



Louisiana Association of Business Educators

*The State Organization for Business Educators*

Annual Report  
Prepared for  
Southern Business Education Association  
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# Table of Contents

Organizational Structure	
Executive Board.....	3
Officers .....	4
Committee Chairpersons.....	6
Publications	
Newsletter .....	7
Journal.....	7
Website .....	7
Strategic Plan .....	8
Conference Highlights	
Spring Conference .....	11



# Organizational Structure

Louisiana Association of Business Educators (LABE) constitutes a division of Louisiana Association for Career and Technical Education and is affiliated with National Business Education Association/Southern Business Education Association. Membership is open to teachers and students of business subjects in public and private schools on all levels and to persons who are interested in working cooperatively for the improvement of business and office education in Louisiana. The membership period is from spring conference to spring conference. Dues are \$15 per year with student membership dues set at \$2 per year. For the 2017-2018 year, membership stands at 82 members from both secondary and post-secondary levels. This includes 20 lifetime memberships.

LABE currently holds a one-day conference in the spring. The vice president chairs the conference. State conferences have been held consecutively for the past four years. The Spring 2018 conference, chaired by Jason Mercer, LABE Vice President at the time, was held at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, on March 16, 2018. Fifty-nine members and 11 vendors attended.

## Executive Board

The Executive Board leads the state organization of business teachers. The officers of the board are installed in the spring meeting. The terms for the offices are for one year with the exception of the terms for treasurer, newsletter editor, and journal editor, whose terms are for two years. The term for Southern Business Education Association representative is for three years.

The offices of president and president-elect alternate between representatives from the secondary level and the post-secondary level whenever possible. Nominations were made and officers were elected at the spring conference. The LABE Executive Board typically meets three to four times a year in order to conduct the business of the organization.



# Louisiana Association of Business Educators

## Officers

### 2018

President Winnfield Senior High School Winnfield	Jason Mercer
Vice President Northwestern State University Natchitoches	Dustin Hebert, Ph.D.
Past-President SOWELA Technical Community College Lake Charles	Marie N. Coleman, Ph.D.
Secretary Kinder High School Kinder	Kim Rider
Treasurer Alfred M. Barbe High School Lake Charles	Kathy David
Chaplain St. Louis High School Lake Charles	Ashley Lavine
Parliamentarian Lacassine High School Lacassine	Wendy Sonnier
At-Large Representative SOWELA Technical Community College Lake Charles	David Shankle, Ph.D.



# Louisiana Association of Business Education Officers (continued)

At-Large Representative Eunice High School Eunice	Lauren Cart
At-Large Representative Alexandria Senior High School Alexandria	Starlene Grayson
Webmaster Alexandria Senior High School Alexandria	Brenda Barnhart
SBEA/NBEA Representative SOWELA Technical Community College Lake Charles	Marie N. Coleman, Ph.D.



# Louisiana Association of Business Educators Committee Chairpersons

Auditing SOWELA Technical Community College Lake Charles	Rick Monceaux
Awards Anacoco High School Anacoco	Rebecca Draughn
Finance Alfred M. Barbe High School Lake Charles	Kathy David
Membership Alfred M. Barbe High School Lake Charles	Kathy David
Memorial St. Louis High School Lake Charles	Ashley Lavine
Nominating Sam Houston High School Lake Charles	Melinda Thigpen



# Publications

## Newsletter

The *Bulletin Board* is the official publication of LABE and is published twice a year—fall and spring. It used to be mailed to all LABE members and to business teachers in the state. The purposes of the *Bulletin Board* are to inform Louisiana teachers of legislative issues affecting business education, provide notification of proposed LABE constitutional or by-law changes, report on state-wide meetings and area conferences, provide membership information, and share news items of interest to business teachers in Louisiana. The *Bulletin Board* serves as the primary vehicle for recruiting NBEA/SBEA, ACTE, Louisiana ACTE, and LABE memberships. In addition, the *Bulletin Board* provides a method by which teachers may publish articles of interest.

**NOTE: We have not sent any bulletins for the past seven years. In the future, we hope to reinstate the bulletin board and send it to all business teachers electronically. We need the publicity for our rebuilding.**

## Journal

The LABE had its own refereed journal which publishes articles contributing to business education theory and practice. Manuscript from all fields of business education are sought to reflect the needs and interests of business educators and administrators, business practitioners, and government personnel. The first issue of the journal, *The Louisiana Business Education Journal*, was published in the spring of 1991. In 1996, name of the journal was changed to *The Journal of Business and Training Education* to reflect the articles published from different areas of the United States. In 2006, the *Journal* was published in a different media format, the CD. CDs were issued to all LABE members and professional organizations. In 2012, the journal was dissolved due to lack of funding and retiring editor.

