

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Los Angeles Unified School District
Division of Instruction - Instructional Technology Initiative

TO: All Principals  **DATE:** May 20, 2019

FROM: Frances Gipson, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer
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SUBJECT: PRACTITIONER SCHOOLS 4.0: GLOBAL COLLABORATOR OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND:

The Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI) is committed to reimagining instructional technology support to schools as they continue making shifts in practice to cultivate effective 21st-century instruction. Following the *ITI Task Force Recommendations* (TFR) in 2016, ITI developed the Practitioner Schools (PS) model to exemplify how schools can leverage digital tools to create rigorous and personalized learning environments for all learners. The 2018 *Leading with Instruction* Progress Report documents ITI's progress and success in meeting or exceeding the TFR.

The PS model has undergone three productive iterations. PS 1.0 focused on the integration and use of a learning management system (LMS), exploring the utility of the LMS in creating courses and exploring grading practices using an online gradebook. PS 2.0, under the District-wide adoption of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards for Students, emphasized the cultivation of computational thinking as an essential form of literacy. Last year, and most recently, PS 3.0 built upon this cultivation with a focus on the ISTE Standard, *Innovative Designer*, which provided a foundation for purposeful, creative problem-solving using a variety of digital tools.

PS 4.0 will continue the tradition of embedding authentic, connected content and skills into 21st-century instruction with a focus on the *Global Collaborator* ISTE Standard, which will emphasize collaboration among the school community, leadership and instructional staff for effective school-wide implementation.

INTRODUCING PRACTITIONER SCHOOLS 4.0:

In preparation for the 2019-2020 school year, ITI invites schools that demonstrate *Global Collaborator* practices and have a proven track record of integrating collaborative digital tools into the instructional program to apply to become a PS 4.0 School. As a PS 4.0 School, a designated team at each site will be asked to collaboratively and systematically approach an identified problem of practice to find effective, community-based solutions. This means that schools will engage in:

- Using digital tools to connect with learners from a variety of backgrounds, engaging them in ways that broaden mutual understanding and learning.
- Using collaborative technologies to work with others, within and across communities and teams, and to examine issues from multiple perspectives.
- Implementing new approaches to teaching, learning, and distributive leadership.
- Establishing new, collaborative partnerships within and across schools.

PS 4.0 Schools will be committed to using *Global Collaborator* practices to refine their instructional design processes and sharing their learning with others.

Through these practices, schools will demonstrate effective use of collaborative strategies across challenges. The emphasis will be on the development and implementation of more effective teamwork within and across schools to address instructional problems of practice using a variety of preselected digital resources and tools.

PS 4.0 Schools will receive support through professional learning sessions and a designated Instructional Technology Facilitator (ITF) assigned to each school to support the collaborative implementation of the *Global Collaborator* process.

GOALS FOR PRACTITIONER SCHOOLS 4.0 PROGRAM:

PS 4.0 will promote the use of collaborative technologies to build capacity school-wide and across teams, so teachers and instructional leaders may collectively hone and reflect upon their instructional practices, developing a broader base of solutions that effectively address instructional challenges. As part of the PS 4.0 model, school sites will actively participate in the following processes:

- Collaborate in exploring local and global issues that impact schools using collaborative technologies to find effective solutions.
- Provide students with opportunities to develop *Global Collaborator* skills on a daily basis, thereby granting students the ability to build proficiency in 21st-century practices for success.
- Enhance and improve collaborative teaching and learning practices by strategically leveraging digital resources through 21st-century lesson design.
- Provide opportunities for collaboration across Practitioner Schools, which include inquiry-group meetings centered on lesson study, action research, text-based discussions and other activities to convene in common dialogues about the intentional embedding of *Global Collaborator* methods in the core curriculum.
- Share PS 4.0 promising practices with other schools in the District.

To learn more, please visit <http://achieve.lausd.net/iti> and review the benefits and commitments of participating in the Practitioner Schools 4.0 Program.

For more information, please contact Sophia Mendoza, Director, at sophia.mendoza@lausd.net.

Attachment A: Practitioner Schools 4.0 - Intent To Participate

Attachment B: Global Collaborator (GC) Champion Overview Selection
Consideration

c: Austin Beutner

Local District Superintendents

Administrators of Instruction