COLLABORATION AND SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY
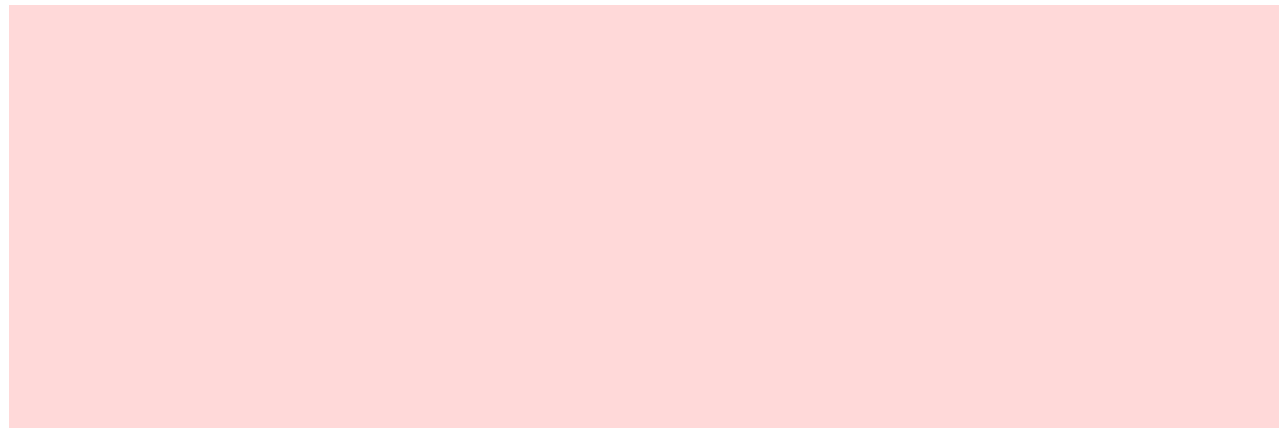# Professional Learning Stories Discussion Guide

The following discussion questions are meant to support individuals, district teams, school teams, and implementation teams consider the best practices featured in the California Professional Learning Stories (PL Stories) and the state Quality Professional Learning Standards (QPLS), and ways in which their own systems might be improved to ensure positive outcomes.

Warmup

Before watching the Collaboration and Shared Accountability PL Stories, review the standard at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/pl/documents/qplscollsa.pdf. What stands out to you about this standard and why?

PL Story Questions

Use the questions below as you watch the Collaboration and Shared Accountability PL Stories at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/pl/plstoriescollsa.asp. Note the ways in which the PL Stories exemplify the standard and how your PL system compares.

Element A: Collaborative Culture

How does this professional learning (PL) system create a culture of collaboration and mutual trust?

1. How does this system establish professional communities of practice to support mutually agreed-upon student learning goals and outcomes?

