Elementary Instructional Update

March 2021

"One child, one teacher, one pen, and one book can change the world." ~Malala Yousafzai

[DOI Policy Updates]

General Updates and Resources

Districtwide Unconscious/Implicit Bias Professional Learning Series
This spring all certificated and classified staff will complete unconscious/implicit bias training consisting of four monthly sessions. Each session is meant to be experienced as a school/department team during scheduled virtual meetings that are facilitated by the site administrator/department lead and members of their leadership teams. Each session will also automatically populate for all employees in MyPLN each month. Supporting resources such as facilitation guides, handouts, and supplemental toolkits will be included in the MyPLN courses. The first session titled *Racial Literacy and Cultural Awareness*, to be completed during March, will be released in MyPLN by February 26th. Click here for a brief overview of the Unconscious/Implicit Bias learning series.

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.

Microsoft Teacher Events for March
Hosted by the Microsoft Store for L.A. Unified, a variety of workshops are available for both students and educators. Topics this month include Space Jam: A New Legacy Coding Workshop; Create Your Own Galaxy with Tynker Solar System; Getting to Know Windows 10. Additionally, there is an opportunity to participate in Imagine Cup Junior 2021.

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.

LACOE Series on Dyslexia and Struggling Readers
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

Easy DIY Virtual Getty Museum Field Trips Webinar March 24 at 3:30 p.m.
Although museum field trips may not be possible in person this year, there are still ways to explore museums! In this webinar we will share easy-to-use online tools and help you put together customized virtual museum field trips that support your core curriculum and engage students in out-of-the-box experiences. We'll also show you how to take advantage of digital tools to create experiences that would not be possible at an in-person fieldtrip.

Apple Education
Join Apple Professional Learning for virtual conferences throughout the month of March designed to provide educators time-saving tips and features to support teaching and learning. The free conferences will last one hour and will be held twice daily Monday through Thursday, to support educators after school. Please visit Apple Professional Learning Virtual Conferences to register. Apple is also offering coaching to individual educators or small groups in a one-to-one setting. The virtual coaching may be scheduled by emailing AppleProfessionalLearning@apple.com.

Grant and Competition Opportunities

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)

The Distance Learning Playbook for Educators
L.A. Unified Educators–Back by Popular Demand! Dr. Douglas Fisher's webinar, *The Distance Learning Playbook for Educators: Teaching for Engagement and Impact in Any Setting*, is offered by Advanced Learning Options on Saturday, March 20, 2021, 8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Register on MyPLN, keyword: "The Distance Learning Playbook for Educators." Participants will receive the playbook digitally.

For more information, please contact Michelle Papazyan, *Specialist*, mpapazya@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 Citizenship, Navigating Computer Science, Game Based Learning with Minecraft Education Edition, and many more.

For more information, please contact Maria Magnanimo-Toledo, *Specialist*, mmagna1@lausd.net.

Mastery Learning and Grading (MLG)

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.

Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department (MMED)

L.A. Unified Reading Horizons Office Hours and Courses on MyPLN
To support English Learners with Reading Horizons, office hours via zoom for Administrators and ELD teachers are available Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. –10:00 a.m. and Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. –3:30 p.m.

In support of Reading Horizons (RH) for English Learners, we are offering the Digital Tools: Reading Horizons Course 1 & 2 on MyPLN. These voluntary, unpaid courses provide an overview of the RH Discovery program grades K–3 and RH Elevate program grades 4–12. Visit MyPLN and search keywords "Reading Horizons."

For more information, please contact Bernie Carrasco, *Specialist*, bcarrasc@lausd.net.

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)

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.

Special Education (SpEd)

Universally Designing Assessments
The California Department of Education (CDE) has contracted with the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST) to create a series of 20-minute videos on why formative assessment is critical, including during virtual instruction. The trainings have been loaded into MyPLN and divided into grade level specific series (K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12). Look for them in MyPLN using the keyword "ED4ALL."

Special Education Asynchronous Training
The Division of Special Education has a wide range of asynchronous professional development in MyPLN, including how to best utilize Digital Tools with students with disabilities. Look for them in MyPLN using the keyword "SPED2020" or "Digital Tools" to see the range of recorded PD available.

For more information, please contact Lela Rondeau, *Coordinator*, lela.rondeau@lausd.net.

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System Supports Parent Conferences, Remote Learning, and Midterm Marks
Find in Whole Child View:
- Parent Conference information such as DIBELS, DIBELS Progress Monitoring, grades, and remote learning usage, including IXL and ST Math.
- Information to prepare for midterm grades, including attendance and remote learning usage, e.g., Newsela, Cengage, and Edgenuity.

Learn about access to student emails and PINs in the January release notes and *Remote Learning Student Related Information* on the What's New page at https://achieve.lausd.net/wholechild. Register for webinars here.

Observances and Commemorative Events

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

Observance	Resource Links
Read Across America (March 2)	NEA Dr. Seuss Day Read Across America Ideas
International Women's Day (March 8)	International Women's Day Choose to Challenge History Channel
Pi Day (March 14)	Pi Day History Ways to Celebrate National Pi Day
Honoring the Life and Legacy of Cesar E. Chavez (March 31)	Cesar Chavez Day History Channel CDE
Week of the School Administrator (March 1-5)	ACSA Ways to Show Gratitude School Principal as Leader
American Red Cross Month	The American Red Cross American Red Cross Awareness Month Heroes for Red Cross
Middle Level Education Month	Association for Middle Level Education NASSP

Observance	Resource Links
	NAESP
Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month	National Multiple Sclerosis Society Multiple Sclerosis Month Mayo Clinic
Music In Our Schools/Arts Education Month	National Assoc. for Music Education Inner-City Arts Californians for the Arts
National Nutrition Month	Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics National Nutrition Month Kit SOPHE
School Social Worker Month	National Association of Social Workers School Social Work Association of America Social Work Month
Women's History Month	Women's History Month National Women's History Project Women's History