



## Elementary Instructional Update

*January 2021*

**“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” ~Socrates**

[DOI Policy Updates](#)

### General Updates and Resources

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#### The Pandemic in Art Webinar, January 27, 2021

While most of us are experiencing a pandemic for the first time, plagues have long been part of the human experience. [In this webinar](#), Getty curators will explore pandemics and plagues in history through the lens of works of art. Getty educators will then showcase simple, creative artmaking projects that students can do to express and document their personal experiences of the coronavirus pandemic. (Recommended for Grades 3-12). [Additional webinars](#) throughout the year are available.

#### African American Experiences Channel

The contributions, struggles, and triumphs of [African Americans](#) are woven into the fabric of American history and culture. This robust collection is organized by two frameworks: the Teaching Tolerance Social Justice Standards and the African American Studies curriculum organization of Culture, History, and Politics. [Explore and integrate](#) a variety of K-12 resources into classroom instruction and help students understand America's complex history, gain insight into the experiences of classmates, and imagine a more equitable future for people of all backgrounds.

#### Teaching About the Attack on the U.S. Capitol

Teachers across the nation are creating lessons about the historical significance of the violence that erupted in Washington D.C. on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, when supporters of President Donald Trump stormed the Capitol building and disrupted the Congressional certification of Joe Biden's presidential victory. Here are some resources that might help:

- **Human Relations, Diversity and Equity's Chaos at the Capitol** is a [library of curated resources](#) for educators, administrators, caregivers and mental health providers.
- **Child Mind** offers age-appropriate strategies on [Helping Kids Understand the Riots at the Capitol](#).
- **NEA Talking to Kids About the Attack on the Capitol** gives [tips for talking with students](#) about racial violence and other tragedies.
- **The American Historical Association** has launched "The Assault on the Capitol in Historical Perspective: [Resources for Educators](#)." The site offers historical knowledge to help understand the current crisis.
- **PBS NewsHour Extra** is offering [three ways](#) to teach the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.
- **The American Federation of Teachers'** Share My Lesson website has been updated with information to help teachers facilitate meaningful [discussions](#) about the attack on the Capitol with their students.
- **Larry Ferlazzo**, a Sacramento City Unified teacher with a popular blog on teaching, has posted "[Ways to teach about today's insurrection](#)."
- **Common Sense Media** has put together some [age-appropriate questions and conversation starters](#) that adults can use to navigate this tricky topic with the kids in their lives.



Dear LAUSD Educators,

In the spirit of our mission, we felt it important to respond to yesterday's events at the US Capitol by providing resources that help students discuss and understand the significance of what happened and the history of our democratic process.

Below are helpful resources that you can integrate into teaching and learning, including content focused on reducing stress and anxiety; helping students understand the news; trauma-informed teaching; civil discourse and more.

If you need any support accessing Discovery Education, please contact [SJohangiry@discoveryed.com](mailto:SJohangiry@discoveryed.com). We appreciate and are inspired by the ways you continue to support students and their families.

The Discovery Education Team

### **Channels**

Curated learning activities, videos, interactives, and audio files that support timely and relevant topics.

[News and Current Events](#)

[Wellness](#)

[How to Handle Stress](#)

[Everyday Speech](#)

[Inauguration Day](#)

### **Learning Activities**

Ready-to-use lessons for students that incorporate instructional strategies and digital content on issues that matter.

[Helping Students Understand the News](#)

[News You Can Use: Instructional Strategies](#)

[Reduce Stress](#)

[SEL Writing Prompts K-2 3-5 6-8 9-12](#)

[When Bad Things Are Happening](#)

[Leading Conversations After Crisis](#)

### **Resources**

Videos and professional learning experience to support learning.

[We the Digital Citizens](#)

[The Power of Words](#)

[Civil Discourse Online](#)

[Shaken U.S. Congress Certifies Biden Victory](#)

[Pence to Capitol Protesters: 'You Did Not Win'](#)

[Be Stronger Than Hate](#)

[Trauma Informed Care and Educator Well Being \(For Educators Only\)](#)

To access Discovery Education *Experience*, please go to  
**[LAUSD.DiscoveryEducation.com](https://www.discoveryeducation.com/learn/lausd/)** and enter full LAUSD email address and password.

