

# UNPACKING THE STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



## Facilitator Guide: Standards for Professional Learning

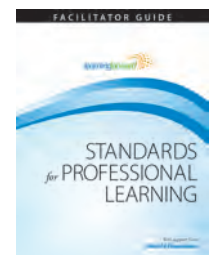
Designed to assist facilitators in introducing and helping others implement the standards, this guide is for educators new to the Standards for Professional Learning as well as those familiar with the previous Standards for Staff Development. The guide includes practical activities, reflection questions, and tools to deepen users' understanding of the standards and how effective professional learning leads to effective teaching practices, supportive leadership, and improved student results.

With many interactive learning opportunities for participant discussion, conversation, and involvement, this guide models the kind of professional learning described in the standards. The tasks, discussion questions, and tools frame reflections and dialogue about the standards and provide opportunities to apply them in users' own work.

The guide is divided into nine units that are organized to support a full-day learning session on the standards with suggested variations for a two-hour introduction. Facilitators can also adapt the units to suit their particular schedules and learners.

The facilitator guide is free to Learning Forward members and website visitors.

**Download the guide at [www.learningforward.org/standards/facilitatorguide.cfm](http://www.learningforward.org/standards/facilitatorguide.cfm).**



<p><b>L</b>earning communities can use this tool to gain a deeper understanding of the Standards for Professional Learning.</p>	<p><b>PURPOSE</b></p> <p>The purpose of unpacking the Standards for Professional Learning is to explore the essential components that describe what educators should know and be able to do for effective professional learning.</p>	
<p><b>MATERIALS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the Standards for Professional Learning for each team member</li> <li>• A copy of the charts on pp. 46-47 for each team member</li> <li>• Writing instruments</li> <li>• Chart paper • Markers</li> </ul>	<p><b>TIME</b></p> <p>30 minutes</p>	
<p><b>SUGGESTED PROCESS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assign one standard to each member of the group.</li> <li>2. Ask team members to read their assigned standard, including the introduction and elaboration. While reading, team members can use the chart on p. 46 to make note of the core elements, topics, and skills, as well as any questions prompted by their reading.</li> <li>3. Once all team members have completed their reading, have the group discuss key points and insights while working collaboratively to create and post a chart, using the windowpane template on p. 47 as a guide.</li> </ol>		

Source: Learning Forward. (2012). *Facilitator guide: Standards for Professional Learning*. Oxford, OH: Author.



# STANDARDS WINDOWPANE TEMPLATE

**Standard** \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Key points</b></p> <p>What information or ideas are important to know about this standard?</p>	<p><b>Standards in practice</b></p> <p>Which behaviors are observable when this standard is fully implemented?</p>
<p><b>Symbol</b></p> <p>What visual representation would help people remember this standard?</p>	<p><b>Next steps</b></p> <p>What steps are necessary to implement this standard?</p>

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