



# The Alabama Best Practices Center

Network-based professional learning for teachers, school & district leaders, and instructional partners. A program of A+ Education Partnership

## About the Program

The Alabama Best Practices Center was founded in 1991 to support educators in improving instruction and school leadership to increase student achievement. The ABPC works with the State Department of Education, local school districts, and other stakeholders to develop timely professional learning opportunities for Alabama's educators. The program facilitates high-quality, collaborative professional learning for three different networks of educators: district and school leaders (Key Leaders Network), teachers, school-based administrators, and instructional partners/coaches (Powerful Conversations Network), and instructional partners/coaches (Instructional Partners Network). Other offerings include Cognitive Coaching, Middle Grades Coaching Programs, PLU Book Studies, and more.

## Network Offerings

**Key Leaders Network (KLN):** Connects district and school leaders statewide to raise expectations and foster effective practices for leadership, teaching, and learning in their schools. There are 7 regional KLN networks that meet 4 times throughout the school year.

**Powerful Conversations Network (PCN):** Teachers across the state collaborate to hone their teaching skills as they seek new and better ways to engage their students and improve student achievement. There are 6 regional PCN networks that meet 4 times throughout the school year.

**Instructional Partners Network (IPN):** Instructional coaches and administrators connect to develop their leadership skills, increase their knowledge of best coaching practices, and learn from each other. The structure of the learning is generally organized into multiple two-day retreats throughout the year.

## Key Practices

- Professional Learning
- Networking
- Collaborative Planning

- Coaching and Partnering
- Effective Teaching & Learning Strategies

## Program Success

*According to a recent external evaluation, schools that participate in the ABPC's professional learning networks and implement our key practices see higher student achievement in math and reading.*

**116**

school districts served since 1999

**~400,000**

of Alabama's 740,000 students impacted in 2021

**13**

regional networks serving educators statewide

**27,000+**

educators served in 2021



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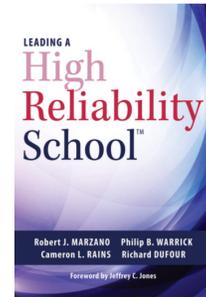
## Program Offerings for 2022-2023

ABPC facilitators create professional learning for each of our networks based on feedback from participants on what is most needed. This allows the professional learning to be timely, actionable, and useful for teachers, school and district leaders, and instructional partners/coaches.

### Key Leaders Network

We offer 7 regional KLN networks to ensure that every educator in the state has access to the learning. Those regional networks meet 4 times throughout the school year. This year, KLN will continue our study of *Leading a High-Reliability School*. Building on the learning from 2021-2022, members will take a deeper dive into the more nuanced concepts within the text.

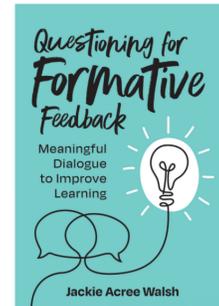
We recommend teams of six comprised of a mix of district and school leaders. Districts may also send multiple teams to allow for greater application of the learning across the entire district.



### Powerful Conversations Network

We offer 6 regional PCN networks to ensure that every educator in the state has access to the learning. PCN networks meet 4 times throughout the school year. The guiding text for this year is *Questioning for Formative Feedback* by Jackie Walsh. This new book features videos of Alabama teachers from all over the state and builds on the importance of student engagement and success through questioning. Specifically, we'll focus on helping schools develop and/or strengthen prioritized instructional strategies to build on the work from *The New Art and Science of Teaching*.

We recommend school-based teams of 3-6 with at least one administrator. Districts frequently send teams from multiple schools to ensure broader implementation of the learning.



### Meeting Structure

- In-person and virtual professional learning
- One virtual overview meeting to launch the learning
- Three full-day, in-person meetings with colleagues from across your region
- Intentional networking with teachers and leaders from across the state
- Responsiveness and flexibility to meet district and school needs throughout the year
- ALSDE Clock Hours awarded upon completion
- ACLD approved PLUs awarded to those who meet the meeting requirements

### Pricing

The 2022-2023 price for participating in either PCN or KLN is \$500 per person.

\*\*\*KLN and PCN are on the SDE approved list for use of ESSER funds\*\*\*

Learn more:

Contact Dakota Punzel, ABPC Operations Manager, for more information and to sign up: [dakota@aplusala.org](mailto:dakota@aplusala.org)