**Preparedness Ambassadors Curriculum for Fourth Grade**

[The Preparedness Ambassadors curriculum](#) is designed to engage fourth grade students to develop and promote disaster preparedness guidelines for their homes, school, and local community. This program was created by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services in partnership with the [California Department of Education](#), [CalRecycle](#), and the [Sacramento County Office of Education](#).

**Digital Access for Students Through the Sora Schoolology App**

L.A. Unified has partnered with the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) to [provide digital access](#) to students for recreational reading and free tutoring. Students and teachers can now check out ebooks and audiobooks with ease by using the Sora app in Schoolology. In addition to the LAPL's collection, every school has a basic collection set up by Sora. The app is pre-installed for all users in the App Dropdown menu.

**L.A. Unified Salary Point Credit Courses and Classes**

As part of the UTLA/LAUSD contract, Article XV, teachers can increase their annual salary by taking classes to improve their practice as educators. [On this page](#) you can find a list of Salary Point Credit courses and classes that have been approved by the Joint Salary Point Credit Committee. In addition, you can find other resources to support you in your professional growth and understanding of the Salary Point Credit requirements.

**Free Books for Read Across America Day**

The Literacy Empowerment Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, invites your school or other literacy project to apply for [FREE books for Read Across America Day](#). During the past year, LEF has distributed over 3,000,000 books to schools all across the country for Read Across America Day and other literacy projects. Resources are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Orders must be received by February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**LACOE Series on Dyslexia and Struggling Readers**

[Screening for Dyslexia: What School Leaders Need to Know](#)

Feb. 23, 2021, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Audience: K-12 Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Administrators

[Implementing Intervention for Students with Dyslexia: What Teachers Need to Know](#)

March 17, 2021, 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Audience: K-12 Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Administrators

[Accommodating Students with Dyslexia in the Middle & High School Classroom: What Teachers Need to Know](#)

April 14, 2021, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Audience: Middle School Teachers, High School Teachers, Secondary Administrators, Instructional Coaches

[Assessing & Supporting Dyslexia: What School Psychologists Need to Know](#)

May 12, 2021, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Audience: School Psychologists, Administrators, Instructional Coaches

**Grant and Competition Opportunities**

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**Department of Ed Seeks Teacher Nominations for Cybersecurity Awards**

The U.S. Department of Education is seeking nominations for its annual [Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award](#), one for elementary educators and another for secondary. Nominations due by January 31, 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.

## Access, Equity, and Acceleration (AEA)

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### Middle of the Year (MOY) Language Assessment System (LAS Links) Remote Testing Opportunity

Academic English Mastery Program (AEMP) schools are encouraged to participate. The testing window begins January 19, 2021 and goes through February 19, 2021. The literacy data collected from this online assessment will provide AEMP schools with the Academic Language Proficiency Levels for Standard English Learners and give students/parents formative feedback on the academic progress made during distance learning.

For more information, please contact Kimberly Mitchell-Dismukes, *Administrative Coordinator*, [kmitc1@lausd.net](mailto:kmitc1@lausd.net).

## A-G Intervention and Support

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### College Access for Everyone (CAFE Series)

Teachers and counselors are invited to join the A-G Team for our Spring CAFE series. Please visit our Schoology page for more information.

- Spring Series: Building a College & Career Culture (MyPLN keywords “2021 Spring CAFÉ”)
  - January 30, February 6 & 20, 2021 or June 22, 23 & 24, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 pm.
  - Participants can receive training rate or apply for up to two salary points (extra homework required)

## English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics

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### Hand2Mind Resources for Every Student

Each TK-5 student will receive a Hand2Mind manipulative kit in support of ELA and Math instruction. Likewise, each teacher will receive one kit and Teacher Guide. All kits will be mailed home starting the week of January 11<sup>th</sup>. These kits can be used for synchronous sessions and independent work. Synchronous PD opportunities will be available starting on February 1<sup>st</sup> on MyPLN. The Literacy links for February 1<sup>st</sup> and the Math links for February 8<sup>th</sup> will be sent to principals. Additional sessions will be available asynchronously for teacher unable to attend synchronous sessions.

