

For Immediate Release

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Corwin Announces the Launch of PLC+, a Next-Generation Framework for Learning-Focused Professional Learning Communities

A new framework developed by Doug Fisher and Nancy Frey puts teacher learning at the center and provides practical, evidence-based, collaborative structures for the planning and implementation of student learning

Los Angeles, CA (April 16, 2019) — Corwin, the leading professional learning provider for K-12 educators, today announced the release of its new professional learning community framework, *PLC+: Better Decisions and Greater Impact by Design*.

Created and authored by a team led by prolific and highly respected educators, professors, and school leaders, Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey, Corwin's PLC+ framework is a comprehensive method of engaging educators in a cycle of learning through inquiry. The content of the framework is aimed at revitalizing current collaborative structures with a focus on teacher professional development and supporting teacher decision-making in the context of self and collective efficacy. Central themes include high expectations, equity, and the activation of teachers' learning.

"Corwin is thrilled to be rolling out this next-level framework to support and guide educators as they work through PLCs at their schools and districts," says Mike Soules, president of Corwin. "Teachers make the daily difference in the lives of students. As teachers continue to be agents of change and take ownership of their own learning, we wanted to provide a structure to support their agency, especially in the context of collaborating with their own peers to build collective efficacy."

Until recently, the PLC movement has been focused exclusively on students and what they were learning—or not learning. However, keeping student learning at the forefront means teachers need to recognize the instrumental role they play in the equation of teaching and learning. In the PLC+ view, PLCs must take on two additional challenges—maximizing a teacher's individual expertise and harnessing the power of the collaborative expertise teachers can develop with their peers.

To meet these challenges, the framework is grounded in four cross-cutting themes— a focus on equity of access and opportunity, high expectations for all students, a commitment to building individual self-efficacy as well as the collective efficacy of the professional learning community, and effective team activation and facilitation to move from discussion to action.

The framework supports educators with five essential questions as they work together to improve student learning: *Where are we going? Where are we now? How do we move learning forward? What did we learn today? Who benefited and who did not benefit?*

“In this next generation of PLCs, we’ve put teaching learning at the forefront of the framework,” says author and education expert Douglas Fisher. “Our team has engaged in professional learning communities for many years, but we haven’t been able to talk about instruction, learning walks, and our impact on groups of students’ learning. So, we wanted to think about the next generation of PLC’s. They’re more than a meeting, they’re a way of life—and our goal is to provide teams tools they can use to move students’ and teachers’ learning forward.

Corwin’s PLC+ is focused on teacher agency and collective efficacy — the feeling that together, teachers can really make a difference. Having the right tools is a big part of that—we want to make sure they not only feel empowered, but that they value their students, their colleagues, and their leaders because they have a process that works.”

Corwin’s PLC+ is a comprehensive program with dynamic content that can be applied in different formats based on the behavior, preferences, and interests of the educators or a specific PLC. The framework is currently being beta-tested at participating districts across the country in anticipation of its full rollout in June 2019. Three books, [*PLC+: Better Decisions and Greater Impact by Design*](#), the companion [*PLC+ Playbook, Grades K-12*](#), and *The PLC+ Team Facilitation and Activator’s Guide* provide the basis of the PLC+ framework. A PLC+ 8-day professional development series and PLC+-focused Corwin Institutes will be offered alongside the book launches.

To learn more about PLC+, please visit <https://us.corwin.com/plc>

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