



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 3, 2022
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Staff Involved with Mentoring, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), School Improvement Panels
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Deadline: August 16, 2022

Statewide Professional Learning Opportunities for Increasing Educator Support

The Office of Educator Effectiveness is excited to invite New Jersey educators to professional learning sessions it has developed for the 2022-2023 school year. Our office has developed a menu of professional learning topics that will enable local education agencies (LEAs) to enhance their support of educators. Topics have been developed into sustained, virtual professional learning.

Virtual learning for each topic will be spread over three sessions that will run for one hour and 30 minutes. All sessions will take place from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. They will include an introduction, evidence-based content, interactive feedback, group activities, and an assessment of learning. To join these sessions, LEA staff can sign up on the [New Jersey Department of Education's Events Registration Page](#). Teams of LEA staff may attend the training session, or individual staff members may attend and turnkey the information to others in their LEA. Participants will be expected to attend all three sessions for a given topic since sessions build on each other. We look forward to the learning that will take place around these important topics.

Training Information:

Topic: Mentoring – Building A Culture/Climate to Support Novice Teachers

Dates

- Session 1: August 23, 2022 or August 29, 2022
- Session 2: August 24, 2022 or August 30, 2022
- Session 3: March 7, 2023 or March 9, 2023

Training Objectives

- Participants will co-construct plans for matching and training mentors and novice teachers.
- Participants will co-construct plans for mentor/novice teacher norms, mentor coordination, informal mentor networks, and non-evaluative lesson studies.
- Participants will develop long-term goals for recruiting mentors, recognizing mentors, and supporting mentoring coordination.

Topic: Developing Effective Collaboration with Colleagues Through School Improvement Panels

Dates

- Session 1: October 3, 2022 or October 13, 2022
- Session 2: October 6, 2022 or October 14, 2022
- Session 3: March 15, 2023 or March 23, 2023

Training Objectives

- Participants will co-construct plans for crafting a set of organizational conditions that encourage the recognition, positioning, and utilization of resources and dispositions for distributed leadership in School Improvement Panels.
- Participants will apply a data inquiry cycle process to support equitable outcomes in their local context. This step-by-step process will help them shape conditions for data-driven decision making and dialogue in their School Improvement Panels.
- Participants will develop a long-term plan for addressing regulatory and non-regulatory opportunities in their schools through School Improvement Panels.

Topic: Leveraging PLCs to Accelerate Learning:

Dates

- Session 1: September 15, 2022 or September 20, 2022
- Session 2: December 8, 2022 or December 13, 2022
- Session 3: March 16, 2023 or March 21, 2023

Training Objectives

- Participants will co-construct a plan for integration of equitable educational structures, educator collaboration, distributed leadership, and resources allocation in their PLCs.
- Participants will co-construct a plan for integration of processes to transform educational environments in their school(s) including equitable practices, high-quality curriculum, and the development of professional expertise in their PLCs.
- Participants will co-construct a plan for transforming educational environments in their school(s) by leveraging equity, evidence/data, contextual factors, and implementational processes in their PLCs.

Contact Information and Request for Expertise

If you are interested in sharing your expertise on these topics or if you have questions, please contact Dr. Kenneth Bond at teachpd@doe.nj.gov. As always, the NJDOE appreciates your engagement in recognizing the importance of supporting New Jersey's educators.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group