For more information, please contact Cora Watkins, *Coordinator*, [cwatkins@lausd.net](mailto:cwatkins@lausd.net).

### Navigating the Resources on Benchmark Universe for Virtual/Hybrid Instruction

This 2-hour synchronous professional development for elementary teachers includes engaging-interactive activities to help participants better understand how to use Benchmark Advance resources in a virtual/in-person classroom. This session will also support participants in planning for instruction. This is a voluntary session paid at the \$25 training rate. Register on MyPLN using the keywords: Benchmark Hybrid. This PD will run from January 16 through February 6, 2021.

For more information, please contact Susan Spillane, *Specialist*, [sspillan@lausd.net](mailto:sspillan@lausd.net).



## Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI)

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### Digital Citizen- ISTE Standards for Students

[In this session](#), learners will gain an understanding that being a good digital citizen is more than knowing your way around the internet. This course is about understanding how to prepare students to make purposeful, smart, and ethical decisions in our digital world. This sessions will be 2-hour synchronous

**Date:** Saturday, January 16, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual Connect

**Registration:** MyPLN

**Compensation:** District Training Rate (\$25/hour)

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Foundations

[This session](#) sets the foundation for the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards for Students professional learning sessions offered throughout the school year. This highly interactive session provides a deep dive into the foundations for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Instruction. This session will be a two-hour synchronous session with an additional two-hour asynchronous work.

**Date:** Saturday, January 16, 2021

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Virtual Connect

**Registration:** MyPLN

**Compensation:** District Training Rate (\$25/hour)

### International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Empowered Learner

[This course](#) provides learners the opportunity to explore how collaboration allows students to take an active role in achieving and demonstrating their learning goals. This session is covered in three two-hour synchronous sessions.

**Dates:** January 27, 28 and February 3, 2021

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual Connect

**Registration:** MyPLN

### ITI Reaching Beyond the Classroom - Digital Citizen

[This course](#) is designed to support educators in preparing to engage with learners that need to be empowered to thrive in an increasingly evolving technological landscape. Through a variety of activities, this course will provide opportunities to learn L.A. Unified's definition of Digital Citizenship, the District's policies and best practices around engaging in digital learning environments, as well as provide a wealth of teaching and learning resources that educators can put into practice immediately.

**Dates:** January 15-30, 2021

**Time:** Two-hours Asynchronous Self-Paced

**Registration:** MyPLN

**Location:** Virtual Connect

**Compensation:** District Training Rate (\$25/hour)

### ITI Google Level 1 Certification

ITI's Google Certified Educator Program is designed for educators and classroom teachers who wish to demonstrate proficiency in using Google for Education tools. This is a series of six two-hour synchronous sessions.

**Dates:** January 20, 21, 27, 28, February 3, and 4, 2021

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**Registration:** MyPLN

**Location:** Virtual Connect

### Developing Programming Skills

[In this session](#), educators will learn the foundations of computer science, specifically block coding, while engaging in physical computing activities with a Dash robot in this four-hour hands-on session. It will be two-hour synchronous with additional two hours of asynchronous work.

**Date:** Saturday, January 16, 2021

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Virtual Connect

**Registration:** MyPLN

**Compensation:** District Training Rate (\$25/hour)

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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#### Virtual MLG PD Series for School-Sites

MLG offers equity in grading and instructional practices and fosters a growth-mindset in students. Facilitated by MLG coaches, six two-hour, synchronous [Zoom workshops](#), scheduled two to three weeks apart, and eight hours of asynchronous Schoology learning result in MLG certification and training rate pay for all hours beyond the contracted day. To schedule a school-site specific PD series for 12 or more or to join a PD series, please contact your Local District MLG coaches.

#### Virtual MLG Salary Point Classes

Participants who successfully complete this deeper dive into MLG with six synchronous Zoom 2.5 hour workshops and 30 hours of asynchronous online learning will earn one Salary Point Credit and MLG certification. To enroll on MyPLN, search keywords “mastery salary point.”

#### MLG Certified Implementation Support

Mastery Learning and Grading Implementation Support sessions are available to 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](mailto:christopher.grounds@lausd.net).

### Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department (MMED)

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#### MMED-Lessons for English Learners, Dual Language Learners, and World Language Learners

MMED has created [Schoology groups and developed lesson resources](#) in multiple languages for distance learning. See flyer for Schoology Group Access Code to access the following instructional resources:

- Elementary-Start Smart 1.0 Distance Learning Lessons: Fortify and Negotiate Lessons
- Secondary-Start Smart 2.0 Digital Lessons
- Dual Language Education: Target Language Development Fortify and Negotiate Lessons
- World Languages-French and Arabic Negotiate Lessons and Spanish-specific Lessons

For more information, please contact Carla Gutierrez, *Elementary English Learner Instruction Coordinator*, [carla.gutierrez@lausd.net](mailto:carla.gutierrez@lausd.net), Rania Nahle, *Secondary English Learner Instruction Coordinator*, [rania.nahle@lausd.net](mailto:rania.nahle@lausd.net), Norma España, *Dual Language Education Coordinator*, [norma.espana@lausd.net](mailto:norma.espana@lausd.net), Dr. Eva Arrechiga, *World Languages and Cultures Coordinator*, [eal0710@lausd.net](mailto:eal0710@lausd.net).

#### TK-12 iELD Leadership Cadre - Title III Coaches and EL Designees

Title III Coaches and EL Designees will deconstruct ELPAC tasks to understand how to support content and linguistic success for English Learners using the EL Instructional Approaches in a Comprehensive ELD Program. Participants will be provided with Professional Development resources for school-site presentations. This [professional learning series](#) is in alignment with L.A. Unified's 2019-2020 Office of Civil Rights Commitment Plan. Register on MyPLN, keywords “ieldcadre2020.”

**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2021

**Time:** 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual Connect

### Elementary Implementing Integrated ELD Math for English Learners Training

[The course](#) provides elementary educators and administrators with strategic scaffolds for English Learners to engage in the content and language demands of mathematics built upon the foundation of the Three Phase Lesson Structure. Participants will be compensated for four hours of asynchronous PD at training rate. If you have previously completed the course, you will not be allowed to retake. The course will be available until June 18, 2021 or until 500 participants complete the course.

### Elementary English Language Development Foundational Knowledge Module

[This module](#) is intended to provide elementary educators and administrators with the theoretical and pedagogical foundations needed to implement highly effective instruction for English Learners. Participants will be compensated for four hours of asynchronous PD at training rate. If you have previously completed the course you will not be allowed to retake. The course will be available until June 18, 2021 or until 500 participants complete the course.

For more information, please contact Cynthia Ramirez, *Elementary EL Specialist*, [cmr0096@lausd.net](mailto:cmr0096@lausd.net).

### Rosetta Stone Office Hours

[Office hours](#) to support teachers with utilizing the Rosetta Stone Schoology app are being held on Tuesdays. The next session will be held as follows:

**Dates:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021

**Time:** 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** [Zoom Link](#)

For more information, please contact Claudia Lee, *Specialist*, [claudia.lee@lausd.net](mailto:claudia.lee@lausd.net) or Rebecca Cabrera, *Specialist*, [rebecca.cabrera@lausd.net](mailto:rebecca.cabrera@lausd.net).

### Unified Enrollment and Dual Language Education Training

This [virtual training](#) will provide an overview of Dual Language Education (DLE) and the Unified Enrollment DLE Choices application process. The training is designed for Proposition 58 Community Representatives, Local District DLE Coordinators, and Local District Leaders. Five training sessions will be held to inform participants on Unified Enrollment tasks and Dual Language Education. Register on MyPLN, keywords “Unified Enrollment DLE.”

**Date:** Thursday, January 14, 2021

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual Connect

For more information, please contact Diana Sanchez, *Dual Language Unified Enrollment Specialist*, [dab9296@lausd.net](mailto:dab9296@lausd.net).

## Parent and Community Services (PCS)

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### Budget Modules

LA Unified leadership have developed a series of three modules to assist school leaders to engage stakeholders in transparent and collaborative discussions around funding, budgets and school plan development. School leaders are encouraged to facilitate these modules with parents during the school’s budget development process, targeting outreach to subgroups who generate equity funds. English/Spanish presentations, [facilitator notes and supporting materials](#) are available for download.

