

KY PBL School Leader Network

An Exclusive Opportunity for KY School Leaders

PBLWorks is excited to offer this opportunity to school leaders in Kentucky to increase their capacity to implement high quality Project Based Learning (PBL) at no cost to school districts. The KY PBL School Leader Network is a *leadership network* designed to build the capacity of school leaders to create the conditions so that teachers can adapt and facilitate high quality projects that are intellectually challenging and engaging for *all students*.

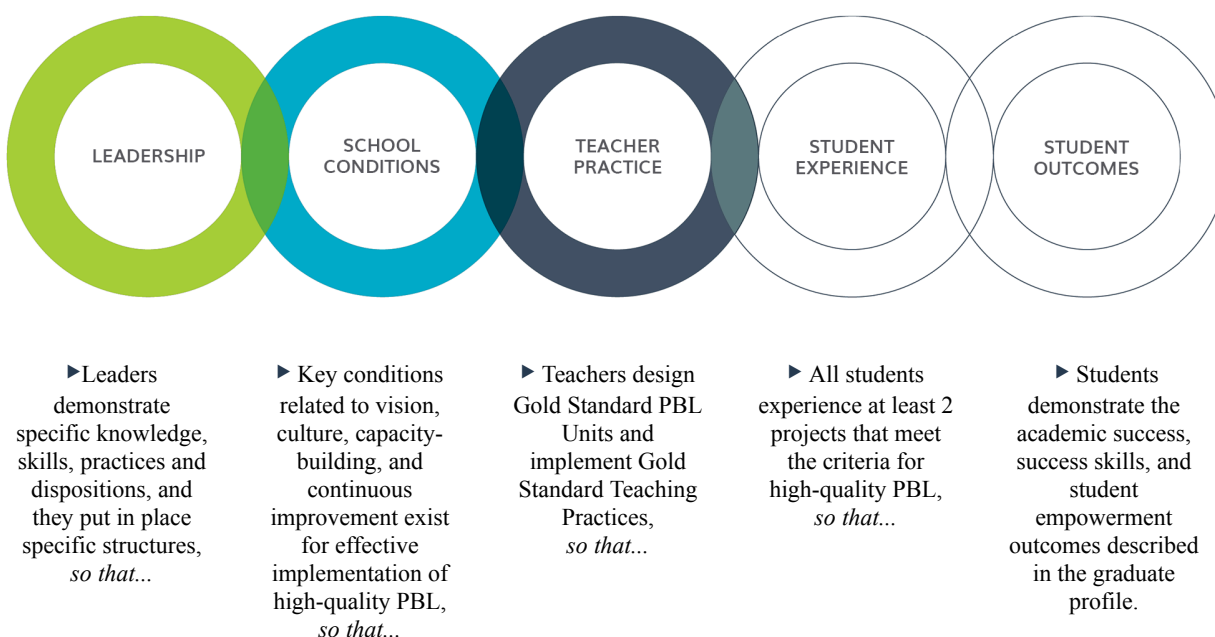
PBL is a powerful instructional approach for building mastery of core content and success skills (e.g., critical thinking, collaboration) that works for all students. At PBLWorks, our vision is for all students—no matter where they live or what their background—to have access to high quality Project Based Learning (PBL) to deepen their learning and achieve success in college, career, and life. Each year, we build the capacity of over 30,000 educators for high quality PBL, based on our Gold Standard model that we have developed over the last 30 years.

Leading change is hard, and school change efforts require a team approach. That is why the KY PBL School Leader Network is designed for school leaders to learn with their peers how to create conditions for high quality PBL to thrive in schools, starting with a shared vision and an implementation plan focused on key conditions for successful school-wide implementation of high quality PBL.

What's included in the KY PBL Leader Network?

To support school leaders to learn together and build capacity to implement high quality PBL, we have designed a series of coherent and coordinated professional development for school leaders, based on PBLWorks' Theory of Action.

PBLWorks' Theory of Action



The School Leader Network will include:

- **Networked school leader professional development:** This includes professional development focused on strengthening the capacity of school leaders to create the conditions for high-quality PBL. In these sessions, school leaders will work together to craft a shared vision for PBL, create and implement a school-wide action plan, design professional development, examine ways to rethink school structures to support PBL, learn and apply change leadership strategies, and collect evidence of student success in PBL.
- **Coaching for school leaders:** In between sessions, school leaders will have an opportunity to connect with PBLWorks and receive real-time support online through virtual group coaching calls.
- **Tools and resources:** School leaders will have access to a rich suite of tools and resources designed to support the implementation conditions for PBL.

