



Division of Instruction
Los Angeles Unified School District



Elementary Instructional Update

April 2021

“The future depends on what we do in the present.” ~Mahatma Gandhi

[DOI Policy Updates](#)

General Updates and Resources

Elementary Instructional Tips for Return to Campus

Instructional tips to prepare for return to campus are available in an easy to search document. You can access it with either [this link](#) or the QR Code to the right.

The document includes general tips, such as sample schedules and timing, management of routines, and more. ELA, Math, ELD, Science and other content specific guidance is included as well. Recommendations for out of classroom staff such as coaches, RSP teachers, Primary Promise Coordinators, etc. are also provided. A link to the tips in presentation format is embedded in the document. The document will continue to be updated with additional tips and guidance.



Summer Teaching Work Opportunities: June 22nd - July 23rd

Apply now for exciting summer teaching work opportunities. Teachers can apply through April 30 via [the Teacher Portal](#). More information can be found on the application.

STEAM Bytes: featuring Dan Meyer

Learn from [STEM/STEAM professionals](#), their journey and how their calling became their career.

For more information, please contact Jaspreet Sandha, *Coordinator*, jaspreet.sandha@lausd.net.

Hand2Mind

Hand2Mind materials for RSP, SDC, and General Ed. Teachers have all been shipped as have student materials for all grade levels. If materials were not received, teachers may email Cora Watkins for assistance. For missing student materials, please [report the issue](#).

For more information, please contact Cora Watkins, *Coordinator*, cwatkins@lausd.net.

Professional Learning Opportunities from the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)

LACOE is offering a [variety of sessions](#), both free and fee-based, throughout the spring. All trainings are held on Zoom. Topics include Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Enhancing Equity by Understanding Implicit Bias, and Restorative Practice.

Addressing Anti-Asian Racism and Discrimination: Resources for Educators from LACOE

Among the social issues exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic is the rise of anti-Asian violence. For educators who are looking for resources to address this unsettling trend, here are some [expert tips for addressing](#) anti-Asian racism and discrimination in the classroom.

LACOE Series on Dyslexia and Struggling Readers

- [Assessing & Supporting Dyslexia: What School Psychologists Need to Know](#)
May 12, 2021, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Audience: School Psychologists, Administrators, Instructional Coaches

Planning Webinars for K-12 Leaders & Community Partners

This summer is more important than ever to help students begin to recover from the learning loss, isolation and trauma of the past year. Partnership for Children & Youth is holding four [Summer Game Plan webinars](#) designed especially for K-12 administrators, educators and community partners.

- Thursday, April 29 at 10 a.m.: How to Engage English Learners in Summer Learning

Open Library

[Open Library](#) is an open, editable library catalog, building towards a web page for every book ever published. The nonprofit group, which has made millions of books available online for free, says that it is suspending waitlists for the 1.4 million works in its lending library.

Get Up! Using the Arts to Inspire Movement and Play

With remote and socially-distanced classroom spaces, student movement is more constrained than ever. [We'll tackle this challenge](#) by sharing arts-based activities that use movement and play to get students out of their chairs (or off their sofas, beds, floors) and energized – all while staying socially distant!

Climate Reality Leadership Corps Virtual US Training

The [Climate Reality Leadership Corps Virtual US Training](#) will feature four days of two-hour live broadcasts, with additional on-demand viewing and interactive sessions available between April 22 and May 2. Join over 31,000 Climate Reality Leaders in the global community to learn about the climate and justice crises shaping this time and how to solve them together in this free online training.

Young Storytellers Partnership with Warner Bros. Media and AT&T

[Story Time](#) is a 12 episode series of short videos and activities so that kids at home can have the experience of writing their own stories and discovering the power of their creative voice. Students will submit their stories to our team and selected scripts will be brought to life through live virtual performances with professional actors, character designs by professional animators, and even mentoring sessions with Hollywood writers and directors.

