IT'S PERSONAL

MEETING THE NEEDS OF
EVERY STUDENT

RESOURCE GUIDE
2018

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BETTER TOGETHER · CALIFORNIA TEACHERS INITIATIVE

Dear Educators,

Across California, teachers like you are exploring innovative ways to tailor lessons to not only meet the needs of students at different levels, but also take into account how they learn best, their interests and what motivates them. These tailored strategies give students voice and choice in their learning, increasing engagement and generating better outcomes.

The 2018 Better Together: California Teachers Summit theme, "It's Personal: Meeting the Needs of Every Student," is designed to equip you with the latest strategies, resources and tools that you can use right away to personalize learning in your own classroom. We know that teachers are the experts on what works in the classroom, so we've put together a one-of-a-kind index of free, teacher-vetted resources that are already working in classrooms across the state.

Check out this year's resource guide and please share with your colleagues!

We hope you find these resources helpful, and welcome your ideas on additional resources to share with your fellow teachers. By sharing our tools and expertise with one another, we can take our teaching to the next level and make an even bigger difference in the lives of California students.

Warm regards,

Emily Wakeman Davis
Director, Better Together: California Teachers Summit

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Building Student Agency

Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. They tackle math, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more. Khan Academy math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using state-of-the-art, adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps. They've also partnered with institutions like NASA, The Museum of Modern Art, The California Academy of Sciences, and MIT to offer specialized content.

KQED Learn is for educators who value student inquiry and students who want to participate in real-world research, making original content and collaborating with peers in and beyond their classrooms, It's a platform that empowers students to make their voices heard, share their perspectives and learn from others' points of view.

The **Restorative Classroom Circles** site is a resource to support the development of a truly inclusive and democratic process for classroom management, culture and student agency. These resources incorporate the voices of many students who contributed their wisdom to the well-being of their classroom and school communities.

Building Student Voice & Choice

826 Digital is a free platform for educators that features adaptable, standards-based writing resources designed to ignite a love of writing in every student. Presented by 826 National, all curriculum is developed and field-tested by educators, volunteers, and students from the 826 National Network's eight writing and tutoring centers across the country. Sign up today and discover Sparks, Lessons, Projects, and Student Writing to kickstart learning and creativity in your students.

Flipgrid is where your students go to share ideas and learn together. It's where students amplify and feel amplified. It's video the way students use video. Short. Authentic. And fun! 2018 EdTalk Speaker Marilyn McAlister says "The power of Flipgrid is that students are able to record their thinking, reflect on their learning, and respond to each other from the Flipgrid dashboard."

Gooru is an educational technology non-profit that is dedicated to making education equally accessible and empowering for every student. Gooru creates tools that enables educators to make learning fun for their students, saves quality time for students, and provides content to enhance their curriculum and researchers to share and "open-source" effective practices and content to improve educational outcomes for all on an interactive platform.

Screencastify is a great resource that is a "click & go" tool to give students a voice. Students can share their screen and record themselves presenting, they can have a video of themselves in a corner if they want, or they can just have the webcam recording them. The video is saved to Google Drive and even be uploaded directly to YouTube

By Teachers, For Teachers

CUE's goal is to inspire innovative learners in all disciplines from pre-school through college. With an active current membership of thousands of educational professionals, CUE supports many regional affiliates and Learning Networks. CUE is the largest organization of its type in the west and one of the largest in the United States.

Edcamps are peer-led, participant-driven professional learning opportunities for educators that use an "unconference" model to build teacher networks and share best practices.

Teacher2Teacher - Born from the belief that no one knows teaching like teachers, Teacher2Teacher is a growing community where you can connect to share resources, learn from one another, and solve the big problems that no one can solve alone. Join and help shape the

Creating and Managing the Classroom Environment

CORE's Modern Learning Environments - Modern learning environments support strengths-based teaching and can offer students and teachers flexibility, openness and access to resources. Providing teachers with an open, flexible learning environment can lead to the development of a robust, continuously improving community of practice.

