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Professional Learning Communities Come to Laguna Beach

An unprecedented, visionary opportunity for our community is coming to Laguna Beach this January when Laguna Beach Unified School District presents the Professional Learning Community (PLC) Seminar.

PLCs, conducted by world-renowned speakers, Dr. Richard DuFour and Becky DuFour, examine the practices and procedures in schools to ensure the fundamental purpose of learning while maintaining an indefatigable focus on students to help develop a “shared” sense of the school within the community to better fulfill the purpose of learning for every student. Recognizing our schools’ efforts to develop this shared mission, vision, and set of values is an opportunity for all of our community members, the LBUSD has made this learning experience available for parents, guardians, staff, and teachers.

The one day seminar is offered on two consecutive days, January 19th and 20th at the Laguna Beach High School Artist Theater 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Parents are invited to attend all day, through lunch or just for coffee as a part of the PTA-sponsored Coffee Break on January 19th.

Dr. Steven Keller, Assistant LBUSD Superintendent Instructional Services, highly recommends parent attendance, “**This is one Coffee Break parents will not want to miss.** The DuFour’s Professional Learning Community model provides space for our Quest for Excellence movement, our academic pursuits, and meeting the social and emotional needs of our students. As a parent of a middle school student, I very much wish my son’s school would embrace such a model that places students and student data at the core of the educational program. I am personally encouraging all parents (which includes fathers) to attend this January 19th event. We will even throw in a free lunch!”

Judith Anderson, Chairman of the Laguna Beach Parent Education Program, also strongly encourages all parents to seize this unique opportunity to share the PLC concepts the teachers are learning and use the opportunity to be more actively involved in the learning process of their children. Dr. Anderson emphasized this exceptional opportunity, “A number of LBUSD teachers have already taken the PLC training and found it to be an incredibly powerful teaching model which could take our District to the next level of excellence. **We parents should NOT miss this chance to get in on the ground floor of potential changes.**”

For this special educational program, PTA Coffee Break will not be held at the Surf and Sand Hotel but at the Laguna Beach High School Artists Theatre. From 8:30-10:30 a.m. parents will receive a comprehensive summary of the entire PLC model. Parents have the option to stay for lunch or for the entire day which will give them an in-depth understanding of the program as well as an opportunity for direct interaction with the teachers attending the event.