Features to Help Your Professional Learning Community Journey

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The powerful third edition of this best-selling comprehensive action guide offers the latest and greatest strategies, tools, and tips for building a high-performing PLC. Discover how to hire and retain new staff, implement systematic interventions, and more!

CONCISE ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
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- Sustain successes districtwide.
- Align your resources and time to focus on results.
- Increase student achievement.

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Professional learning communities have been proven to dramatically improve schools and increase student achievement. We work with the foremost authorities on PLCs and offer a variety of resources and services that will give your team the expertise they need to sustain a thriving PLC where all students learn at high levels.
FOR CREATING A MEANINGFUL BOOK STUDY

1 ORDER BOOKS EARLY
Give yourself ample time to research potential resources and determine which book will best suit your team and your goals. Order the books about four to six weeks before you need them, to avoid last-minute issues or delays.

2 SET A REGULAR MEETING TIME
For best results, spread the book study throughout a semester, in order to give everyone sufficient time to read and absorb the material. Consistency is key, so determine a regular day and time that works best for the group and stick to it. We recommend starting with 30-minute meetings—but if you find that longer meetings work better for your team, then go for it!

3 APPOINT A FACILITATOR
The facilitator is responsible for keeping the group moving, focused, and on time. An ideal person for this position is organized and able to help team members feel comfortable sharing their thoughts throughout the book study.

4 ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE
Go around the room or table and ask each person to share something from the book that resonated with him or her. Make sure the team understands that everyone’s opinions, from all levels of the organization, are important and add value to the discussion. An open exchange of ideas with colleagues will act as a powerful catalyst for achieving your goals and driving schoolwide improvement.

5 ENHANCE YOUR MEETINGS WITH FREE TOOLS
Study and discussion guides will help lead the conversation and encourage participation. Visit SolutionTree.com/free-repros for free tools you can use to foster team learning and collaboration. With a wide range of reproducibles and over 70 study guides available, you can handpick the materials that will be most enriching to your team conversations.

6 CHOOSE THE NEXT BOOK
Now that you’ve successfully started a book study, it’s time to keep the momentum going and select the next book! You’re on your way to building and sustaining a thriving PLC—and a rich resource library—one book study at a time.
Professional Learning Communities at Work™ and Virtual Collaboration
On the Tipping Point of Transformation
By Richard DuFour and Casey Reason
Learn how to combine the capacities of the PLC at Work™ process and powerful technology tools to transform teaching and learning. Realize the potential of virtual collaboration to support the PLC process, and discover research-based strategies for reaching sustained levels of deeper learning. 216 pages
66BCA–BKF673 $29.95 USD | $37.50 CAD
A Joint Publication With the National Education Association

Kid by Kid, Skill by Skill
Teaching in a Professional Learning Community at Work™
By Robert Eaker and Janel Keating
This book explores professional learning communities from a teacher’s perspective. Focused chapters survey effective and collaborative team actions, instructional practices that enhance teacher efficiency, and the role teacher judgment and classroom context play in determining instructional outcomes. 224 pages
66BCA–BKF694 $34.95 USD | $44.00 CAD

Companion resources

A Leader’s Companion
Inspiration for Professional Learning Communities at Work™
By Robert Eaker, Rebecca DuFour, and Richard DuFour
Treat yourself to daily moments of reflection with inspirational quotes collected from a decade of work by renowned PLC experts. The uplifting wisdom inside this book will fuel your passion to be a leader in your PLC. 136 pages; hardcover
66BCA–BKF227 $17.95 USD | $22.50 CAD

Every School, Every Team, Every Classroom
District Leadership for Growing Professional Learning Communities at Work™
By Robert Eaker and Janel Keating
The PLC journey begins with a dedication to ensuring the learning of every student. Using many examples and reproducible tools, the authors explain the need to focus on creating simultaneous top-down and bottom-up leadership. Learn how to grow PLCs by encouraging innovation at every level. 240 pages
66BCA–BKF534 $34.95 USD | $44.00 CAD
ISBN 978-1-936765-09-6

Champions of PLC at Work™ Anthony Muhammad, Mike Mattos, Richard DuFour, Rebecca DuFour, Robert Eaker, and Tim Brown
In Praise of American Educators
And How They Can Become Even Better

By Richard DuFour

**Bestseller** Explore the state of education today. In this thought-provoking book, the author presents a compelling case for why contemporary American educators are the greatest generation in history. He carefully explains why current national reform policies have failed and presents specific steps policymakers, administrators, and teachers must take to transform American schools to meet student needs in the 21st century. 312 pages

- Critique the commonly presented media messages about schooling in America.
- Consider the evidence for why the present generation of American educators has accomplished more than previous generations.
- Evaluate the assumptions driving policies set up to improve schooling.
- Discover the four essential pillars of the PLC foundation.