Grant and Competition Opportunities

American History and Civics Academies through the Center for Civic Education—Application due May 1, 2021

The Center's [American History and Civic Academies](#) provide teachers and students with high-quality educational engagement. The experience significantly enhances students' civic dispositions related to political interest and attention, political discussion, community engagement, government service, civic duty, and trust in government. [Research](#) from the Civic Education Research Lab at Georgetown University demonstrates that students' knowledge of history and civics improve, especially among Title I school students. In 2021, we are taking this immersive experience into a virtual setting.

Teacher Grants through the California Credit Union

California Credit Union announces its [Spring Teacher Grant opportunity](#) for 10 grants of \$500 for innovative learning opportunities for students. The program is available to full-time teachers in Los Angeles and Orange County or credit union members teaching in California. Application deadline is Friday, April 23, 2021.

K12 Grants and Upcoming Events

Upcoming and continuing [grant opportunities](#) are available.

California Grant Watch Website

[The California Grant Watch website](#) lists grants for public school teachers for the improvement of education, innovative teaching strategies, and professional development opportunities.

Educators of America Grant

[MicroGrant Program for Educators and Teachers](#) provides grants to improve technological resources. Classroom technology grant applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis and responses are given accordingly.

Grant Writing Modules

The Division of Instruction has three online modules focused on Grant Writing. Each module is between 8-15 minutes in length. Module 1: A Grant Writing Guide; Module 2: Grant Application Process; Module 3: Key Components of a Grant Proposal. To access the modules, go to MyPLN, under the learning dropdown menu, select Search LAUSD Catalog, and enter keyword *Grants* in the Global Search. Click on the module you wish to view.

National Education Association Foundation Learning and Leadership Grants

The [National Education Association Foundation](#) is offering \$2,000 and \$5,000 grant awards. Deadline for applications are February 1, June 1, and October 1, of each year.

Advanced Learning Options (ALO)

47th Annual Los Angeles City/County Conference on Gifted Education

[The conference](#) will advance the professional development of District educators and strengthen efforts to increase equity and access in gifted education by sharing best practices and providing curated resources. Speakers include Dr. Adolph Brown, Dr. Howard Gardner, Dr. Tyrone Howard, Dr. Carol Ann Tomlinson, and Lisa Van Gemert. The conference will be held May 1, 2021 from 7:40 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

For more information, please contact Dr. Lucy Hunt, *Coordinator*, lhunt@lausd.net.

Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI)

Professional Development Opportunities

The Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI) is a department within the Division of Instruction that supports all schools interested in 21st century instructional practice. The department's main focus is in providing professional learning opportunities founded on instructional frameworks that leverage technology in purposeful, personalized ways, such as the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards. Please see this [month's catalogue of learning opportunities](#) that include Digital Presence with a Purpose, Computer Science Fundamentals, Google Level 2 Certification, ISTE Knowledge Constructor, Reaching Beyond the Classroom: Digital Citizenship, Integrating Physical Computing: An Interdisciplinary Approach, An Introduction to Physical Computing, Exploring Artificial Intelligence, An Interdisciplinary Approach to Creative Computing, and Game Based Learning with Minecraft: EE Intermediate-Customizing and Designing Lessons.

Linked Learning/Career Technical Education (LL/CTE)

Graduate Profile Portfolio and Defense

Learn how L.A. Unified is turning its vision of the [Graduate Profile](#) into practice through the portfolio and defense. Participants will see L.A. Unified student work that demonstrates how the portfolio and defense is being implemented and have the opportunity to listen to a panel of educators, school leaders, and students on their experiences. This event is open to all school leaders, teachers, district administrators, educational partners, parents, anyone interested in learning more about authentic assessments for K-12 students. Please [register](#).

For more information, please contact Nancy Le, *Specialist*, nancy.le@lausd.net.

Mastery Learning and Grading (MLG)

MLG Implementation Support Sessions for MLG Certified Teachers: Spring 2021

MLG coaches provide feedback and resources for MLG certified teachers to collaborate and create MLG classroom materials. These are virtual, synchronous, beyond the bell opportunities for MLG certified teachers. To find out about implementation support options in your Local District and compensation, please visit our [website](#) and contact your Local District MLG coaches.