For more information, please contact Dr. Heidi Mahmud, *Specialist*, [hkm3059@lausd.net](mailto:hkm3059@lausd.net).

### Title I Responsibilities Deadline

The following are due on or before January 29, 2021 for Title I schools via Principal’s Portal:

- Date of Title I Annual Meeting
- Date of distribution (web posting, mailing) of the summary of the District Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy (PFEP)

- Date of SSC development, approval and distribution (web posting, mailing) of the school-level Title I PFEP and School-Parent Compact
- Dates of two staff trainings about parent outreach
- Uploading the school-level Title I PFEP and School-Parent Compact. See MEM. 6750.3 for guidance and templates.

For more information, please contact Diane Panossian, *Director*, [dpanossi@lausd.net](mailto:dpanossi@lausd.net)

### Approval for Parent Portal PIN Access

Beginning in February 2021, the approval process to grant District employees access to see Parent Portal PIN will transition to the Principal's Portal. School based and Local District employees with the parent access account administrator use role may perform various tasks within the Principal's Portal, including obtaining access to parent portal PINs. Job aid and further communication is forthcoming.

For more information, please contact Dr. Danny Dixon, *Administrative Coordinator*, [dcd4647@lausd.net](mailto:dcd4647@lausd.net).

## Personalized Learning Systems (PLS)

### Reinstalling Digital Applications

Teachers need to reinstall applications used in their Schoology Fall courses to their new Spring courses. Applications do not roll over from one semester to the next. All approved applications can be found in the [LAUSD App Center](#) located in the 'waffle' icon in Schoology.

For more information, please contact Antonio Hernandez, *Coordinator*, [antonio.hernandez@lausd.net](mailto:antonio.hernandez@lausd.net).

## Student Health and Human Services (SHHS)

### Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports/Restorative Practices (PBIS/RP)

Virtual backgrounds for Mindful Monday, Grati-Tuesday, Wellness Wednesday, Thoughtful Thursday and Fun Friday have now been added to your Zoom account. These backgrounds align with the community building thematic activities and lessons available in the PBIS/RP Schoology group.

For more information including the access code, please contact Laura Zeff, *Administrative Coordinator*, [laura.zeff@lausd.net](mailto:laura.zeff@lausd.net).

## Whole Child Student Information Reporting System

### Whole Child Student Information Reporting System Continues to Add New Remote Learning Data

Tracking at a Glance has new data, including *Cengage*, *Edulastic*, and *Renaissance*. For details, see *Remote Learning Student Related Information* on the What's New Page at <https://achieve.lausd.net/wholechild>; and find answers to remote learning questions on the FAQs page.

Support resources are found under Quick Links > Professional Development Resources > *User Guides & Information* for brief navigation videos, user manuals, scavenger hunts, and more > *Professional Development* for training information.

## Observances and Commemorative Events

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

Observance	Resource Links
New Year's Day (January 1)	<a href="#">History of New Year's Day</a> <a href="#">History Channel</a> <a href="#">New Year's Traditions</a>
Human Trafficking Awareness Day (January 11)	<a href="#">National Human Trafficking Awareness Day</a> <a href="#">Human Trafficking Awareness</a> <a href="#">National Runaway Safeline</a>



Observance	Resource Links
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the National Day of Service (January 18)	<a href="#">The King Center</a> <a href="#">The Nobel Prize</a> <a href="#">National Service</a>
Data Privacy Day (January 28)	<a href="#">Stay Safe Online</a> <a href="#">Data Privacy Day</a> <a href="#">Cyber Security and Information Center</a>
Braille Literacy Month	<a href="#">Paths to Literacy</a> <a href="#">Braille Works</a> <a href="#">National Braille Press</a>
National Blood Donor Month	<a href="#">American Red Cross</a> <a href="#">National Blood Donor Month</a> <a href="#">Red Cross Youth</a>
National Mentoring Month	<a href="#">National Mentoring Partnership</a> <a href="#">National Mentoring Month</a> <a href="#">National and Community Service</a>
Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month	<a href="#">Federal Bureau of Investigation</a> <a href="#">National Child Traumatic Stress Network</a> <a href="#">US Dept of Defense</a>