



TOOLS FOR LEARNING SCHOOLS

<http://tinyurl.com/9jawet8>

A common question many educators ask about the Standards for Professional Learning is, "Where do I start?" It can be a daunting task to introduce a new, unfamiliar topic to school and district leaders. In the Fall 2012 issue of *Tools for Learning Schools*, Anthony Armstrong says the key to getting started is using current initiatives as entry points for discussions about standards-based professional learning. The newsletter includes four tools to help introduce the standards. Additional resources available online include the facilitator guide to the standards as well as links to related topics.



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the 2012 Annual Conference in Boston in December.

LEARNING EXCHANGE

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Connect with educators from around the world on the Learning Exchange, Learning Forward's updated online community platform. Participate in ongoing discussions on professional learning topics, share resources, videos, and learning strategies, and get a head start on conference networking in our 2012 Annual Conference forum. Search for and connect with colleagues in your state, at your grade level, or with similar interests.

ADVICE TO LEGISLATORS

<http://tinyurl.com/8vd7x3r>

Learning Forward Executive Director Stephanie Hirsh discusses what legislators can do to improve education:

"Professional learning is the main strategy that schools have to ensure that all teachers are constantly improving their craft. And the definition that we advance calls for teachers to do this as members of learning teams, rather than isolated from each other. This definition calls for all teachers assigned to collaborative learning communities charged with the responsibility for the success of a group of students, not just the students assigned to their particular classroom.



Hirsh

When this definition is adopted, it means that what is working in one classroom is systematically spread across all classrooms, so that every student benefits from the expertise of all teachers in the grade level rather than just one teacher."

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