

Video Transcript Communities of Practice

Julie Duffield: This presentation is part of the California ELD Standards Online Professional Learning Module. For Module 2, we will explain how you can find communities of practice to share conversations as part of these communities, and how you can integrate them in conversations around these modules. I am Julie Duffield and I am excited to be sharing this module with you today as I have been part of educational communities of practice during my 30 years in education.

Anu Advani: And I am Anu Advani, former ELD teacher, now working on connecting educators with each other around professional learning, and happy to share with you today. In Module 1, we had shared about six hours of community collaboration, for example, responsibilities, roles, and risk taking as key elements in sustaining effective communities.

Julie: In the discussion prompts for Module 2, you will be asked to reflect. We are going to share some digital learning communities where you can connect with others to discuss these prompts or other problems of practice around supporting the teaching of English language learners.

Anu: One online space for learning communities is EdModo which has 16 million teachers as participants in many different groups. There is a new group on Common Core and English Language Learners. You need a group code to join. We will tell you more in our learning communities list how to join.

Julie: Thanks Anu. Yes, that's an example of a professional learning network, that particular network, one that I belong to that's also in EdModo, which is free, is this Basal Alignment Project. I see lots of professional learning communities teachers, as a group going in here and curating resources to do with the alignment of the basal reader. What I really like about this is educators here have curated over 100 resources. You can access these resources by requesting to join this group. I am really interested on how you might contribute to this community as a teacher of ELLs. Please download this case about a district in California Tulare County to hear about how they implemented their practice with the Common Core.

Anu: What was inspiring about this case study was the teachers' ability to have a real-life takeaway for improving instruction and behavior in her classroom and reflecting on that and inviting other teachers into this with EdModo.

Julie: Often, you will find communities of practice coming together around a MOOC, which is a massive online course. You can join either as an individual and participate and meet others, or you can join as a professional learning community and discuss the content. What's great about MOOCs is they often

have different levels of participation so you can choose which one best meets your needs in terms of the learning activities you get involved in.

Anu: Another place where people share problems of practice is on LinkedIn. I am part of this group which I joined because my respective colleague was part of it, and it's also at the level of school and district implementation.

Julie: Brokers of Expertise is where you found the professional learning modules, and it has many groups. You can even establish your own professional learning community or you can join existing communities. You can curate and share digital resources. There's lots to explore on Brokers.

Anu: Yeah Julie, and another place you can go is live synchronous events like these Common Core series webinars. You can be part of the networking between participants in the chat. I find that really energizing. Julie, could you share about our comprehensive downloadable list of resources?

Julie: This is a list of resources. It's a treasure trove. We don't want to overwhelm you but we have tried to find different types of communities that you can register and try out as part of your learning experiences with these modules. I often get asked, "How will I know that I am part of a community or practice?" and I always say it's when you find that you are getting support to help you change your practice.

Anu: The big picture is that California has developed some professional learning standards and here is where you can find them. We encourage you to look at them as you proceed on your journey.

Julie: We hope you will join a learning community or that you will share these learning communities with others, and we thank you for using them with the modules, and we just want to leave you with this little quote from Richard McDermott, "Learning does not belong to individual persons..."

Anu: "...but to the various conversations of which they are a part."

Julie: So thank you.