



Elementary Instructional Update

October 2020

"Reading is the key that opens doors to many good things in life. Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true."

~ Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

[DOI Policy Updates](#)

General Updates and Resources

Warning Notices for Reporting Period 1

[Warning notices](#) must be provided from September 28 – October 2, 2020, to students who are at risk of not meeting grade level standards. Teachers may provide the warning notice as a PDF via telephone or video conference, or as an email message to parents via Schoology or the Parent Portal. For parents who are unable to be contacted as described above, notices must be sent via the Elementary Warning Notice portal at <https://mailme.lausd.net>. Teachers must also log the warning notice date of delivery on the progress report screen in MiSiS.

Mark Reporting Guidelines

L.A. Unified will implement the regular 1-4 grading scale for elementary students as outlined in BUL-2332.7 *Elementary School Progress Report Marking Practices and Procedures*, dated August 3, 2018. Students who have not participated in remote learning due to a circumstance beyond their control are not to be penalized. For specific guidance on marking practices, review the [2020-2021 Mark Reporting Guidelines for Elementary Schools](#).

For more information, please contact Carlen Powell, *Administrator of Elementary Instruction*, carlen.powell@lausd.net.

Blackboard Teacher Communications System

The Blackboard Connect Office in the Division of Instruction is announcing the launch of a new communication tool for teachers. The Blackboard Teacher Communications system allows for customized phone, email or text messages to be sent by teachers to parents and guardians of their rostered students. All permanent and long-term substitute teachers have access to this new system which is accessed using their Single Sign-On credentials. To begin using the Teacher Communications system, please go to bbc.lausd.net and click on the Teacher Resources menu. View the Teacher Communications Online Training Video on the page. Click on the Teacher Communications Single Sign-On Instructions link to learn how to log in using your Single Sign-On user name and password.

Online Curriculum Maps

[Curriculum maps for elementary schools](#) are available for English Language Arts, health, history/social sciences, mathematics, physical education, science, and visual and performing arts.

For Teachers, by Teachers Playbook and Instructional Handbook

Located in the *L.A. Unified Educators* [Schoology group](#) is the [For Teachers, by Teachers Playbook](#) and [Instructional Handbook](#) providing information to assist teachers and administrators as we begin the school year with online learning. Additionally, there are folders containing resources, lessons, and links to 25 days of lessons.

For more information, please contact Caroline Walden, *Coordinator, Division of Instruction*, caroline.walden@lausd.net.

Think Connected: Exploring Leadership Challenges, A District Leadership Event

Join HMH® and your fellow District administrators from around the country at this free, virtual event. Throughout October, engage with thought leaders and authors who share the mission to address today's most pressing education challenges.

Participants will:

- **Engage** with peers and nationally recognized education leaders during theme-based keynote sessions.
- **Connect** with other administrators in working *breakthrough* sessions, led by researchers and fellow district leaders, to tackle today's challenges—together.
- **Discover** innovative solutions that address the ongoing need for social and emotional learning, virtual instruction, and meaningful assessment.

[Register](#) to create your own professional learning path. Select from energizing keynote sessions and breakthrough opportunities that match your interests and schedule. Keynote speakers include:

- October 7:** Dr. Jo Boaler, Social Emotional Learning
- October 13:** Dr. Tyrone Howard and Jallel Howard, Equity, Access, and Intervention
- October 20:** Dr. Thomasenia Lott Adams, Assessment and Closing the Achievement Gap
- October 27:** Dr. Adam Drummond, Remote Teaching and Learning

October Activity Calendars

October calendars for [children](#) and [early literacy](#) are full of engaging programming ideas for activities, craft projects, and book suggestions that will make kids' mouths water and boost their cultural awareness. Treat kids to tasty ideas for National Homemade Cookie Day and National Chocolate Cupcake Day, and also celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day, Global Diversity Awareness Month, and much more.