PBL Lead Series Outcomes

As a result of engaging in the PBL Lead Series, school leaders will:

- Develop a clear vision that includes Gold Standard PBL and promotes outcomes for success in college, career, and life for all students and especially for students furthest from opportunity.
- Create and sustain a school-wide culture that promotes Gold Standard PBL as a vehicle for advancing excellence and equity in student outcomes

- Support teachers to design and implement high-quality projects that advance learning for all students and accelerate learning for the students most in need.
- Lead an ongoing process of reflection, adaptation, and growth to improve student learning outcomes through the use of Gold Standard PBL.

The Workshops

- Leader Launch
- Culture
- Infrastructure
- Leadership Learning Walks
- Capacity Building
- Leader Presentation of Learning
- Continuous Improvement

Session 1 - Leader Launch (2 Days)

The Leader Launch is a **two-day** intensive dive into PBL Leadership. Participants in this professional development will participate in a Project Slice, share their current reality as it relates to PBL, develop a compelling vision for PBL to communicate to their staff and school community and create an action plan for initial PBL implementation.

Participant Outcomes

- Develop a compelling vision and message for Gold Standard PBL
- Have a strong working knowledge of the Diffusion of Innovation Theory
- Create an Action Plan for implementing high-quality PBL

Session 2 - Culture (1 Day)

The PBL Leadership Culture workshop explores the elements of culture important to equitable access to Gold Standard PBL. Participants will be challenged to adopt/live/breathe the values of PBL while establishing and nurturing a culture necessary to support a PBL approach to teaching and learning.

Participant Outcomes

- Assess culture leadership and share observations/reflections
- Identify key strategic steps to support student agency, deepen team collaboration, and make work visible

Session 3 - Infrastructure (1 Day)

Designed for principals exclusively, this workshop supports participants to diagnose the structural conditions in their school for PBL while grounding them in the inevitable issues related to master scheduling, resources, and adult learning structures.

Participant Outcomes

- Diagnose current school conditions and needs related to the full range of

infrastructure issues that impact the effective implementation of Gold Standard PBL.

- Identify strategies to address critical infrastructure levers of time, adult learning structures, and resources in their school.
- Identify an inquiry focus for the PBL Learning Walk

Session 4 - Leadership Learning Walks

The Leadership Learning Walk is a one-day experience for 3-4 principals to share their own PBL leadership practices and the shifts the school has made as well as an opportunity for each leader to learn from the work colleagues have accomplished. The cohort will share best practices and challenges across and between schools in order to raise expectations for Gold Standard PBL. This learning walk opportunity looks specifically at the leadership practices and the school, not at teacher practices.

Participant Outcomes

- Experience the learning walk protocols
- Evaluate PBL implementation in order to celebrate and share successes to date
- Leverage the collective wisdom of district learning networks to identify and address continued challenges
- Reflect upon the school and leader learning and journey

Session 5 - Capacity Building (1 Day)

Participants in this professional development experience Gold Standard PBL Design and Teaching Practices. Throughout the experience, facilitators guide participants in structured reflection on how to best support teachers in Gold Standard PBL.

Participant Outcomes

- Assess capacity building leadership and share observations/reflections
- Identify key strategic steps to support teacher capacity in PBL implementation

Session 6 - Leader Presentation of Learning (1 Day) In-Person

The PBL Leader Presentation of Learning Workshop is an opportunity for school leadership teams to showcase, share, and celebrate their PBL journey. The product will highlight the work, the successes, and the challenges - both that have been overcome and that continue to exist.

Participant Outcomes

- Share and reflect on presentations of learning
- Develop and/or reinforce stance around the use of evidence to support continuous improvement
- Engage together as a community of leaders and learners to lead change

Session 7 - Continuous Improvement 1 (1 Day)

The Continuous Improvement Workshop supports leadership teams in analyzing initial PBL implementation data. Leadership teams will identify key areas for improvement, set

an improvement goal, design a short cycle of inquiry, and develop a plan for PBL implementation in Phase 2.

Participant Outcomes

- Reinforce stance around the use of evidence to support PBL continuous improvement
- Learn and apply tools for continuous improvement
- Generate detailed plans for improving PBL implementation in Phase 2

Implementation Calls

School principals will participate in 5 (five) 60 -minute sessions with peers and their PBLWorks facilitator. The question driving the sessions is “What leadership actions did I/we take to create the conditions necessary to support teachers and students with the implementation of high-quality project based learning in our school?” Leaders will connect about what is working, glean insight from their colleagues to address implementation challenges, and receive support in collecting artifacts from their PBL Journey in preparation for the Leader Presentation of Learning.

- Implementation Call #1 - After Leader Launch; before Culture
- Implementation Call #2 - After Culture; before Infrastructure
- Implementation Call #3 - After Infrastructure; before Leadership Learning Walks
- Implementation Call #4 - After Leadership Learning Walks; before Capacity Building
- Implementation Call #5 - After Capacity Building; before Leader Presentation of Learning

How can I get more information?

Contact Amanda Clark, Ph.D. via email at aclark@pblworks.org