



## Elementary Instructional Update

May 2021

“The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn...and change.” ~Carl Rogers

[DOI Policy Updates](#)

### General Updates and Resources

#### 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

#### 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!

#### 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

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### Mid-Career Education Fellowship

The California Education Policy Fellowship Program, which strengthens education policymaking by developing emerging education leaders, is accepting applications for 2021-2022. California EPFP is an initiative of the [Center for California Studies](#) and the [Education Insights Center](#) at Sacramento State and is part of a national program that has operated for more than 50 years. Its new cohort will be drawn from K-12 and higher education, executive and legislative branches of state government, and education-related non-profits. Fellows will meet five weekends during the year. Applications are due June 18. [Go here to learn more](#) about the program and apply.

### 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.

## Access, Equity, and Acceleration (AEA)

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### "The New Way Forward, The Sequel" Meeting and Workshops on May 15, 2021

[This open meeting](#) welcomes identified and non-identified Gifted African American/Black students and families and focuses on 'Learning and Preparing for a World That Doesn't Exist Yet.' Listen to inspiring keynote and guest speakers and participate in outstanding workshops for the parents and students grades 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>. Share this opportunity with your African American/Black Families and join us at this free virtual event. Hosted by The Gifted Network for African American Students and Families (GNAASF).

For more information, please contact Danielle Evers, *Specialist*, [danielle.evers@lausd.net](mailto:danielle.evers@lausd.net).

### End of the Year Reflection

On May 22, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the Academic English Mastery Program (AEMP) is highlighting the dedicated work of administrators, teachers, and parents toward Standard English Learner achievement. [This interactive experience](#) will feature an array of workshop options for teachers, administrators, instructional coaches, and parents. The AEMP model schools and support network schools will have an opportunity to share best practices, reflect on the application of AEMP professional development for all stakeholders, and much more.

For more information, please contact Natalia Searchwell, *Specialist*, [natalia.searchwell@lausd.net](mailto:natalia.searchwell@lausd.net).

## Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI)

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### Professional Development Opportunities

The Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI) is a department within the Division of Instruction that supports all schools interested in 21<sup>st</sup> 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 An Interdisciplinary Approach to Creative Computing, Computer Science Fundamentals, Game Based Learning with Minecraft: EE Intermediate - Customizing and Designing Lessons, Game Based Learning Advanced, Game Based Learning with Minecraft: EE Advanced: Getting Creative with Codebuilder, An Introduction to Using Data Sciences, Digital Presence with Purpose, Hybrid Learning Strategies for Success, Reaching Beyond the Classroom: Digital Citizen Asynchronous, Exploring Artificial Intelligence, and Teaching Artificial Intelligence.

For more information, please contact Maria Magnanimo-Toledo, *Specialist*, [mmagna1@lausd.net](mailto:mmagna1@lausd.net).

## Mastery Learning and Grading (MLG)

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### Equity in Grading and Instructional Practice

Mastery Grading offers an equitable alternative to traditional grading practices while Mastery Learning provides instructional strategies to support all students in achieving grade-level, standards-based proficiency. Mastery Learning and Grading PD is scheduling now for 2021-2022. The MLG PD series entails six two-hour workshops scheduled 2-3 hours apart (synchronous or school-site location depending on PD guidelines) and eight hours of asynchronous online learning. [To schedule PD](#), please contact your Local District MLG Coach(es) or complete [this request form](#).

For more information, please contact Chris Grounds, *MLG Coordinator*, [christopher.grounds@lausd.net](mailto:christopher.grounds@lausd.net).

## Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department (MMED)

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### 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](mailto:emald4@lausd.net).

## Personalized Learning Systems (PLS)

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### 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](mailto:antonio.hernandez@lausd.net).

## Whole Child Student Information Reporting System

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### Whole Child Student Information Reporting System Now Offers Achievement Data from Renaissance, IXL, and Edulastic and Provides Access to System of Support Advisors

- Find IXL, Edulastic, and Renaissance information in:
  - At a Glance (Admin.)
  - Classroom, School, and CoS Performance views
  - Student Monitoring
  - Assessment Analytics

- Whole Child View > Educational Technology
- See details about new data, including *Shmoop*, by clicking the quick guide link at the top of the [What's New page](#).
- Register for webinars on [MyPLN](#).
- If you are a System of Support Advisor at a CoS and need access, [apply for CoS Staff access](#).

### Observances and Commemorative Events

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

Observance	Resources
May Day/International Workers Day (May 1)	<a href="#">May Day History</a> <a href="#">Meanings of May Day</a> <a href="#">What is May Day?</a>
Day of the Teacher (May 4 nationally or May 12 in California)	<a href="#">CTA</a> <a href="#">NEA</a> <a href="#">We Are Teachers</a>
Cinco de Mayo (May 5)	<a href="#">History Channel</a> <a href="#">15 Facts about Cinco de Mayo</a> <a href="#">Celebrations in LA</a>
Mother's Day (May 9)	<a href="#">History Channel</a> <a href="#">Mother's Day History</a> <a href="#">The Old Farmer's Almanac</a>
Memorial Day (May 31)	<a href="#">History Channel</a> <a href="#">8 Things About Memorial Day</a> <a href="#">Memorial Day</a>
National Teacher and Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week (May 3-7)	<a href="#">PTA</a> <a href="#">NEA</a> <a href="#">Education World</a>
Be Kind to Animals Week (May 2-8)	<a href="#">American Humane Lessons</a> <a href="#">ASPCA</a> <a href="#">6 Ideas to Celebrate</a>
National Children's Book Week (May 3-9)	<a href="#">Every Child a Reader</a> <a href="#">Publishers Weekly</a> <a href="#">Classroom Activities</a>
Celebrating Los Angeles School Police During National Police Week (May 9-15)	<a href="#">National Police Week</a> <a href="#">National Law Enforcement Officers</a> <a href="#">C.O.P.S.</a>
Classified School Employee Week (May 16-22)	<a href="#">CSEA</a> <a href="#">Celebration Ideas</a> <a href="#">Classified School Employees of the Year</a>
Asian Pacific Islanders American Heritage Month	<a href="#">Asian Pacific Islanders American Heritage</a> <a href="#">PBS SoCal</a> <a href="#">National PTA</a>
Better Hearing & Speech Month	<a href="#">American Speech-Language-Hearing Assoc</a> <a href="#">What Health</a> <a href="#">American Academy of Audiology</a>
Foster and Kinship Care Awareness Month	<a href="#">US Dept. of Health &amp; Human Services</a> <a href="#">LAUSD</a> <a href="#">Foster &amp; Adoptive Family Services</a>
Labor History Month	<a href="#">AFL-CIO</a> <a href="#">CFT</a> <a href="#">CA Labor Federation</a>

<p>Mental Health Awareness Month</p>	<p><a href="#">Mental Health America</a>  <a href="#">National Alliance on Mental Illness</a>  <a href="#">Good Therapy</a></p>
<p>National Physical Fitness and Sports Month</p>	<p><a href="#">US Dept of Health &amp; Human Services</a>  <a href="#">Health Finder</a>  <a href="#">Action for Healthy Kids</a></p>
<p>Safe Jobs for Youth Month</p>	<p><a href="#">National Young Workers Resource Center</a>  <a href="#">Young Workers Bill of Rights</a>  <a href="#">CA Dept of Industrial Relations</a></p>