## Website

The LABE website address is [www.laabe.weebly.org](http://www.laabe.weebly.org). Brenda Barnhart assumed the responsibilities of Webmaster at the 2018 Spring Conference.



# Strategic Plan

## Introduction

The Louisiana Association of Business Educators Strategic Plan sets forth goals and strategies to be pursued now and into the future in order to achieve the Association's mission. Two principles emphasize the LABE mission, purposes, and strategic plan: collaboration and diversity. LABE seeks to reflect the diverse nature of society within its membership and the educational programs championed by the association. The LABE Strategic Plan will change over time to meet the challenges of new technologies and new knowledge.

## Mission

The mission of Louisiana Association of Business Educators is to provide educational leadership in developing a competitive workforce.

## GOAL I

### **Establish Workforce Education as an Integral Component of Education for All Students**

#### Strategies

- ❖ Promote workforce education as a key element in the nation's economic and educational development.
- ❖ Build broad public understanding of and support for workforce education and the belief that all learning contributes to developing productive citizens.

## GOAL II

### **Lead in the Development of a Continuous Quality System for Preparing AU Learners for a World-Class Workforce**

#### Strategies

- ❖ Establish standards of excellence for workforce education programs.
- ❖ Promote exemplary workforce preparation models that enhance ethics, wellness, diversity, management of family and work, career pathways, job skills, and lifelong learning.
- ❖ Use leading edge technologies to support the advancement of workforce education.





## **GOAL III**

### **Lead in the Development and Attainment of the Higher Standards of Professionalism by LABE Members**

#### **Strategies**

- ❖ Actively engage in the development and implementation of standards of excellence for professionals in career and technical education.
- ❖ Provide assistance to individuals to meet such professional standards.

## **GOAL IV**

### **Be a Premier Organization for Professional Development of All Individuals Involved in Preparing Youth and Adults for Careers**

#### **Strategies**

- ❖ Continually assess professional development needs of the full range of professionals involved in workforce education.
- ❖ Based on identified needs, develop a plan for professional development activities.
- ❖ Provide professional development activities based on that plan at the national, regional, state, and local levels.
- ❖ Initiate strategies to address diversity among workforce education.
- ❖ Evaluate professional development activities as a basis for continuous improvement.

## **GOAL V**

### **Develop Leaders for Workforce Education and for the Association**

#### **Strategies**

- ❖ Identify and recruit individuals for local, state, regional, and national leadership roles.
- ❖ Provide continuing opportunities to enhance leadership development as the local, state, regional, national, and international levels.



## **GOAL VI**

### **Expand the Professional Association to be More Broadly Representative and Supportive of Workforce Education**

#### **Strategies**

- ❖ Broaden membership opportunities to include all stakeholders.
- ❖ Provide professional services that support workforce education.
- ❖ Develop international participation.
- ❖ Maintain a strong financial base for the association.

NOTE: To accomplish our goals, we must have an organization. In the past 10 years, education has changed a lot and educators have more demands put on them. Therefore, it is getting harder for educators to take time for professional development/meetings/conferences. We must find incentives for educators to come to conferences. In the meantime, we need to find more members willing to take leadership roles.



# Conference Highlights

## Spring Conference 2018

Jason Mercer, Vice President, was the program chair for the spring conference held March 16, 2018, at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. This year's conference did not have a theme. Sean Crevier of Illinois was the Keynote Speaker. Breakout sessions were held with presenters from Northwestern State University, SOWELA Technical Community College, St. Louis High School, and other high schools in Louisiana. Certiport offered free vouchers for teachers wanting to earn industry-based certifications in Microsoft products.

During this conference some of the vendors in attendance were Barksdale Federal Credit Union, Cengage, Everfi, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, and Certiport. They were available during breaks to showcase new educational opportunities and products.

LABE members were encouraged to join NBEA and a drawing for VISA gift cards was held for members who joined.

In the General Business Meeting, officers were elected as follows: Jason Mercer, President; Dr. Dustin Hebert, Vice President; Kim Rider, Secretary; Kathy David, Treasurer; Wendy Sonnier, Parliamentarian; Ashley Lavine, Chaplain; Dr. Marie Coleman, Past President; Dr. David Shankle, Lauren Cart, and Starlene Grayson, At-Large Representatives; Melinda Thigpen, Nominating Committee Chair; Becky Draughn, Awards Committee Chair

A report was given on the progress of the writing of the Louisiana business education standards. When the standards are complete, they will be submitted to the Louisiana State Department of Education. Ben Davis of Westlake High School in Westlake is chair of the Standards Committee.

The by-laws and procedures manual were revised and updated throughout the year upon the recommendation of the Executive Board and were voted on at the Spring Conference.