Leaders of Learning
How District, School, and Classroom Leaders Improve Student Achievement

By Richard DuFour and Robert J. Marzano

**Bestseller** Together, the authors focus on district leadership, principal leadership, and team leadership and address how individual teachers can be most effective in leading students—by learning with colleagues how to implement the most promising pedagogy in their classrooms. 248 pages

A New Way
Introducing Higher Education to Professional Learning Communities at Work™

By Robert Eaker and Debra Sells

Discover how to implement professional learning community practices in colleges and universities. Explore how the PLC process can reshape the way leaders think and work together to drive student achievement. Practical and research-based, the process carries significant potential for improving results in higher education. 224 pages; higher education

Hear the podcast!

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Professional Learning Communities at Work™

Building a Professional Learning Community at Work™
A Guide to the First Year

By Parry Graham and William M. Ferriter
Foreword by Richard DuFour and Rebecca DuFour

Bestseller This play-by-play guide to implementing PLC concepts uses a story to focus each chapter. The authors analyze the story, highlighting good decisions and mistakes. They offer research behind best practice and wrap up each chapter with practical recommendations and tools. 240 pages

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Reculturing Schools to Become Professional Learning Communities

By Robert Eaker, Richard DuFour, and Rebecca DuFour

Bestseller Get answers to the most common question posed by educators seeking to build and sustain a PLC: Where do we begin? Readers access a solid conceptual framework and concrete illustrations of how schools operate when they are functioning as PLCs. 200 pages

66BCA–BKF120 $29.95 USD | $37.50 CAD
ISBN 978-1-879639-89-8

The School Leader’s Guide to Professional Learning Communities at Work™

By Richard DuFour and Rebecca DuFour

Are you a K–8 principal looking to implement the PLC at Work™ process? Explore the components needed to lay the foundation, including how to develop a structure that supports collaborative teams, how to focus on effective monitoring strategies, and more. 120 pages; grades K–8

66BCA–BKF489 $24.95 USD | $31.50 CAD
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The Five Disciplines of PLC Leaders

By Timothy D. Kanold
Foreword by Richard DuFour

Effective leadership in a professional learning community requires practice, patience, and skill. Through engaging examples and accessible language, this book offers a focused framework that will help educators maintain balance and consistent vision as they strengthen the skills of PLC leadership. 216 pages

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Cultures Built to Last
Systemic PLCs at Work™

By Richard DuFour and Michael Fullan

Bestseller Take your professional learning community to the next level! Discover a systemwide approach for re-envisioning your PLC while sustaining growth and continuing momentum on your journey. You’ll move beyond pockets of excellence while allowing every person to be an instrument of lasting cultural change. 104 pages

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Making Teamwork Meaningful
Leading Progress-Driven Collaboration in a PLC at Work™

By William M. Ferriter, Parry Graham, and Matt Wight

Focus on developing people—not just improving test scores. The authors examine how staffing decisions can strengthen professional learning communities and explore actions that can help school leaders safeguard their schools against complacency. 128 pages

66BCA–BKF548 $29.95 USD | $37.50 CAD
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A Joint Publication With the National Association of Elementary School Principals
Are We a Group or a Team?
Moving From Coordination to Collaboration in a PLC at Work™

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Bestseller Gain strategies for addressing the conflicts that can result from transforming a school into a professional learning community. Learn how to hold conversations that lead staff to understand that best practice is to work collaboratively and collectively in high-performing teams. 30-minute DVD with presentation; 32-page Facilitator’s Guide (in print and on CD)

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Learning by Doing

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Bestseller This short program shows exactly what collaborative teams do. Aligned with the best-selling book Learning by Doing, the video features unscripted footage of collaboration in action. Learn how teams organize, interact, and find time to meet; what products they produce; and more. 30-minute DVD; 40-page Facilitator’s Guide (in print and on CD)

