



Elementary Instructional Update

December 2020

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."
~ Mahatma Gandhi

[DOI Policy Updates](#)

General Updates and Resources

Learning Sessions with Dr. Kecia Ray, December 9, 2020

These webinars are designed to help develop interactive activities and engaging lessons to bring students into the online classroom. Helpful strategies will be shared along with useful tools and tips for engaging learners when they are working in online classrooms. [See flyer for details and Zoom links.](#)

December 9, 2020, 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.: Engaging Learners Online at the **Elementary Level**

The Getty Art Challenge & the K12 Classroom Webinar, December 16, 2020

The [Getty Art Challenge](#), in which participants re-created famous artworks with simple household materials, went viral on social media when the pandemic hit. The project inspired creativity from people of all ages and art experience levels, including teens and children who posed for portraits in homemade costumes or arranged fruit and toys to replicate a still life. [In this webinar](#) you will learn student-friendly approaches for adapting this popular activity to address the K12 Social Studies and English Language Arts curriculum. [Additional webinars](#) throughout the year are available.

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.

CDE Series—Supporting Native American Students and Studying Indigenous People

[Pedagogical Approaches to Teaching Native American Studies](#) was featured on the November 19 CDE virtual classroom series.

Digital Access for Students Through the Sora Schoology 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 Schoology. 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.

Dodgers Winter Camp Series

[Baseball and Softball players](#) ages 7-12 will get the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to train on the field at Dodger Stadium, just like their favorite Dodger players. Space is limited to maintain social distancing. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation. Please advise families to read the privacy policy.

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.

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 sample lessons.

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

Grant and Competition Opportunities

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)

Culturally and Linguistically Responsive (CLR) Fall Institute

The [CLR Fall Institute](#) will highlight LAS Links Remote Testing Beginning of the Year (BOY) achievement at Academic English Mastery Program (AEMP) Schools. This event will feature data analysis online tools, Culturally and Linguistically Responsive (CLR) strategies to increase Literacy achievement for Standard English Learners (SELs), and opportunities for school teams to collaborate around data driven Mainstream English Language Development (MELD) goals.

Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Registration: MyPLN

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

Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI)

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 two-hour asynchronous work.

Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

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

Introduction to Game-Based Learning Through Minecraft: Education Edition

[This session](#) will provide participants opportunities to explore game-based learning as part of the curriculum and to see the possibilities of how Minecraft can help students learn valuable skills in a whole new way. Through sets of tutorials and game features, Minecraft: Education Edition provides endless opportunities for exploration and storytelling while building critical 21st century skills like collaboration, creative problem solving and digital citizenship. (two hours synchronous and two hours asynchronous)

Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020

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) 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, December 5, 2020

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual Connect

Registration: MyPLN

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

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

Mastery Learning and Grading (MLG)

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.

Mastery Learning and Grading Certification

Virtual Mastery Learning and Grading Salary Point Classes are available. 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)

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

MMED has created [Schoolology groups and developed lesson resources](#) in multiple languages for distance learning. See flyer for Schoolology 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, Rania Nahle, *Secondary English Learner Instruction Coordinator*, rania.nahle@lausd.net, Norma España, *Dual Language Education Coordinator*, norma.espana@lausd.net, Dr. Eva Arrechiga, *World Languages and Cultures Coordinator*, ea0710@lausd.net.

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

Title III Coaches and EL Designees are invited to this four-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.

For more information, please contact Carla Gutierrez, *Elementary English Learner Instruction Coordinator*, carla.gutierrez@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.

Personalized Learning Systems (PLS)

Schoology Professional Development

There are a number of Schoology training sessions taking place this fall. If you are interested in learning more about Schoology, please visit our [training website](#) to find asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities as well as Office Hours sessions and salary point classes.

For more information, please contact Beth Billett, *Coordinator*, ebillett@lausd.net.

How Adults Can Leave a Schoology Course or Group

If you would like to leave a course, the course administrator must remove you from the course. Go to the Members page and click on the gear icon next to the course administrator's name to send them a message asking them to remove you from the course. If you would like to leave a group, click 'Leave this group' located at the end of the left menu in the group.

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)

Celebrate Inclusive Schools Week

December 7-11, is [Inclusive Schools Week](#). This annual event was created to celebrate the progress schools have made toward providing a quality education for our increasingly diverse student population and those students marginalized due to disability and other factors. Inclusive Schools Week provides an opportunity for educators, students and parents to discuss and initiate practices to further ensure schools continue to improve their goal of successfully educating all children.

For more information, please contact Lela Rondeau, *Coordinator TK-12 Instruction*, lela.rondeau@lausd.net.

95% Group Phonics Lesson Library for Resource Specialist Teachers (RST)

The Division of Special Education is pleased to announce an opportunity for select Elementary Resource Specialist Teachers in the 95% Groups Phonics Lesson Library (PLL). This custom kit was designed specifically to meet the wide spectrum of needs that an RST's students have. If you have not previously participated in a training for the 95% Group PLL, please enroll on MyPLN using the keyword SpEd2020.

Dates: December 4, 5, 15, or 16, 2020

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Compensation: District Training Rate (\$25/hour) on December 5, 2020
Substitute coverage December 4, 15, and 16, 2020

For more information, please contact Mary Ann Sullivan, *Coordinator TK-12 Instruction*, maryann.sullivan@lausd.net.

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System

Whole Child Student Information Reporting System Provides New Support for Remote Learning

- Student attendance notifications are now being sent to teachers, academic counselors, and principals for students absent for 60% or more of the instructional week. Tracking at a Glance has new data: *BrainPOP*, *Discovery*, *Nearpod*, *NewsLA*, *Rosetta Stone*, *Soundtrap*, *ST Math*, *WW Norton*, *Seesaw*, and *Scholastic*.
- For details, see release notes and *Remote Learning Student Related Information* on the [What's New Page](#). For classes, search MyPLN for "[Whole Child](#)."

Observances and Commemorative Events

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

Observance	Resource Links
National Special Education Day (December 2)	National Special Education Day December SpEd Observance Why Celebrate Special Education Day
Bill of Rights Day (December 15)	National Constitution Center National Archives Bill of Rights Day
Aids Awareness Month	NICHD Aids Awareness Month

Observance	Resource Links
	Everyday Health
Universal Human Rights Month	United Nations Universal Human Rights Month Human Rights Month