Virtual Coaches Training by Nike and the Dodgers Foundation

Announcing an upcoming Coaching Girls Series as part of the Dodgers RBI Virtual Coaches Training presented by [Nike Made to Play](#). This is for coaches who work with girls ages 5-18. All four trainings will focus on a different topic and will be joined by We Coach who will lead this conversation. The first training begins Thursday, October 8th with, "*Make Sure the Playing Space & Team Culture Works For Girls.*" This session will also feature an appearance by Diana Collins, the mother of Dodgers star outfielder, Mookie Betts. Diana will discuss the time she spent coaching Mookie's youth teams and offer advice to other women who are looking to getting into coaching youth baseball or softball. Additional sessions will be held on October 22, November 12, and December 10.

Date: Thursday, October 8, 2020

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Registration: [Virtual Coaches Training Series Session 1](#)

Grant and Competition Opportunities

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.

Voting Resources

Rock the Vote's Democracy Class

[Democracy Class](#) is a free, nonpartisan curriculum that educates students about the importance and history of voting. By signing up, educators will have access to additional lesson plans featuring:

- The history and importance of voting
- Modern-day voting rights
- The importance of local elections
- How voting can impact issues in communities
- The 2020 Census
- Plus, receive a bonus Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Elections Kit to share with students

Access, Equity, and Acceleration (AEA)

AEMP Latino Heritage Month Celebration & Art Contest

The Academic English Mastery Program (AEMP), in partnership with the Association of Mexican American Educators (AMAE), will feature a Visual and Performing Arts contest that showcases L.A. Unified schools honoring Latino contributions during Latino Heritage Month, September 15th – October 15th, 2020. All L.A. Unified schools are invited to participate. Grand prize winners will be recognized and their work will be showcased at the AMAE Winter Gathering Event. Further details coming soon.

Language Assessment Scales (LAS) Links Testing

L.A. Unified is currently utilizing the Language Assessment Scales (LAS) Links Online assessment's services to monitor the progress of Standard English Learners in acquiring academic language and literacy proficiency as delineated in Chapter 5 of the 2018 Master Plan for English Learners and Standard English Learners. The LAS Links assessment assesses the core language domains of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. The Middle of the Year (MOY) testing window is from September 14 to October 16, 2020.

AEMP Fall Equal Access Series

The Academic English Mastery Program's Fall Equal Access Series is designed to help educators develop new paradigms for educating underperforming students for whom Standard English is not native. Participants will become knowledgeable about issues of language variation and its impact on learning in African American, Mexican American, Hawaiian American, and Native American Standard English Learner populations, and will have an opportunity to reflect on the beliefs, attitudes, and perceptions that often impede academic success in Standard English Learners (SEL) students.

Date: Saturday, October 3 and 17, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Webinar

Registration: MyPLN

For more information, please contact Kimberly Mitchell-Dismukes, *Administrative Coordinator*, kmitc1@lausd.net.

Health Education

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Updates

Here are the latest [Social Emotional Learning updates](#) for elementary, middle, & high schools. Included is information regarding SEL programs and resources for distance learning.

For more information, please contact Karla Lope, *SEL Adviser*, kal9009@lausd.net.

Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI)

Get Creative with Physical Computing

Learners will get creative with [physical computing](#). This is an introduction to programming in a way that is approachable and inviting. This session will be using block-based Microsoft MakeCode language and JavaScript. This will be a two-hour synchronous session.

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

Beginning Creative Computing through Interdisciplinary Instruction (Grades PK-12)

This session guides educators through the basics of block coding utilizing the amazing Scratch platform. Learners will have a hands on experience in learning how to apply the creative arts and computing through an interdisciplinary approach. This will be a two-hour synchronous session.

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

ITI Google Level 2 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. The Level 2 status indicates that an educator is able to successfully integrate a wider range of Google Suite for Education tools and other technologies in order to transform their teaching practice.

Date: Wednesday, October 21, Thursday, October 22, and Wednesday October 28, 2020

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Creative Communicator

In this course, learners develop ideas to create interactive activities designed to promote, support, and model creative thinking using a variety of digital objects such as visualizations, models, or simulations. This will be a two-hour synchronous session.

Date: Wednesday, October 21, Thursday, October 22, and Wednesday October 28, 2020

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

International Society for Technology In Education (ISTE) Digital Citizen

Learners will gain an understanding that being a good digital citizen is more than knowing your way around the web. This course is about understanding how to prepare students to make purposeful, smart, and ethical decisions in our digital world. This will be a two-hour synchronous session.