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By Richard DuFour

Bestseller Motivate staff with the inspirational video featured in many of Dr. DuFour’s keynote presentations. A display of memorable quotes, calls to action, and quips set to music, Passion and Persistence serves as a reflective pause on the PLC journey. 7-minute DVD

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Leadership in Professional Learning Communities at Work™
Learning by Doing

Featuring Richard DuFour, Rebecca DuFour, Robert Eaker, and Thomas W. Many

Bestseller Watch leaders in action within a PLC. This short program for PLC leaders uses unscripted interviews and footage from schools to illustrate the role of effective leadership, particularly from the principal, in embedding PLC practices and values in a school. 32-minute DVD; 32-page Facilitator’s Guide (in print and on CD)

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Bestseller This tenth-anniversary sequel to the pivotal book Professional Learning Communities at Work™ offers advanced insights on deep implementation, the commitment/consensus issue, and the human side of PLCs. Gain greater knowledge of common mistakes to avoid and new discoveries for success. 544 pages
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On Common Ground
The Power of Professional Learning Communities
Edited by Richard DuFour, Robert Eaker, and Rebecca DuFour
Bestseller Examine a colorful cross section of educators’ experiences with PLCs. This collection of insights from education leaders throughout North America highlights the benefits of PLCs. 272 pages; hardcover
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Professional Learning Communities at Work™ Plan Book
By Rebecca DuFour, Richard DuFour, and Robert Eaker
Bestseller Teachers love this plan book! This great organizer, with 40 weekly planning pages and space for eight class periods, is also a process book packed with creative ideas, activities, and inspirational success stories that address crucial, teacher-specific PLC concepts. 103 pages; spiral-bound
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A Toolkit for Professional Learning Communities at Work™
By Kim Bailey and Chris Jakicic
Foreword by Richard DuFour and Rebecca DuFour
Bestseller The catalyst for real student improvement begins with a decision to implement common formative assessments. In this conversational guide, the authors offer tools, templates, and protocols to incorporate common formative assessments into the practices of a PLC to monitor and enhance student learning. 144 pages
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A Playbook for Developing Winning PLCs at Work™

By Héctor García, Katherine McCluskey, and Shelley Taylor

Foreword by Richard DuFour

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144 pages

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The Collaborative Teacher
Working Together as a Professional Learning Community

By Cassandra Erkens, Chris Jakicic, Lillie G. Jessie, Dennis King, Sharon V. Kramer, Thomas W. Many, Mary Ann Ranells, Ainsley B. Rose, Susan K. Sparks, and Eric Twadell

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The Journey to Becoming a Professional Learning Community

By Janel Keating, Robert Eaker, Richard DuFour, and Rebecca DuFour

This unique resource identifies key checkpoints for staying on track with deep implementation of PLC at Work™ concepts. Perfect for visual learners, the road map banner and accompanying booklet guide educators through critical issues that may arise during their journey. 1 color 7-foot vinyl banner; 2 black-and-white 7-foot paper banners; 3 process booklets

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Leading by Design
An Action Framework for PLC at Work™ Leaders

By Cassandra Erkens and Eric Twadell

Foreword by Richard DuFour

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216 pages

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Featuring Richard DuFour

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- Master the CCSS for English language arts, and develop common understandings to strengthen instructional practice.
- Learn the five fundamental shifts in literacy instruction necessary to enhance students’ language development.

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Edited by Timothy D. Kanold

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By Nicholas Jay Myers

Foreword by Richard DuFour and Rebecca DuFour

Discover how the largest elementary school district in Illinois became a professional learning community. You’ll walk through each step of the PLC journey to learn how the district approached the most vital components of a successful PLC, such as building shared knowledge, forming collaborative teams, setting priorities, and more. 144 pages

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By Martha F. Campbell

Foreword by Richard DuFour and Rebecca DuFour

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Chris Morgan is the vice president of information technology and the Global PD program manager at Solution Tree

GLOBAL PD

GLOBAL PD is the only online tool on the market that is based on and completely aligned with the PLC at Work™ process. Ready to learn more? Chris Morgan explains.

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• Learn through real-life examples from educators who have implemented the PLC concept in diverse schools.
• Translate critical PLC process into lesson plans that focus on learning.

