

THE UDL (ACCESS FOR ALL) PROJECT

2023 -2024

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ACCESS FOR ALL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (PLC)

A professional learning community, or PLC, is a group of educators that meets regularly, shares expertise, and works collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students. Learn more about the value of PLCs from [AllThingsPLC](#). The Access for ALL PLC is an interactive training focused on integrating technology within Universal Design for Learning educational framework within an inclusive classroom. The purpose of the Access for All PLC is for teams to collaborate state-wide to meet their district goals. Teams will offer each other ideas, discuss and reflect on the content and provide support to one another as they work to meet their goals. Any educator in a Kansas district that has signed an Access for All commitment letter for the district in which they are employed.

The learning targets for the PLC

- Learn about and understand the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Framework
- Evaluate universal support tools to extend and enhance UDL implementation
- Create UDL lessons and activities to integrate the 3 principles of UDL in classroom settings
- Engage Students in the language and purpose of UDL

Our Professional Learning Community Norms

1. Grace: To yourself and colleagues
2. Ask: Got a question? Please reach out!
3. Try: Try something new! It may go well... It may not be the first time.
"Failure is success in progress." - Albert Einstein
5. Support each other, offer a kind word or share a success story!
6. Be Present: We're all in this thing together!

*Adapted norms from The UDL-IRN Summit 2020

STRUCTURE OF THE PLC

The PLC will meet monthly on Wednesdays for one hour from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm. Your presence is highly encouraged! The TASN calendar will have all current meeting dates and times for the Access for All (UDL) PLC. The meeting dates are below. Please note, changes will be updated on the TASN calendar.

During our PLC sessions, there will be time for discussion, collaboration, and problem solving. For each online meeting, your teams can join as a group or each participant log on separately to the zoom meeting from separate locations. If your team meets as a large group, please email Cindy a list of everyone in attendance. Be prepared for the monthly meetings by completing the pre-activities. Be sure to bring items to make your experience more comfortable, including snacks, gum, drinks, fidgets, paper, pens, highlighters, markers, anything that will help you focus and explore the materials.

Each month there will be an opportunity to share a personal reflection, a team reflection, and an optional implementation, as well as share progress on a monthly goal tracking document.

CONTACT:

UDL BOOK STUDIES

Your district team is also invited to participate in an online collaborative book study using Dr. Katie Novak and Catlin Tucker's book *The Shift to Student Lead Reimagining Classroom Workflows with UDL and Blended Learning*. Beginning in Fall 2023. Participation is optional.

Your district team is also invited to participate in an online collaborative book study using Dr. Katie Novak and Allison Posey's book *unlearning Changing Your Beliefs and Your Classroom with UDL*. Unlearning will begin in Spring 2024. Participation is optional.

During the *unlearning* book study, participants will read the associated chapters, discuss and consider the reflection questions at the end of the chapter, and/or choose one of the resources provided by facilitators to further explore and put learning into practice. Allison Posey, author of *unlearning* writes "The unlearning process is one of reflection, destruction, and change, but it is also one of learning and growth". "We have colleagues who have implemented UDL and have experienced exponential success: increased graduation rates, a tenfold increase in all student cohorts on state standardized tests, an increase in the number of students taking AP exams, and decreased special education referrals and out-of-school suspensions. When we see and hear of these incredible shifts as a result of UDL, we want to share UDL with everyone." (Posey, A., & Novak, K. 2020)

The book study is an opportunity to further your progress and dive deeper into the topics in the PLC. We will share stories about the frustrations and celebrations of becoming a UDL pro, and there will be people there to celebrate your small successes.

Nicole Peters, MLS-AT, OTR/L, Blue Valley School District, npeters@bluevalleyk12.org and Nicole Glynn Nicole Glynn, KIC Cadre Member, Access for All Liaison, nglynn@usd325.com, will be facilitating this year's Book Study.

Registration is on the KSDE TASN Site. .

TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

We know and acknowledge that technology tools are always evolving and changing for supporting students and staff to reach their potential. We will not be providing any specific tools this calendar year however, we will still be available to support you and your team as you are considering, trialing and implementing tools in districts and classrooms. As always, please reach out with any questions and support. We will be adding a **Tech Tools Tour** section shortly for additional support and resources for teams that would like more information on specific topics and tools. Stay tuned for that addition~

RESOURCES BY MONTH