Classroom Architect - Personalize the classroom floor plan based on your students' goals and needs without breaking a sweat. This free web tool gives teachers the flexibility to look at different classroom layouts, create their own, and move all the furniture in the classroom over and over again with just the touch of a finger. Enter the dimensions of the classroom, add and move different types of furniture around based on what you have in the classroom. The size of the furniture automatically adjusts to scale.

Getting to Know Students Well

Autism Internet Modules (AIM) - Designed to provide free, high-quality information and professional development for anyone who supports, instructs, works with, or lives with someone with autism. AIM modules are available at no cost. Each module guides you through case studies, instructional videos, pre- and post-assessments, a glossary, and much more. There is also an option to receive credit or certificate for a fee.

Cult of Pedagogy 4-Part System for Getting to Know Your Students - You'll get to know your students faster and more thoroughly if you have a system in place, a way to make sure you give sufficient attention to every child and store the information you gather for easy access later. In my years teaching at the middle school and college level, I developed a 4-part system that worked beautifully for me, and I think it will work for you as well.

Innovation in Teaching & Learning

Goalbook App's Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Strategies - UDL-aligned strategies are instructional methods and tools used by teachers to ensure that ALL students have an equal opportunity to learn. All of our strategies are aligned with Universal Design for Learning (UDL) guidelines. These guidelines help you to select strategies that remove barriers in instruction so that all students can achieve their learning goals. The website includes strategies for engagement, representation, and expression.

Opportunities for Teachers to Lead from the Classroom

The **California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE)** is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1976 to promote bilingual education and quality educational experiences for all students in California. CABE recognizes and honors the fact that we live in a rich multicultural, global society and that respect for diversity makes us a stronger state and nation. Their Resource Center is full of free support materials for teachers looking to enhance their teaching of English learners!

The **Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching** Program recognizes and encourages excellence in teaching in the U.S. and abroad. U.S. teachers receive grants to study at a university, observe classes and complete a project pertaining to their field of educational inquiry during their time abroad.

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) - For more than 100 years, NCTE has worked with its members to offer journals, publications, and resources; to further the voice and expertise of educators as advocates for their students at the local and federal levels; and to share lesson ideas, research, and teaching strategies through its Annual Convention and other professional learning events.

The **National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)** is an organization dedicated to promoting excellence in education. Founded in 1987, developed by teachers for teachers, it maintains advanced standards for educators and offers a national, voluntary assessment, National Board Certification, based on the NBPTS Standards.

The **U.S. Department of Education** designed the School Ambassador Fellowship program to enable outstanding teachers, principals and other school leaders, like school counselors and librarians, to bring their school and classroom expertise to the Department and to expand their knowledge of the national dialogue about education. In turn, School Ambassador Fellows facilitate the learning and input of other educators and community members.

Personalizing Your Professional Learning (Personalized PD)

BetterLesson empowers teachers to drive their own professional learning. They have partnered with outstanding educators across the country to run Master Teacher Projects and create over 16,000 rich lessons, covering Common Core Math, Common Core ELA, Next Gen Science, and Blended Learning. Check out their PersonalizedPD for personalized coaching that empowers teachers to take their learning straight to the classroom.

Education Twitter Chats - Though informal, Twitter Chats can be an incredible way to connect with other educators and get new ideas and resources to step up your teaching practice. Check out this list of education twitter chats, curated by a group of educators!

Edutopia is a trusted source shining a spotlight on what works in education. They show people how they can adopt or adapt best practices, and tell stories of innovation and continuous learning in the real world.

ISTE Standards - For educators, students, and leaders! ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) is the go-to place for all things related to technology in teaching and learning.

KQED's In The Classroom is written by teachers, for teachers – highlighting the creative, innovative and successful practices teachers have used to integrate media use and media making into their learning environments. KQED hopes the stories will inspire the journey of others, both beginners and veterans, who want to bring media more effectively into their classrooms.

My Digital Chalkboard is where California educators get connected, collaborate, and share best practices, best resources, and best strategies – you might say the best of the best. Sign up for access to a huge library of resources. In addition, My Digital Chalkboard includes a new reference page specific to California's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) with resources for teachers to effectively implement the new standards.

