



## THE VIEW FROM THE TOP

<http://bit.ly/1bMYDd3>

*A report highlighting the perspectives of top-performing teachers gets this reaction from Learning Forward Director of Communications Tracy Crow:*

**“W**hile it is nice that additional insights affirm the standards, and while we nod our heads at respondents’ unsurprising responses about

traditional professional development, what will it take for a more widespread shift to the kinds of adult learning that make a difference? Our top performers will strive to continuously improve. What are we offering to support them on their journey, and, just as importantly, how will we help every other teacher improve?”



## SUMMER CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

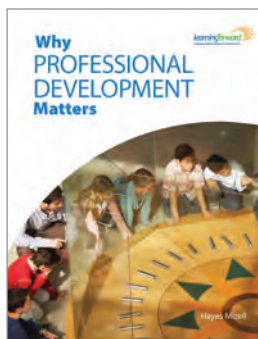
[www.learningforward.org/learning-opportunities/summer-conference](http://www.learningforward.org/learning-opportunities/summer-conference)

Watch keynote highlights from Learning Forward’s Summer Conference in Minneapolis to reignite your passion. Jim Knight, University of Kansas, addresses the need for professional learning that holds teachers accountable. Michelle Shearer, 2011 National Teacher of the Year, describes what it takes to be a successful teacher. National Urban Alliance Executive Director Yvette Jackson discusses the pedagogy of confidence. Jaime Casap, Google Education Evangelist, talks about technology’s impact on education. And author Anthony Muhammad cautions that we must pay attention to building cultures that institutionalize relationships to keep lasting change.

## GROUP SMARTS

[www.learningforward.org/publications/learning-system](http://www.learningforward.org/publications/learning-system)

Teams have an intelligence of their own that is independent of the individual intelligence of the members. In other words, adding up the talent of each individual member doesn’t necessarily total the team’s ability to perform. In the summer 2013 issue of *The Learning System*, read how some groups are smarter than others, how you can select a smart team, and how to raise that team’s group IQ. Use the tool in this issue to develop ground rules that encourage behaviors that will help a group do its work and discourage behaviors that interfere with a group’s effectiveness.



## FREE DOWNLOAD

[www.learningforward.org/publications/recent-research-and-reports](http://www.learningforward.org/publications/recent-research-and-reports)

*Why Professional Development Matters* is a great way to introduce parents, community members, and policymakers to high-quality professional learning and why it matters. The booklet, written in easy-to-follow Q-and-A format, is useful for helping audiences outside of education to understand this critical topic. Educators can share this free PDF document at board meetings and community gatherings or use it as an advocacy tool with

local, state, and federal policymakers.