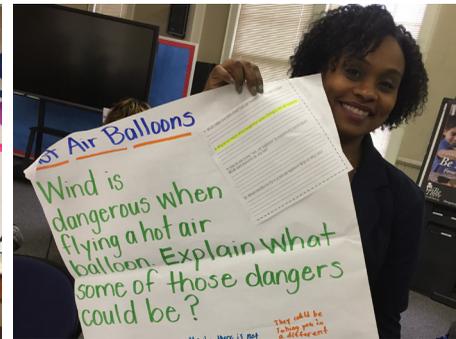


The Powerful Conversations Network

The Alabama Best Practices Center's **Powerful Conversations Network** (PCN) is a network-based professional learning opportunity where teachers hone their knowledge and skills as they seek new and better ways to engage their students. Comprised of school teams from all over the state, PCN allows educators to come together to advance their learning about key instructional issues. We believe that we have as much to learn from participants as they have to learn from us. As a result, the learning is highly interactive and collaborative. There are six regional PCNs across the state in Birmingham (2), Mobile, Tuscaloosa, Athens, and Montgomery. Check out [this post](#) to hear about our learning directly from a network member!



Program Components

The Alabama Best Practices Center (ABPC) supports and facilitates professional learning based on the research-based principles of adult learning. For the 2020-2021 school year, we will offer our networks a blended learning structure with both in-person and virtual meetings.

Meetings will offer:

- Synchronous and asynchronous virtual learning
- Best practices in virtual instruction and learning
- Intentional networking of teachers from across the state
- Responsiveness and flexibility to meet district and school needs throughout the year

Program Schedule

Our Powerful Conversations Network will meet 4 times during the school year, both virtually and in-person as school schedules allow. As of right now, we anticipate that all four meetings will be virtual. As conditions change, we'll act accordingly. If we are able to meet face to face, [here is the link to our schedule of events](#).

PCN 2020-2021 Focus

Addressing both student and teachers' social and emotional needs are a top priority for the 2020-2021 school year. We selected [*Relationship, Responsibility, and Regulation: Trauma-Invested Practices for Fostering Resilient Learners*](#) by Souers with Hall to guide sessions. This book explains how to create a culture of safety in which everyone feels valued, important, and capable of learning. Session facilitators will dip into the book using learning protocols, providing time for school teams to discuss, make meaning, and plan to use what they are learning.



The Key Leaders Network

The Alabama Best Practice Center's **Key Leaders Network** (KLN) connects district and school leaders statewide to challenge each other to raise expectations and foster effective practices for teaching and learning in their schools. The teams come together to advance their learning about effective instructional leadership strategies and to learn from and inspire each other. There are seven regional KLN's in Birmingham (2), Mobile, Tuscaloosa, Florence, Oxford, and Montgomery. [Click here to learn more and to hear from members why they keep coming back.](#)



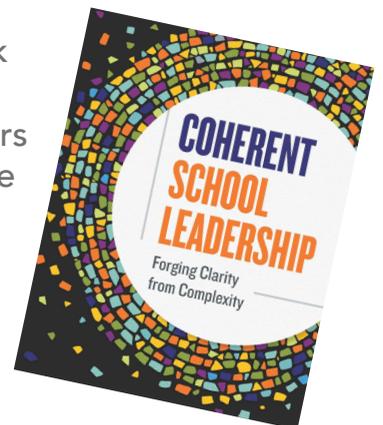
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KLN 2020-21 Focus

In this unpredictable time, now more than ever, district and school leaders need to lead with confidence and clarity. Fullan and Kirtman's book, [*Coherent School Leadership: Forging Clarity from Complexity*](#), introduces the 7 Competencies for Highly Effective Leaders, and provides a framework for action. This short, but powerful book will help school districts strive for clarity and coherence to better address the current challenges school leaders face. This text will guide the sessions and session facilitators will dip into the book using learning protocols, providing time for district teams to discuss, make meaning, and plan to use what they are learning.





KLN and PCN are Going Remote!

Announcing the upcoming series of **Key Leaders Network** and **Powerful Conversations Network** sessions for 2020-2021! This school year, you will receive **more**: More hands-on learning, more modeling of effective remote, blended, and flipped learning, more networking opportunities, more flexibility, and more exposure to just-in-time content!

Hands-On Remote Learning

For now, we are planning for all sessions to be online, supported with both asynchronous and synchronous learning. This decision is based on conversations with district partners who stressed the challenges of face-to-face learning (exposure, finding substitutes, not being present for students, etc). Of course, if the situation changes and we can hold face-to-face meetings later in the school year, we'll certainly plan to do that.

How It Will Work

Each session will begin with an asynchronous segment using the "drip method" (e.g. not all content will be posted at the same to maximize the networking and provide greater flexibility so the learning can be done when it best works for the participant). A synchronous session will then be held on the date that your specific network is scheduled. For PCN, the synchronous session will last 75 minutes; for KLN, the session may last a little bit longer.

Each of the four session will end with another asynchronous session designed to extend the learning, networking, and school or district team planning. An optional Zoom session will be included at the end of each session for those who have questions or want to extend their learning. Thus, one session will be open for almost a month, allowing for maximum participation, flexibility, and action.

Cost and Registration

KLN: Cost for individual participants is \$425 for the four sessions, which includes a PLU. District teams are generally comprised of six people each with a mix of school-based and district-based leaders (exceptions made for the larger districts).

PCN: School teams of three for \$1,250 a team. Up to three more participants can be added at \$200 each. PLUs and CEUs are available. This year, we will have four PCN sessions due to the uncertainty of holding Instructional Rounds. If possible, Instructional Rounds will be scheduled as a separate offering outside of PCN and KLN.

[Click Here to Register](#)

For more information, contact us at dakota@aplusala.org.