2. How does this system structure collective learning around an evidence-based cycle of continuous learning and improvement?
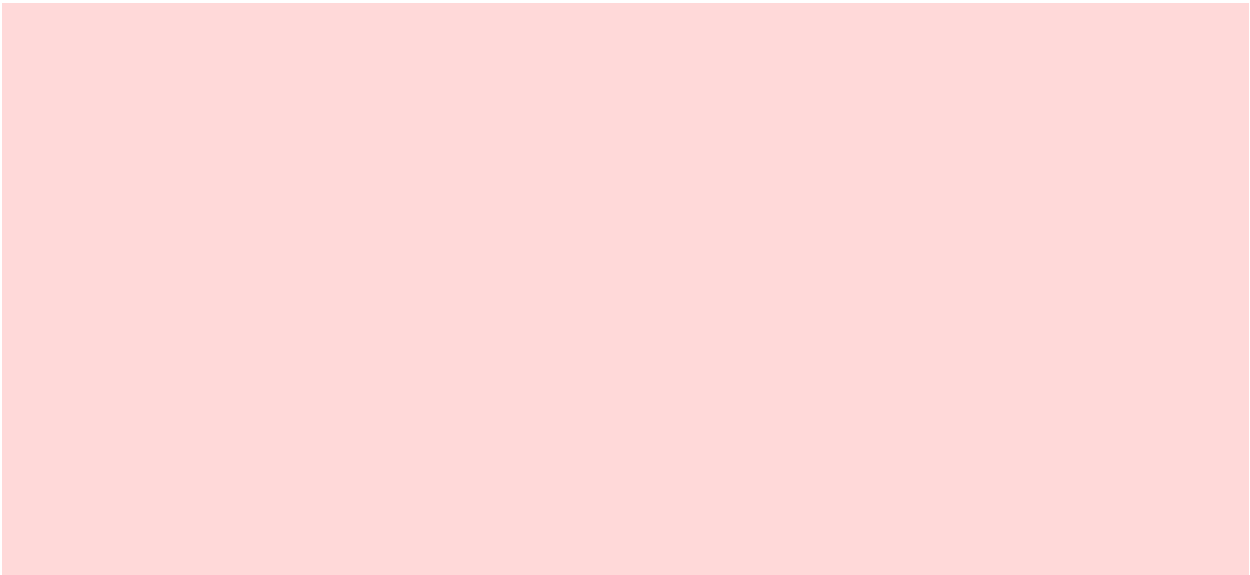
How does this compare to your PL system?

1. Has your PL system established professional communities of practice to support mutually agreed-upon student learning goals and outcomes? If not, what are the barriers?

2. Does your system provide collective learning around an evidence-based cycle of continuous learning and improvement, maintaining a consistent focus on shared goals?
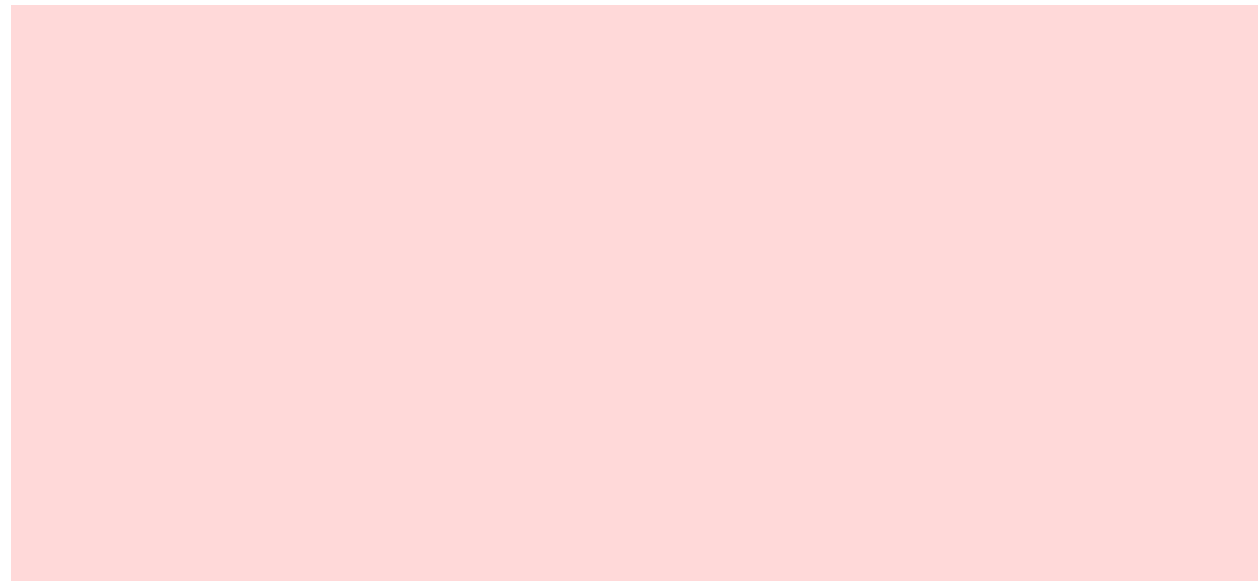
Element B: Shared Accountability

How does this PL system build the capacity of educators to commit to shared ownership and accountability for effective professional practice and student learning?