For more information, please contact Chris Grounds, *MLG Coordinator*, christopher.grounds@lausd.net.

Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department (MMED)

Summative ELPAC Testing Window

The administration of the 2020-21 computer-based Summative ELPAC assessment must occur within the established testing window. For all students, the testing window for the computer-based Summative ELPAC assessment opened on February 1, 2021 and ends on May 14, 2021. New eligible students who enroll at the school after May 14, 2021 must be tested by May 28, 2021.

For more information, please contact Local District EL programs Coordinator or Elizabeth Shnorhokian, *EL Programs/Compliance Specialist*, emald4@lausd.net.

Personalized Learning Systems (PLS)

Student MyMail Access

Students can now link to their L.A. Unified MyMail email account from within the LMS, Schoology. This feature will help students easily access their email from within their Schoology account. Students can click on the ‘waffle’ icon and select MyMail to be directed to their email login page. Students will need to enter their SSO email address and password to access their account. QR codes cannot be used to access student email accounts.

Assessment Item Level Feedback

Teachers can now provide item-level assessment feedback to students when using Schoology Assessments. Teachers can use this feature to provide constructive, meaningful feedback to students in text, audio, or video format. For more information, please [view the job aid](#).

Schoology Professional Development

There are a number of new Schoology training sessions taking place this Spring. New asynchronous topics are available and synchronous topics are updated monthly. Please visit our [training website](#) to find these learning opportunities as well as Office Hours sessions and salary point classes.

For more information, please contact Antonio Hernandez, *Coordinator*, antonio.hernandez@lausd.net.

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System Offers New Information such as End of Year (EOY) DIBELS, New Learning Applications, and DRDP Data for Kindergarten Readiness

- Find DIBELS EOY and DIBELS Progress Monitoring assessments in:
 - Assessment Analytics, Classroom View & Student Monitoring (Teachers)
 - Program View & School View (Counselors)
 - At A Glance (Principals & CoSAs)
 - Whole Child View (All users)
- Go to the [What's New page](#) to learn about:
 - DRDP preschool assessments (in the February release notes)
 - New ed tech sources such as Zearn and FOSS in *Remote Learning Student Related Information*
- [Register for webinars](#) in MyPLN

Observances and Commemorative Events

For the month of April, L.A. Unified has the following observances and commemorative events:

Observance	Resources
National Walking Day (April 1)	American Heart Assoc. How to Guide National Walking Day 11 Ways to Walk More

California Poppy Day (April 6)	California Poppy Day CA Poppy Reserve History of the CA Poppy
Administrative Professionals Day (April 21)	Administrative Professionals Day Administrative Professionals Day Ideas to Say Thank You
Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day (April 22)	TODASTW Day Forbes-Do's and Don'ts Time article
Armenian Martyrs Day (April 24)	FAQ on Armenian Genocide The History Channel The Armenian Genocide Museum
Denim Day/Peace Over Violence (April 28)	Facts about Denim Day Denim Day Info Peace Over Violence
National Library Week (April 4-10)	American Library Association I Love Libraries National Library Week
Autism Awareness Month	Autism Society Autism Speaks National Autism Association
Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month	Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Resolution TESOL NABE
Financial Literacy Month	Financial Literacy Month Council for Economic Education National Financial Educators Council
Jazz Appreciation Month	National Museum of American History A Passion for Jazz Jazz Appreciation Month
Mathematics Awareness Month	Math and Stats Awareness Activities for Math Awareness Math Activities Calendar
Month of the Young Child	NAEYC Facts about the Week of the Young Child Young Child Activities
National Child Abuse Prevention Month	Child Welfare NCTSN Joyful Heart Foundation
Parkinson's Awareness Month	Parkinson's Foundation The Michael J. Fox Foundation APDA
Poetry Month	National Poetry Month ReadWriteThink US Dept of Education
School Library Month	American Association of School Librarians EBSCO Library Sparks
Sexual Assault Awareness Month	National Sexual Violence Resource Center No More RAINN