



## Understanding Elements of PLCs: Teachers

CEUs: 3/Fee \$65.00 or Free w/Annual Support Package

**Facilitator:** EYPD Faculty

**Phone:** 855-984-1756

**Email:** Registration@earnyourpd.org

**Address:** P.O. Box 4205 | Brandon, Mississippi 39047

**Technical Support:** helpdesk@earnyourpd.org

---

### Introduction

Welcome to *Understanding Elements of PLCs: Teachers*, an online professional development course geared primarily for anyone teaching in the classroom. This course requires educators to implement new or improve current strategies within current PLCs. While the topic is not new, it does help to refresh and have educators retool themselves. Reflecting on current instructional and planning practices are a necessary part of the teaching. Ideas come and go. Some ideas stay the same but restated in different names. But PLCs can stabilize and mature the learning environment. Successful schools have a well-structured PLC guiding anyone that teaches. PLCs provide a foundation of successful students. This course will explore some structures of PLCs.

This course will focus on the following modules:

- **Understanding Purpose of PLCs?**
  - **3 Components of PCLs!**
  - **Developing Norms in PLCs!**
  - **Improving Current PLCs!**
- 

### Academic Integrity Statement

The structure and format of most online courses presume a high level of personal and academic integrity in completion and submission of coursework. Individuals enrolled in an online professional development course are expected to adhere to the following standards of academic conduct.

### Academic Work

Coursework submitted by the individual shall be the educator's own work or appropriately attributed, in part or in whole, to its correct source. Submission of commercially prepared (or group prepared) materials as if they are one's own work is unacceptable.



### **Aiding Honesty in Others**

The individual will encourage honesty in others by refraining from providing materials or information to another person with knowledge that these materials or information will be used improperly.

*Violations of these academic standards may result in loss of credit for the course.*

---

### **Level of Application**

This course is designed to be an informational course with application to educational settings. The strategies are appropriate for the remediation of challenging behavior in students.

---

### **Course Expectations:**

**Upon completion of the Units in this online professional development course, educators should:**

- ✓ Know the terminology related to PLCs
  - ✓ Lead peer discussions regarding PLCs in their educational setting
  - ✓ Incorporate strategies in the school PLCs
  - ✓ Increase the probability of students performing better academically
- 

### **Course Description**

The course, *Understanding Elements of PLCs: Teachers*, was developed to provide educators with a structured way of objectively reviewing current PLCs at a team member level. Educators will be introduced to PLC tools that are innovative methods to granular approach areas in a PLC. These methods allow educators to gain a knowledge and understanding in areas that need improvement. Also, the opportunity to enhance the strengths and improve other areas will be effectively utilized when the activities presented in this course are implemented.

This course also helps to strengthen educators' ability to reflect and improving strategies with PLCs that pertain to eliminating gaps in intervention, collaboration, assessment and data. Educators will be able to take an objective viewpoint of all processes of the current PLC. Students should be involved PLCs to some extent. Feedback from students can allow ownership in the learning process. Educators will see academic gains in the classroom.

---



## Course Units

### Unit 1: Understanding the purpose of PLCs

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on “**Do you understand the purpose?**”.
- Score 90 to 100% on “**PLC Purpose?**” quiz.
- Share at least one technique implemented or enhanced

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit/week 1	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Assignment	Understanding the purpose of PLCs	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%



**Unit 2: Components of PLCs**

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on “**Components of PLCs!**”.
- Score 90 to 100% on “**Components of PLCs!**” quiz.
- Share at least one technique implemented or enhanced

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit/week 2	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Assignment	Components of PLCs	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%



**Unit 3: Developing Norms**

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on “**Developing Norms!**”.
- Score 90 to 100% on “**Developing Norms!**” quiz.
- Share their ideas with other educators (workshop and school).

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit/week 3	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Assignment	Developing Norms	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%



#### Unit 4: Improving PLCs

Upon completion of this unit, the educators are expected to:

- Provide understanding feedback through discussion forums on “**Improving PLCs!**”.
- Score 90 to 100% on “**Improving PLCs!**”.
- Share their ideas with other educators (workshop and school).

Reading Assignments	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Various reading assignments are located in unit/week 4	Assignment	Complete the reading assignments	5%
	Assignment	Improving PLCs	5%
	Assessment	Quiz from reading assignments	5%



## Earn It – Final Wrap-up

Upon completion, the educators are expected to have more depths of knowledge on the course objectives.