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By Sharon V. Kramer
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Foreword by Michael Fullan
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By Jane A. G. Kise and Beth Russell
This practical resource provides activities designed to meet a wide variety of needs so you can choose the ones that fit your leadership style, the learning styles of team members, and the particular needs of the school. 232 pages
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Edited by Timothy S. Stuart
NEW! Tailored specifically to international schools, this resource will guide you through important aspects of PLC implementation. The book’s contributors are all international-school educators who have successfully recultured their schools into PLCs. They offer strategies and techniques for taking your school from good to great.
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By Richard Sagor
Constant, high-quality collaborative inquiry sustains PLCs. Become disciplined and deliberative with data as you design and implement program improvements to enhance student learning. Detailed steps show you how to accomplish collaborative action research that drives continuous improvement. 176 pages
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Get Started

In their book, Starting a Movement, Kenneth C. Williams and Tom Hierck show you how to cultivate an empowering environment that is committed to a cycle of continuous improvement. Read on to learn about their four-stage authentic alignment model and why it’s important to know your mission.

Q: WHY DID YOU WRITE THIS BOOK?
KEN > In my work all over North America, I found that a majority of the schools committed to implementing Professional Learning Communities at Work™ were investing tons of time and energy but not getting the improved student learning results for which they’d hoped. As you can imagine, with a lack of tangible results, it doesn’t take long for a school, province, or district to dismiss the model and either look elsewhere for school improvement support or revert back to the culture and practices that weren’t working for them as well in the first place.

TOM > I echo Ken’s comments in that our work with schools everywhere has indicated that every site is populated with well-meaning, well-intentioned, hard-working educators, but far too often the energy expended is not aligned. It is the educational flavor-of-the-month practice that sees the pursuit of the next shiny bauble of school improvement without checking inside the school first. We specifically wanted this book to be that inside-out approach; the change starts within the building.

Q: WHY IS THIS BOOK IMPORTANT?
KEN > I found that schools lacked shared mission and purpose, while not lacking at all in having a mission statement. This was a red flag that highlighted the fact that mission, which is an essential and critical element of any movement, was missing from schools. Not because of lack of effort, but because of lack of understanding. The goal of mission work in schools has become to create the mission statement. One of the driving forces behind us writing this book was to obliterate this crippling paradigm, familiarize educators about the power of mission, and to provide structures and resources to make mission ever-present in everything we do. Starting a movement begins with standing for something. If everyone on staff isn’t facing the same direction, there’s no way to fulfill the promise of high levels of learning for all students.

TOM > This book looks to take all of the key components of PLCs (mission, vision, values, and goals) and align them with the key steps of what Ken and I are calling “authentic alignment” (the Why, Eye, How, and Now stages). We have strived to put more meaning in the work behind creating a school’s purpose so that it becomes that powerful filter through which all of the actions in a school are drawn. In the absence of a Why (mission), the work of schools tends to be more driven by individuals, and compliance becomes the norm. Every action (including the creation of the mission) becomes a checklist activity to be completed but not to have impact. We believe we’ve addressed that in this book and provided a road map that all educators can follow.

Q: HOW DOES EMBRACING A COLLABORATIVE CULTURE INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT?
TOM > It just seems logical that more people can be smarter than one person. We have met so many incredibly talented educators in our travels, and inevitably they will trace their strengths to the colleagues they are fortunate to work with. I can look back over a 34-year career and say quite clearly that anything “we” did was vastly superior to anything “I” did. Harnessing the capacity of any group of educators that gather in service of students, rather than hoping for individuals, is the key to having all students (and adults) reach their individual potential.

Q: WHAT DO YOU HOPE SCHOOLS WILL LEARN FROM STARTING A MOVEMENT?
KEN > We seek to help schools understand that the Why of school culture is equally as important as the How of school culture. We want schools to understand that this work is so much more than a mission statement. It’s about identifying the behavioral collective commitments aligned with the shared mission, and supporting them. Schools are all too often “long on statement” and “short on mission.” Our book seeks to help schools get back on track with a process that has derailed so badly that it’s all but neutered. Once schools understand how their shared mission/purpose (the Why) guides every decision, every action, every expenditure, and every best practice, then they will be in a position to deliver on the promise of learning for all. Everything will be done through the prism of the high-leverage best practices aligned with a culture of high levels of learning for all.
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