Leading Early Learning—Pre-K-3
A Professional Learning Series for Elementary Administrators
2022-23

Offered through a partnership between the Maine Department of Education, Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network, Maine Association for the Education of Young Children, and the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies

Purpose

Leading Early Learning is a professional learning series designed to build understanding of the components of evidence-based, high-quality early childhood (Pre-K-3) learning environments and approaches that promote diverse, equitable, and inclusive practices. The series promotes knowledge of best practices in early childhood education and leadership abilities to support children, teachers, and families during this pivotal time in children's development.

Audience

This series is geared toward elementary principals who work in the Pre-K-Grade 3 span. Principals can participate on their own but are encouraged to participate with a colleague in their school system who also supports grades Pre-K-Grade 3 so that a more systemic application of series content can be achieved. Colleagues could include another elementary principal, a curriculum leader, a special education director, an assistant superintendent, or teacher leader.

Intended Outcomes

Participants will:

- increase their knowledge of early childhood development and pedagogy.
- strengthen their early childhood leadership abilities within their school districts and communities.
- identify resources and key components of high-quality early childhood programming.
- engage with a network of colleagues to grow their understanding of early childhood.

Series Design and Schedule

The approximately 40-hour series will kick off on October 27, 2022 in Bangor, the day before the Statewide Early Childhood Education Conference. This session will begin at 3:30 p.m. and run until 6:00 p.m. Participants will then attend day 1 of the conference on October 28, 2022. The conference will be followed by 5 asynchronous modules (each about 3 hours in length) coupled with monthly 90-minute online professional learning community experiences. The series will culminate with the final PLC which will be a half-day gathering in March 2023 during which participants will explore application of series learning to ongoing practice and share concepts for self-designed application projects they plan to implement following the series. The series schedule is summarized below:

Series Component	Date/Date Span
Series Kick-off Session	October 27, 2022 in Bangor, Late afternoon/early evening, in person
Statewide Early Childhood Conference	October 28, 2022 in Bangor, Day Long, in person
Module 1	October 29-November 15, 2022
Module 1 PLC	November 16, 2022, Virtual, 5:00-6:30
Module 2	November 17, 2022-December 13, 2022
Module 2 PLC	December 14, 2022, Virtual, 5:00-6:30
Module 3	December 15, 2022-January 17, 2023
Module 3 PLC	January 18, 2023, Virtual, 5:00-6:30
Module 4	January 19-February 14, 2023
Module 4 PLC	February 15, 2023, Virtual, 5:00-6:30
Module 5	February 16, 2023-March 21, 2023
Final Gathering (Module 5 & Proposed Project Concept Shares)	March 22, 2023, Half-day, in person, 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Cost

The cost of the series is $300 per participant. This includes all series content (kick off meeting, conference attendance, modules, facilitated PLCs, and final gathering) and materials. Participants will be responsible for travel to the conference and the final gathering. A process for payment will be provided after applications are accepted.

Series Applications

The application for the Leading Early Learning series can be found at this link. **Applications for the series are due by July 5, 2022**. Applications will be reviewed for completeness and prioritized on a first come, first served basis with consideration of regional representation across the state. Notification of acceptance will be made by July 22, 2022.

Additional Information

Please contact leeann.larsen@maine.gov with any questions or for additional information.