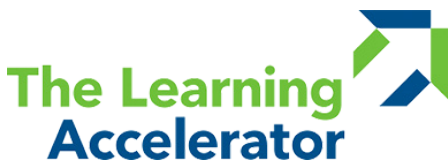# Personalizing Your Professional Learning (Personalized PD) - continued

New Teacher Center's "Let's Elevate: A Toolbox of Basics for Mentors and Coaches" - The Toolbox of Basics for Mentors and Coaches provides professional development to build the foundation for mentor and coach practice. Each interactive module - Mentor Language, Collaborative Assessment, Differentiated Coaching, Knowing Students, Giving Feedback and Mentoring for Equity - offers proven highly effective tools, videos of conversations, protocols and reflective questions to support mentors and coaches in creating positive and collaborative partnerships with teachers. NTC's Professional Learning Series builds upon these basics to develop mentor and coach understanding, knowledge, and skills to support teachers to expect and plan for variances among learners– and provide all students access to standards-based instruction in an equitable, Optimal Learning Environment (OLE) with attention to equity and continuous academic, social, and emotional growth.

PBS Education believes that the greatest teachers ignite a love of learning and a sense of possibility that motivates students to reach their full potential. Their website includes instructional resources for the classroom, online professional development opportunities for teachers, and fresh ideas and inspiration from teachers like you.

Teaching Channel is a thriving online community where teachers can watch, share, and learn diverse techniques to help every student grow.

The Learning Accelerator's Blended & Personalized Learning At Work - Discover free, action-oriented strategies to implement blended and personalized learning, including how to: adopt specific teaching practices at the student level, create the conditions for success and scale at the school system level and measure progress. Extend your learning with expert Insights, solutions to specific Problems of Practice, and professional learning Playlists that connect you to a wider world of blended and personalized learning resources.

Project-based Learning

Buck Institute for Education (BIE)'s PBL Resources - BIE has assembled a wide array of PBL-related resources created by BIE and collected from fellow PBL travelers. The resources are organized into three broad categories: things to read, to watch, or to interact with.

Brandman University Webinars - Free Webinars (Ongoing) & Past Webinar Recordings on a variety of topics such as STEM Integration, Project Based Learning, Becoming a Google Certificated Educator, Learning with Movement.

Constitutional Right Foundation's Civic Action Project - CAP is a free project-based learning program for civics and government. Think of it as a culmination of students' social studies education, a chance for them to apply what they have learned to the real world and impact an issue that matters to them.

Safety in the Classroom

Common Sense EDU: Digital Citizenship - Common Sense's K–12 digital citizenship program includes comprehensive learning resources for students, teachers, and family members. Their 65 grade-differentiated lesson plans are based on the research of Dr. Howard Gardner and the Good Play Project at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The program addresses real challenges for teachers and students to help schools navigate cyberbullying, internet safety, and other digital dilemmas.

Cornell University's Teaching Ideas website lists a number of ideas and strategies on how to create and maintain inclusive classrooms.

Facing History and Ourselves fosters empathy and reflection, improves students' academic performance, reinvigorates teachers, and builds safe and inclusive schools. Their website features a resource center with a wide range of flexible, multimedia materials, from primary sources and streaming video to teaching strategies, lessons and units, and more.
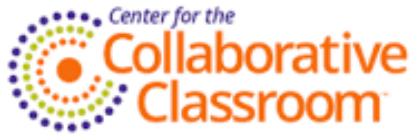
Safe Kids Inc. - Creating a generation of "Safe Thinkers" by empowering students, schools and communities to survive an active shooting or violent event through age-appropriate curriculum. Consisting of interactive, non-threatening lesson plans based on original narratives, the H.E.R.O. Program (Hide! Escape! Run! Overcome!) includes 21st century critical thinking concepts built upon Empowerment Theory and incorporates fun, interactive lessons specifically designed for in-classroom use. This website features a variety of resources and reports on school safety, active shooters and violence prevention.

