

Professional Learning and Leadership Development Newsletter

Creating a high quality system of support for teachers, administrators, and district leaders



Our Communities, Our Scholars Forum on Promising Practices

As part of the Listen and Learn Tour, Superintendent King held the *Our Communities, Our Scholars: LAUSD Sharing Promising Practices Together* forum on Saturday, July 23 at the Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academies. This forum provided an opportunity for school leaders and practitioners to learn from one another by sharing promising practices on how to best support student achievement.

Representing the Professional Learning and Leadership Development (PLLD) Branch, Michelle Barker and Marco Nava provided a workshop on Instructional Rounds. Administrators and teachers from traditional public schools, charters, and pilot schools participated to understand how Instructional Rounds may be used to develop and calibrate a shared vision for high-quality instruction.

Overall, this forum provided an opportunity for school leaders and practitioners representing schools with different models to come together to discuss and learn from each other on how to put theory into practice to best support each and every one of our students.

7

The focus elements to be rated as part of the EDST Formal Observation Cycle are limited to 7 for each teacher, all of which are to be drawn from the 15 TLF Focus Elements.

18

In partnership with each Local District, PLLD has scheduled 18 calibration events to ensure continued inter-rater reliability among administrators in observation of teaching practice.

87,000

This summer, MyPLN was visited 87,000 times! Prior to the end of the 2015-16 school year, 30,000 employees had accessed MyPLN (a 30% increase)

A Message From Linda

The end of summer is quickly approaching and schools will soon be opening their doors to the thousands of students, families, and staff we serve. The 2016-2017 school year marks an exciting chapter for our branch. We will launch the Aspiring Assistant Principal Program for certificated administrators with an Administrative Services Credential interested in becoming a school site administrator. We look forward to having another class of practitioners learning how to navigate the challenges and successes of being a school site administrator.

At the end of this month, one of our amazing colleagues, Esther Kim, will be retiring after 37 wonderful years. I wish her the best in her next chapter.

Best,
Linda

New Year, New Look

As part of continued efforts to provide district employees with streamlined access to our platforms, the landing page for the [My Professional Growth System](#) (MyPGS) has a new look. In the next couple of weeks, the [My Professional Learning Network](#) (MyPLN) landing page will also be upgraded. The login procedure will remain the same for both. Check out our new look for yourself!

Tools for Tolerance

Based on its popularity, PLLD, AALA, and the ACSA Equity Committee, will continue to partner to provide LAUSD administrators with the opportunity to participate in the Museum of Tolerance's *Tools for Tolerance* professional development. Three new dates have been added: August 28, September 11, and September 18. For more information, contact Marco Nava at mnava@lausd.net.

In the Spotlight: Updates to the 2016-2017 Educator Development and Support processes

The district's evaluation processes, Educator Development and Support: Teachers (EDST) and Educator Development and Support: School Leaders (EDSSL), incorporate promising practices in coaching and encourage professional reflection and growth to ensure all students have access to high quality teachers and school leaders.

The most recent agreement between LAUSD and UTLA has adopted changes to the 2016-2017 EDST process. Article X, Educator Development, Support and Evaluation, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement ("Article X) contains new contractual timelines for notification to employee of evaluation, establishment of objectives, completion of formal observation and post-observation conference, and submission of the Final Evaluation Report. Article X also provides that the focus elements to be rated as part of the Formal Observation Cycle shall be limited to seven for each teacher, all of which are to be drawn from the 15 *Teaching and Learning Framework* Focus Elements. Of the seven, three will be designated by the district, three will be selected by the

teacher, and one will be cooperatively selected by the teacher and evaluator. The three district unified focus elements for 2016-2017 are from Standard 3: 3b2 Discussion Techniques and Student Participation; 3c1 Standards-Based Projects, Activities, and Assignments; and 3d3 Feedback to Students.

As part of the *LAUSD-AALA Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Educator Development and Support: School Leaders, 2016-2017*, assistant principals (Assistant Principals Generic Elementary and Secondary and Assistant Principals Secondary Counseling) will now be evaluated using the EDSSL process. The continued expansion of EDSSL for school site administrators will ensure increased focus on the leadership practices prioritized in the *School Leadership Framework*.

For more information, contact Jolene Chavira at jolene.chavira@lausd.net regarding EDST and contact Beth Bythrow at bbythrow@lausd.net regarding EDSSL.

Celebrating the Accomplishments of Esther Kim

After serving LAUSD students, parents, employees, and community for more than 37 years as a teacher, coordinator, assistant principal, principal, Teaching & Learning Coordinator, and Administrative Coordinator, Esther is retiring at the end of this month.

As the principal of 156th street, she dedicated over a decade to improving teaching and learning and organizational management, which led the school to receiving the Kirk Douglas Playground Award, Wonder of Reading Library Award, as well as Arts Prototype School and School for Advanced Studies designations. The school also achieved the prestigious recognition of California Distinguished School for 2000 & 2006 and the National Blue Ribbon Award in 2009. Under her leadership, the school's API score increased from 735 to 907. This much loved and highly revered principal was rated in the Top Ten LAUSD Principals by the annual UTLA Survey.

As a key member of the flagship team, Esther was essential to supporting the district in its goal of ensuring that every student is taught by an effective teacher. She contributed to this groundbreaking work through the creation of the district's *Teaching and Learning Framework* and tools for evidence collection, coaching, and evaluation. In her continued work as an Administrative Coordinator, she has been responsible for the training of aspiring and current administrators.

Esther has been a leader among her colleagues in pursuing excellence throughout her career and has enthusiastically mentored and encouraged others in achieving their career goals. We wish her good health, prosperity, and enjoyment during her retirement years.

