

TEACHER UNION REFORM NETWORK OF AFT & NEA LOCALS & PARTNERS

Winter 2018

NE TURN - Expanding Partnerships to Address SEL



Dorchester, MA September 22-23, 2017

NE TURN's spring 2018 conference kicked off a series of smaller trainings in response to the needs of participating teams. The first offering titled "Labor/Management Learning Teams," was held August 16, 2017 and 60 building administrators and teacher leaders from Saco, SAD 55 and Portland, Maine districts attended. CEC Senior Director Mary McDonald facilitated the training, which focused on Michael Fullan's Coherence Framework and the cultural shifts needed to re-engage practitioners. Participants also explored how to effectively engage in difficult conversations, as well as tools to strengthen

collaborative partnerships.

The second workshop was hosted by Plainville District on August 29, 2017 and featured Mike Lamb from Turnaround for Children. He focused on addressing the social-emotional learning needs of all students. Approximately 100 educators serving on SEL teams from five other districts, including Boston, Saco, SAD 55, Portland and Quaboag attended. This was the opening event for the 2017-18 school year for the Plainville District. Participating teams focused on the science of brain research and trauma, the impact and implications for learning and what educators need to know and do to support all students. Lamb assisted each team in developing a plan to implement SEL



TURN Founding Director, Adam Urbanski, provides a historical overview of TURN while attending NE TURN at the Boston Teachers Union headquarters in September, 2017

strategies throughout their districts.

The Boston Teacher Union hosted the NE TURN fall conference with eight teams from Maine, Massachusetts and New York in attendance. Adam Urbanski, founding director of TURN, offered some opening comments regarding the challenges and commitments by educators to help students succeed. The Rennie Center's research report "Social-Emotional Learning: Opportunities for Massachusetts and Lessons for the Nation," provided a strong view on the implementation of SEL strategies across the nation. Breakout sessions provided opportunities for deeper learning on SEL from CEC Senior Director Shelley Taylor. Boston shared their partnership work creating "Boston Hub Community Schools" and CEC Consultant Ann Cummins-Bogan addressed the need to focus on the "right drivers to deepen student learning." Saco and Plainville joined Dr. Saul Rubinstein from Rutgers University, to share their experiences with the Rutgers-Cornell research study on the impact of union-management partnerships. SAD 55 Early Career Leadership Fellows and association leaders described their efforts to develop strong leaders among early career educators. Joann Quinn, Global Director for New Pedagogies for Deeper Learning, wrapped up the conference by focusing on what deep learning for students looks like in classrooms and school around the globe.

Northeast TURN Director Kathleen Casasa kmcasasa@gmail.com





GL TURN - Deepening Student Learning through Engaging Students and Adults

GL Naperville, IL November 2-3, 2017

Chad D'Entrement, Executive Director of the Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy, opened the GL TURN fall meeting sharing key findings from their research report "Social-Emotional Learning: Opportunities for Districts and States and Lessons for the Nation." The Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) identifies five interrelated clusters of cognitive, affective, and behavior competencies to guide schools and districts in effective planning and implementation of SEL programs and strategies.

Naperville School District 203 in Illinois, shared their efforts to apply the CASEL standards in schools and classrooms throughout their district. Breakout sessions allowed participants to deepen their understanding of SEL in addition to redefining the roles and responsibilities of principals and site-based union representatives.

Mag Gardner, New Pedagogies for Deep Learning, provided an overview of this global partnership to engage students in their own learning in new and exciting ways. Participants also examined ways to re-ignite PLCs to focus on the "right drivers" and heard from Education Minnesota about their efforts to engage early career educators as leaders in their association, schools and districts. As always, teams have opportunities to reflect together as they consider opportunities to improve professional practices and deepen student learning.

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regional turn activities 2018

March 1-2, 2018, Sacramento, CA October 11-12, 2018, Southern CA

MS MASE/FLORIDA TURN

April 14, 2018, Pensacola, FL

GREAT LAKES TURN

May 10-11, 2018, Toledo, Ohio November 8-9, 2018, Chicago Area

NE NORTHEAST TURN

March 23-24, 2018, Boston, MA September 21-22, 2018, Boston, MA

NORTHWEST TURN Dates and Locations TBD

SW SOUTHWEST TURN April 6-7, 2018, Austin, TX

SW TURN - Union-led Education Policies and Programs

Denver, CO November 3-4, 2017

Southwest TURN's fall meeting held in Denver, Colorado, was designed to intertwine diverse examples of local union practices with the current issues and initiatives. The November meeting included a terrific presentation from JCEA President John Ford who opened the meeting showcasing the work of JeffCo's Community High School. Participants then explored how ESSA funds could be used for community schools.

Local unions presented about their struggles and successes:

- San Antonio shared their efforts linked to SB4, the Texas "show me your papers" anti-immigrant bill.
- Albuquerque explained the proactive work to protect the Next Gen-

eration Science standards from extreme right-wing influences.

- Clark County, Nevada, provided a fascinating update of how they are using ESSA to create and support school teams and schoolbased decisions
- Pikes Peak and Commerce City, Colorado, described their teacher-led PD efforts.

Participants also explored the proactive work of Student Centered Advocacy and Bargaining for the Common Good, as well as sobering session on the Janus Supreme Court Case and the implications for all unions across the country.

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CalTURN - Engaging Students, Educators, and Communities to **Maximize Impact for Student Success**



As the state of California Riverside, CA October 5-6, 2017 moves further into discussions about creating a 'whole

-child' education system, Social Emotional Learning (SEL), school climate and conditions, and student and community voice are gaining traction. This year's fall CalTURN provided Labor-Management teams opportunities to learn together around a variety of these topics.