Teaching Tolerance - Founded in 1991 by the Southern Poverty Law Center, Teaching Tolerance is dedicated to reducing prejudice, improving intergroup relations and supporting equitable school experiences for our nation's children. Their website includes a listing of classroom resources on topics such as race and ethnicity, school culture, justice, diversity, and more.

Social Emotional Learning

The **Center for the Collaborative Classroom** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to students' growth as critical thinkers who learn from, care for, and respect one another. Visit their website for resources on how to build a classroom community, motivate and engage students, and more.

inspirED is a resource center designed by teens, educators and SEL experts to empower high schools to create a positive school climate and greater well being for young people. Explore their SEL activities for educators, which include a collection of 10-minute activities, 1-hour class lessons, and school-wide projects.

The **Mindset Kit** is a free set of online lessons and practices designed to help you teach and foster adaptive beliefs about learning. The website includes materials on how to celebrate mistakes, give tasks that promote struggle and growth, and more.

Playworks' Recess Lab is designed to help principals and teachers re-discover the power of play. We're sharing tools and games that develop kids' social skills, on and off the playground, and offering a Recess Checkup–a brief online quiz–so schools know how they're doing.

Sanford Harmony SEL Program - Imagine a classroom where students are empowered to connect, communicate, collaborate, embrace diversity, and resolve conflict. Welcome to Sanford Harmony - a social-emotional program that builds strong classroom relationships and supportive learning communities. The goal of Harmony is to integrate the evidenced-based strategies of Meet Up and Buddy Up and grade level lessons and activities into classroom schedules – and promote the development of today's students into respectful, compassionate, and caring adults for the future.

Start Empathy, an initiative of Ashoka, is a community of individuals and institutions dedicated to building a future in which every child masters empathy. Empathy is foundational to everyone's ability to live successful, fulfilled lives as changemakers.

Using Technology Effectively

Apple Special Education- Discover the powerful features and resources available to specialize instruction and student responses via Apple iOS and OS X Special Education.

Common Sense Education is the nation's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of kids and families by providing the trustworthy information, education, and independent voice they need to thrive in the 21st century.

Edutopia's How to Integrate Technology - Successful technology integration is more than just getting the tools into the classroom. This great guide from Edutopia includes many ideas on how to engage students and enliven your lessons with those tools.

Goodwill Community Foundation - For more than a decade, the GCFLearnFree.org program has helped millions around the world learn the essential skills they need to live and work in the 21st century. From Microsoft Office and email to reading, math, and more, GCFLearnFree.org offers more than 180 topics, including more than 2,000 lessons, 800+ videos, and 55+ interactives and games, completely free.

Nearpod - Easily create lessons in minutes for your next class. Import files (pdf, ppt, jpg) or Google slides and add interactive activities, websites, and videos to keep your students engaged in their learning.

Using Technology Effectively - Frameworks

Future Ready helps K-12 public, private, and charter school leaders plan and implement personalized, research-based digital learning strategies so all students can achieve their full potential.

The **K-12 Blueprint** offers resources for education leaders involved in planning and implementing technology initiatives. Whether you are launching a one-to-one or BYO program, moving from print textbooks to digital content, revamping the curriculum to improve STEM learning, rethinking assessment, or embarking on (or continuing to support) any other ambitious technology-supported initiative, the K-12 Blueprint model can help.

Project Red conducted the first and only national study of education technology to focus on student achievement and financial implications. In our research of nearly 1,000 schools, we discovered a replicable design for successfully introducing technology into the classroom- one that leads to improved student performance and cost benefits. We are gathering together visionary district leaders to implement technology based upon the Project RED method. Be part of our revolution. Sign up for the Project RED Community to gain access to exclusive webinars, institutes, resources and support.

The **Microsoft Education Transformation Framework** is an effective, flexible platform for education transformation based on the latest research and input from hundreds of academics, experts, and policy makers. We distilled the key insights into a single, powerful framework now available to system leaders everywhere.

Google for Education Transformation Center - Resources to lead your schools toward a vision of change. Explore real examples from school leaders and learn from their successes. You'll find hundreds of ideas, best practices, guides and templates.