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2020

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

21st 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 21st Century Instruction. This session will be a two-hour synchronous session with an additional 2-hour asynchronous work.

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

ITI Digital Presence with Purpose

In this session, learners will receive guidance on curating a digital presence with a purpose that is aligned to District policy and the District's digital citizenship definition. Participants will explore promising practices from experts who have managed digital engagement communities for national organizations. This will be a two-hour synchronous session.

Date: Monday, October 12, 2020

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Synchronous

Registration: MyPLN

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

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

Linked Learning/Career Technical Education (CTE)

2020-2021 Linked Learning Application Info Sessions

Are you interested in becoming a Linked Learning pathway or school? Our application process launched September 22, 2020 with our first of six [informational sessions](#). Join the Linked Learning Office to learn more about how to implement Linked Learning at your school and the application process. (Attend one session.)

Info session dates: October 1, 6 & 8

Letter of Intent due: October 23, 2020

Application Due: November 20, 2020

For more information, please contact Lindsey Corcoran, *Director*, lmc0129@lausd.net.

Mastery Learning and Grading (MLG)

Virtual Mastery Learning and Grading Professional Development

Virtual Mastery Learning and Grading PD available for school sites/individual educators. Mastery Learning and Grading is a growth-mindset approach to grading and instruction based on the understanding that everyone can learn with the right conditions and support. The PD series is facilitated by MLG coaches and entails six two-hour, synchronous workshops (Zoom), scheduled approximately two to three weeks apart to allow participants time to reflect and engage in the eight hours of asynchronous Schoology online learning. Upon completion of all workshops and online learning, participants will earn MLG certification. Training rate is available for all hours beyond the contracted day. To schedule a school-site specific PD series for 12 or more participants or to join a PD series, please visit to our [website](#) and contact your Local District MLG coaches.

MLG Certified Implementation Support

Mastery Learning and Grading Implementation Support sessions are available to MLG certified teachers. These are virtual, synchronous, beyond the bell opportunities to work on creating MLG classroom materials (learning targets, Schoology mastery gradebook set up, proficiency scales for learning targets, tiered assessments of learning targets, and MLG syllabi) with support, resources, and feedback provided by Local District MLG coaches. They are usually one to two hours in length per session. To find out about implementation support options in your Local District and compensation, please visit our [website](#) and contact your Local District MLG coaches.

Mastery Learning and Grading Certification

Virtual Mastery Learning and Grading Salary Point Classes are available. Mastery Learning and Grading Salary Point Classes meet virtually on six Saturdays for two and a half hours, and also include 30 hours of asynchronous online learning. Participants who successfully complete the course requirements will earn one Salary Point Credit and MLG certification. This course provides participants with additional time and resources in order to take a deeper dive into the key components of

Mastery Learning and Grading and how to implement it in the classroom. To enroll on MyPLN, search key words “mastery salary point.” If you cannot find availability in current offerings, please contact Chris Grounds to be added to the email list and receive notifications when additional offerings are added.

For more information, please contact Chris Grounds, *MLG Coordinator*, christopher.grounds@lausd.net.

Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department (MMED)

K-12 English Learner Instructional Approaches iELD Leadership Cadre for Title III Coaches and EL Designees

Title III Coaches and EL Designees are invited to this [three-day professional virtual learning series](#). Participants 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, search key words “ieldcadre2020.”

For more information, please contact Carla Gutierrez, *Elementary EL Coordinator*, carla.gutierrez@lausd.net.

Personalized Learning Systems (PLS)

Schoology Office Hours

PLS will be offering Office Hours for educators on a weekly basis for the month of October. After a brief presentation on a specific topic, facilitators will stand by to answer your Schoology-related questions and direct you to useful resources. For a list of topics and dates, please visit <http://achieve.lausd.net/plstraining>.

Digital Content Application Support

With the increased use of L.A. Unified approved digital content applications, teachers may contact the vendor directly for support. To access vendor support contact information, visit the LMS App Center at <https://achieve.lausd.net/lmsappcenter>.