The two days started off with a review of the research from the Rennie Center on SEL, which revealed implications for schools, districts and states as they develop and implement SEL policies, programs and practices that impact student learning.

Labor-Management teams received up-dates on state work level regarding the SEL Core Competencies and had time to discuss the implications of this work in their own districts. Teams were then able to provide the state workgroup with feedback about the resources they need to move forward and potential barriers they may encounter.

Californians for Justice energized the day with real world examples of work being done at school sites and within districts to empower students as leaders. A student leader, accompanied by an organizational leader, shared her experiences in finding her voice and emotionally moved the room by sharing her perceptions with adults who don't listen to students. She implored all attendees to consider the many benefits of including students in discussion about school and district improvement. She stressed that students have important things to contribute and that we all can learn what students need if they are included and engaged in the conversation - in a meaningful way.

The end of the first day included a discussion of a comprehensive approach to schooling through the community schools model. The presenters demonstrated how the community school creates a process that involves all stakeholders and views issues at a deeper level to create coherence and alignment within the various school initiatives.

The second day started off with Ed Honowitz, Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation, with an overview of the work of the California Labor-Management Initiative, which is building a network of districts focused on building and strengthening collaborative cultures to deepen student learning in California schools and districts. Joanne Quinn, Global Director of New Pedagogies for Deep Learning provided an overview of this global partnership.

Teams had the opportunity to pick from two break-out sessions that directly connected to earlier learning: A deeper, follow-up conversation with New Pedagogies for Deeper Learning or a rich presentation about how to use an SEL lens in PLC work.

The two-day conference wrapped up in true CalTURN style with time for teams to discuss what they learned, reflect on the work they are already engaging, and consider ways to move forward together.

CalTURN Director

July 31-August 3

MASE TURN - Guilford County NCEA Focuses on Resilience Strategies



MASE TURN continues to Greensboro, NC seek opportunities to support association-district part-

nerships in designing and implementing programs and practices that help all students succeed. Guilford County-NCAE brought together a joint team representing administrators, teacher leaders and community leaders to the Regional TURN Summer Conference in 2016. Their team gained significant knowledge and insight into the issue of developing schools that were sensitive to the needs traumatized students. With funding provided by the NEA Great Public Schools, SEL program specialists from CEC and networking support from MASE TURN, Guilford County implemented a week-long summer training experience on July 31-August 3 focused on development of trauma-informed practices for educators and schools.

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NW TURN - Addressing Poverty & Proficiency Through Union-Management Community Partnerships



Portland, OR October 20-21, 2017

Teachers, support staff and administrators from Washington, Oregon and Alaska met in Portland, Oregon, on October 20-21, 2017, for the Northwest TURN conference. "Addressing Poverty & Proficiency Through Union-Management Community Partnerships" was the theme for the two-day conference.

Max Drummy from New Pedagogies for Deep Learning led an in-depth conversation on the work of NPDL with 1000 schools in 100 countries to develop deep learning cultures and support sustainable change for the entire school system. To be effective and sustainable, deep learning for students has to be invitational, not a command. Participants were able to view video clips of active, engaged and high performing classrooms where students create new learning by focusing on real life problems. The confidence, poise and knowledge of kindergarteners presenting their learning to groups of parents was remarkable! Drummy explained the NPDL process works side-byside with teachers to change the role of the teacher to be coaches who design lessons to let students find their talents and passions.

NW TURN continues to focus on the role that social-emotional learning plays in student learning. We learned from the experiences of the Anchorage School District from Anchorage, Alaska, in helping students develop self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and social management. The Anchorage team had us up and moving around the room to better understand SEL and how to engage students in this work. Jo Anderson, Co-Executive Director of CEC, captured the feeling of many of the participants when he reminded us that "... emotions and cognition are inextricably linked. All learning is both social and emotional."

Another strand that continues to run through NW TURN is capitalizing on the energy and expertise of teachers new to the profession. A team of NEA's Early Career Fellows from Salem Keizer, Oregon, shared their experiences as they develop their skills as emerging leaders within the association. They talked not only about their growth as instructional leaders within the Association, but also local leaders and school administrators shared how the contribution of the new teachers is strengthening the association and improving the schools.

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MASE TURN Continued from previous page

This team training blended research, theory, and practical application of whole child practices in schools. Nearly 70 teachers and administrators were exposed to critical content on ACEs, trauma-sensitive schools, social emotional learning, resilience, executive function, primary care and wellness, and families and communities as partners. Participants left with action steps to utilize in their school settings.

Florida TURN - Strategies to Address the SEL Needs of All Students

The horrific hurricanes in the Atlantic also caused havoc with the fall Flori-

da TURN Meeting that was to occur in Tampa, FL in October. Florida TURN rescheduled the meeting for April 14. The Florida Panhandle should be a lovely place for our TURN colleagues to convene in the spring. This Saturday drive-in conference will endeavour to provide participants with the techniques and theories that support building a successful education program for SEL students.

Mid-Atlantic/Southeast / Florida TURN Coordinator Rick Baumgartner randgbaum@verizon.net Kathy Breakall ghizmatt@mchsi.com

Partner on Deep Learning

CEC is partnering with Michael Fullan. Joanne Quinn and Joanne McEachen on an approach titled New Pedagogies for Deep Learning that aims to change articulate and demonstrate how the potential for learning can be realized through new pedagogies in a digitalrich society. CEC is working through the Teacher Union Reform Network (TURN) regions to pull together clusters of 35 or more schools to participate in the approach and receive face-to-face support from NPDL and CEC staff and consultants. Contact CEC Senior Director Shelley Taylor at shelley.taylor@cecweb.org to sign up or for more information.

