

Dear LSPA member:

As you may be aware, the United States Department of Education, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment act (ARRA) provided funding to local school systems for **IDEA** programs. Part of that process was a competitive grant known as **Race-to-the Top** (RTTT). While Louisiana was not chosen as a finalist for these competitive funds, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has embarked upon an ambitious program that would provide a method of accountability known as “value-added”.

Value-added is a methodology that involves determining what value any particular educational discipline or procedure provides to a child’s education. That is to say, how does what you do for a child affect his/her educational outcome.

Recognizing that each group or professional discipline has a unique role in a child’s life, LDOE is requesting each discipline/area to develop a value-added accountability procedure based on the discipline-specific mission and procedures employed. This is an outstanding opportunity for all LSPA members to provide input into what sort of measures would promote not just accountability but demonstrated efficacy for school psychologists.

What the LSPA Executive Council is asking for is for your input. We need your opinion of the types of measures that might be possible to use for accountability/efficacy purposes. There are no good or bad suggestions. You may consider more individualized outcome measures (intervention data results) or even more district level measures (district suspension rates, LEAP Scores, etc). All we really need is your wise council.

Please direct your written responses to Cindy Morgan-D’Atrio (cindymdatrio@lspaonline.org) Debra Duhe, (debra.duhe@la.gov) or myself (webmaster@lspaonline.org) by Friday, April 23, 2010.

Thank you for your time.

Jim Cowie
Webmaster
LSPA Member