Submission of Grades through Schoology

During Remote Learning, teachers may have added additional staff to their course(s). Additional staff may have been added as members of the course. During an open grading window, when teachers are using the Grade Passback screen to submit grades to MiSiS, any additional staff members in the course that are not part of the teacher's official MiSiS roster will cause the Grade Passback screen to return an error. This is the expected behavior and will not prevent student grades from flowing back to MiSiS. Upon submission of grades, teachers should run the MiSiS Teacher Verification of Marks report to confirm grades have successfully passed back to MiSiS.

Deleting of Courses

Schoology is integrated with MiSiS and will automatically update courses as schedule changes are made in MiSiS. Manually deleting courses should NOT be done under any circumstance. Doing so will have a negative impact on students and teachers in the course being deleted. If you are a member of a course and wish to be removed from it, inform the course administrator and have them remove you from the courses Members page. Do not go to your course list and delete the course manually. Deleting a course, yourself, deletes the course for everyone else as well.

Course Administrators can remove a member from a course with the following steps:

1. Go to the Members page
2. Click on the gear icon next to their name
3. Select Unenroll

For more information, please contact Antonio Hernandez, *Coordinator*, antonio.hernandez@lausd.net.

Special Education (SpEd)

Asynchronous PD Offerings

Self-paced asynchronous PDs are available on MyPLN. Search key words “SpEd2020Edgenuity.” The following options are available: Pathblazer & Courseware; NewsELA; Virtual Co-Teaching; Universal Design for Learning (UDL); 95% Group, Day 2; Nearpod; Renaissance; Kami; Soundtrap.

For more information, please contact Veronica Mullen, *Specialist, K-12 Instruction*, veronica.mullen@lausd.net.

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System Supports Remote Learning with New Features

In Tracking at a Glance, easily obtain data on specific applications such as Schoology and Zoom and view student-level data in a calendar view. Find details and the quick guide, Remote Learning Student Related Information, on the [What's New Page](#). When preparing course grades, users may utilize Whole Child View, including Ed Tech/Edgenuity, and Course View, which includes Schoology information. For eLearning and virtual training, search for “Whole Child” at <https://achieve.lausd.net/mypln>.

Observances and Commemorative Events

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

Obsevanace	Resource Links
National Coming Out Day (October 11)	National Coming Out Day APA NCOD History
The Great California Shake Out (October 15)	The Great California Shake Out Earthquake Country Alliance Shake Out FAQ
National Retirement Security Week (October 18-24)	National Retirement Security Week Retirement Security Week ICMARC Retirement Security Week
America's Safe Schools Week (October 18-24)	Recognizing America's Safe Schools Week National School Safety Center Safe School Resources
Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31)	Red Ribbon Campaign National Family Partnership Red Ribbon Week Ideas
Blindness Awareness Month	Know the Glow International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness Blindness Awareness Month
Breast Cancer Awareness Month	Breast Cancer Awareness Month National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc. World Health Organization
Building a Stronger Community and Workforce by Increasing College Awareness	LAUSD College Awareness Month from Oct. 2016 College Awareness Activities College Awareness for ES and MS Students
Bully Prevention Month	Stop Bullying STOMP Out Bullying PACER
Crime Prevention Month	National Neighborhood Watch National Crime Prevention Council

Obseance	Resource Links
	Crime Prevention Guide
Dyslexia Awareness Month	LA Unified Dyslexia Resources Dyslexia Awareness Month International Dyslexia Association
Energy Awareness Month	National Energy Education Development Department of Energy Energy Efficiency Resources
Filipino American History Month	Filipino American National Historical Society Why We Celebrate Congressional Resolution
Girls Empowerment Month	LA Unified Resolution Girls Build Association for Library Service to Children
LGBT History Month	Library of Congress Pride Month History APA
National Book Month	National Book Month National Reading Group Month National Friends of Libraries Week
National Disability Employment Awareness Month	National Disability Employment Awareness Month US Department of Labor Campaign for Disability Employment
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month	No More Peace over Violence DV Awareness Project
National Substance Abuse Month	Office of National Drug Control Policy Youth Drug Prevention NAADAC
School Bus Safety Month	Child Safety Network National Association for Pupil Transportation School Transportation News