Assessment	Graded Activities and Deliverables		
	Grading Category	Activities/Deliverables	Grade Allocation (% of all graded work)
Writing guidelines for reflection is located within course	Assessment	Complete the Reflection Assessment	<b>Required to Pass</b>

---

## References:

**Graham, Perry (2015, August, 25).** Improving Teacher Effectiveness through Structured Collaboration Retrieved from

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/19404476.2007.11462044>

**(2018).** Norms of Collaboration Toolkit. Retrieved from

<http://www.thinkingcollaborative.com/norms-collaboration-toolkit/>

**(2009).** From Isolation to Collaboration: Promoting Teacher Leadership through PLCs. Retrieved from <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED503637>

**Room 241 Team (2013, April, 30).** Four Instructional Leadership Skills Principals Need.

Retrieved from <http://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/ed-leadership/four-instructional-leadership-skills-principals-need/>

**Mendez-Morse, Sylvia (2015).** The Principal's Role in the Instructional Process. Retrieved from <http://www.sedl.org/change/issues/issues13.html>

**Andrews, R., Soder, R., & Jacoby, F. (1986, April).** Principal Roles, Other In-School Variables, and Academic Achievement by Ethnicity and SES. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco.

**Bennis, W. (1989).** On becoming a leader. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.

**Cuban, L. (1989).** At-risk students: What teachers and principals can do. *Educational Leadership*. 46(5), 29 - 33.

**Heck, R. H., Larsen, T. J., & Marcoulides, G. A. (1990).** Instructional leadership and school achievement: Validation of a causal model. *Educational Administration Quarterly*, 26, 94-125.

**Sergiovanni, T. J. (1990).** The leadership needed for quality schooling. In T. J. Sergiovanni & J. H. Moore (Eds.), *Schooling for tomorrow: Directing reforms to issues that count*. (pp. 213-226). Boston: Allyn and Bacon

**Sizemore, B. A., Brossard, C. A., & Harrigan, B. (1983).** An abashing anomaly: The high achieving predominantly black elementary school - Executive summary. Pittsburgh: Pittsburgh University, Department of Black Community Education.

**Venezky, R. L., & Winfield, L. F. (1979).** Schools that succeed beyond expectations in teaching reading (Tech. Rep. No. 1). Newark: University of Delaware, Studies in Education.



(2018) Supporting Individual Professional Development. Retrieved from <https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/professional-learning-communities>

(2018). <https://www.k12blueprint.com/toolkits/plc>

**Mielke, Chase (2015, July 26).** Is Your Professional Learning Community a Farce? Retrieved from: <https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/plc-problems/>

**Hord, S. M. (1997).** Professional learning communities: What are they and why are they important? [Online]. Available: <http://www.sedl.org/change/issues/issues61.html> .

(Fall 2009). Professional Learning Communities: The Key to Improved Teaching and Learning. Retrieved from <http://www.advanc-ed.org/source/professional-learning-communities-key-improved-teaching-and-learning>

**Hattie, J. (2009).** Visible Learning: A synthesis of over 800 meta-analyses relating to student achievement. New York: Routledge.

**Marzano, R. (2003).** What works in schools: Translating research into action. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.

**Patterson, K., Grenny, J., Maxfield, D., McMillan, R., & Switzler, A. (2008).** Influencer: The power to change anything. New York: McGraw-Hill.

**Provine, Celine (2012).** Retrieved from [http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_admin/best-practices-for-professional-learning-communities.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_admin/best-practices-for-professional-learning-communities.shtml)

**Bolam, R., McMahon, A., Stoll, L., Thomas, S., & Wallace, M. (with Greenwood, A., et al.). (2005, May).** *Creating and sustaining effective professional learning communities* (Research Brief RB637). Nottingham, United Kingdom: Department for Education and Skills

**Hord, S.M. (Ed.). (2004).** *Learning together, leading together: Changing schools through professional learning communities*. New York: Teachers College Press & NSDC.

**Lieberman, A. & Miller, L. (Eds.) (2008).** *Teachers in professional communities: Improving teaching and learning*. New York: Teachers College Press.

**McLaughlin, M.W. & Talbert, J.E. (2001).** *Professional communities and the work of high school teaching*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

**Saunders, W.M., Goldenberg, C.N., & Gallimore, R. (2009, December).** Increasing achievement by focusing grade-level teams on improving classroom learning: A prospective, quasiexperimental study of Title I schools. *American Educational Research Journal*, 46(4), 1006-1033.