staff, and how you may benefit as a LAPCS member when using their services. Reserve your space today by sending an email to dmclathery@lachatertschools.org.

[Return to top](#)

Watch Dr. Howard Fuller on Educating Louisiana



A recent episode of *Educating Louisiana* features [Dr. Howard Fuller](#) and is available on [Vimeo](#) now.

A new episode of *Educating Louisiana*, featuring Sen. Elbert Guillory of the Senate Education Committee and Pam Stewart of Developing School Solutions, airs June 11 on Cox 4 at 8:30 p.m. in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Lafayette.

[Return to top](#)

The Top Shelf: Board Member Focus



This week's Board Member Focus profiles [Carlos Ford](#) of Tallulah Charter School, an elementary school located in Madison Parish in northeastern Louisiana. [Click here to learn more](#) about why he serves as a charter school board member.

The [Top Shelf](#) profiles Louisiana charter school board members and highlights the diversity of those who choose to serve. We want to profile as many board members as possible, so please take a few minutes to [complete the form](#). You can be featured in the next Board Member Focus!

[Return to top](#)

Featured School: Bricolage Academy



Each month, we feature a different school (or school system) and share highlights, milestones and good news for that school. [Email us](#) to be our next featured school!

Bricolage Academy of New Orleans opened its doors to a class of kindergarteners in 2013. In 2015-2016, the school will serve grades K-2. Founder, CEO and School Leader Josh Densen started Bricolage after looking for a school for his young daughter. According to Densen, "we envisioned a time when New Orleans will be as famous for its leadership in the creative economy as for its cultural significance. More than anything else, we wanted a school that recognized our children for the individuals that they are and prepared them to do great things in a nation and world becoming increasingly interconnected."

Bricolage was recently granted the John McDonogh campus on Esplanade Avenue. Following an extensive renovation, the school plans to serve kindergarten through 7th grade there for the 2018-2019 school year.

[Return to top](#)

Partner Connection Spot

From leadership training to supplementary materials, we've got you covered! Check out some of our vendor partners.

ADVANCE INNOVATIVE EDUCATION (AIE) is dedicated to investing its care, resources and hard work in identifying and recruiting school leaders and teachers, offering high quality professional development at all levels and designing engaging lessons to prepare all students for life in the 21st century. [Learn more about their services here.](#)



DIDAX is a supplementary publisher of materials for K-12 educators in the areas of math, literacy and character education. The company is the exclusive distributor for Kathy Richardson's books and other materials as well as the developer of AMC Anywhere Web. [Learn more about their services here.](#)



[Return to top](#)

Upcoming Events



June 12-13: The NET Charter High School Soiree, Resource Fair and Basketball Tournament. Use code OCHALEY for discounted basketball tournament registration. [Click for more information.](#)

June 16: Board Meeting Mojo (webinar) [Click to register.](#)

June 21-24: National Charter Schools Conference, featuring LAPCS staff members at the following sessions:

- Executive Director Caroline Roemer Shirley - "Charters ARE the System: So What's Next?" on June 22 at 3:45 p.m. and General Session Remarks on June 23 at 3 p.m.
- Governance Initiatives Director Makiyah Moody - "Board Engagement 2.0: Money, Power, Respect" on June 23 at 10:45 a.m.
- Legal Director Sarah Vandergriff - "Employment Law and Charters: Healthy Human Resources" on June 23 at 10:45 a.m.

[Click to register.](#)

June 23: State meeting hosted by LAPCS and Urban League of Greater New Orleans [Click to register.](#)

[Return to top](#)

In the News

- [Alice Harte School gets KaBOOM! playground to go with new \\$26 million campus](#)
- [New Orleans teacher wins \\$25,000 prize](#)
- [Charter schools still fight for acceptance](#)
- [Our Views: Legislating school policy, and the role of teachers](#)
- [Two new charters ok'd for Orleans Parish](#)
- [Waiting lists swell for Lafayette charter schools](#)
- [Big win for charter schools](#)
- [Our Views: Making charters return once-failing schools to school boards is a forced marriage that legislators shouldn't pursue](#)

[Return to top](#)

CONNECT WITH LAPCS



Participate in [Amazon Smile](#) and [iGIVE](#) to support LAPCS!