

Louisiana Board of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education Transitional Courses Pilot: Monthly Updates



August 2013

Scorching Summer Start

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District Site Meetings. Earlier this summer, individual district site meetings were held in Calcasieu, Iberville, and Jefferson parishes. Some of the discussion points covered during these meetings focused on identifying student participants at each school site; defining the roles and responsibilities of teachers and post-secondary education faculty; discussing process associated with approval of transitional courses as an elective; and establishing contracts for transitional courses funding. Notes from each site meeting can be accessed by visiting the Transitional Courses Pilot webpage at www.regents.louisiana.gov/transitional-courses-pilot/.

SREB Teacher Development Workshop. This July, English and mathematics teachers from each of the pilot districts (Calcasieu, Iberville, and Jefferson); in addition to the partnering English and mathematics higher education faculty, had an opportunity to learn more about the courses at the SREB Transitional Course Training Workshop in Charlotte, North Carolina. The workshops concentrated on the strategies that will be used by the teachers in delivering the courses during the pilot year. Additionally, the workshops served as an outlet where other lingering questions held by many of the participating pilot states could be answered.

Electronic Communication. Most recently, two webpages for the Transitional Courses Pilot were published. The first page (www.regents.louisiana.gov/transitional-courses-pilot/), published on July 29, 2013, provides information to the public regarding the general purpose of the transitional courses; correspondences to district superintendents and teachers; and listings of all the partnering school districts and postsecondary institutions participating in the pilot project. The second page (<http://regents.louisiana.gov/transitional-courses-pilot-overview-for-parents/>), published on August 2, 2013, provides a general overview for parents of students participating in the transitional courses. Information on the webpage contains details regarding the purpose of the transitional courses; a list of participating high schools and postsecondary education partners; criteria for student participation in the courses; benefits of students participating in the courses; contact information for each district member; and information from SREB about the development of the transitional courses.

Transitional Courses Available. The transitional courses are now available for download! The first two weeks of mathematics and literacy curriculum were posted in the "SREB Drop Box" on August 1, 2013, with the remainder of the materials being delivered in October. These materials can be accessed by visiting www.dropbox.com/sh/xjerj18j6curp7c/2QG50JByZb, under the folder entitled "NEW Curricula for Pilot Sites."

Special points of interest:

- ✓ District Site Meetings
- ✓ SREB Teacher Development Workshop
- ✓ Electronic Communication
- ✓ Transitional Courses Available

* For more immediate updates, please visit the Transitional Courses Pilot webpage at www.regents.louisiana.gov/transitional-courses-pilot/.