1. How does this system demonstrate educators holding themselves and their peers accountable for improving student learning outcomes?

2. How does this system ensure educators receive constructive support from their peers that expands their personal and collective expertise?

3. How does this system support educators to try new approaches and share results with their colleagues?

How does this compare to your PL system?

1. How do your educators hold themselves and their peers responsible for improving student learning outcomes?

2. Does your system provide opportunities for educators to receive constructive support from their peers that expands their personal and collective expertise?

3. How does your system support educators to try new approaches and share results with colleagues?
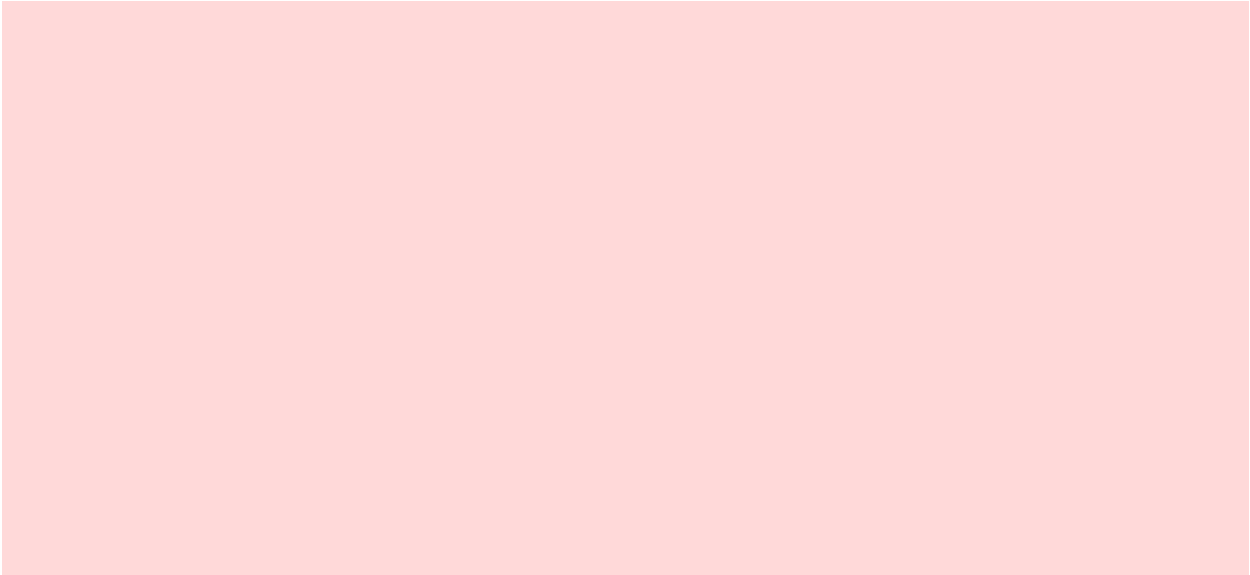
Element C: External Networks

How does this PL system include external collaborations that provide effective options for educators to improve their practice?

1. How does this system build educators' skills in working with external professional learning providers?

2. How does this system provide opportunities for educators and external collaborators to exchange promising practices and resources?

3. How does this system capitalize on relationships with networks that have specialized expertise or resources, in order to extend educators' access to resources not available locally?

How does this compare to your PL system?

1. Does your system provide opportunities for educators to work with external professional learning providers?

2. How does your system include collaboration with families, community members, regional partnerships, institutions of higher education, professional organizations, or others as professional learning providers and partners?

3. Does your system capitalize on relationships with networks that have specialized expertise or resources, in order to extend educators' access to resources not available locally? If not, what are some of the barriers that prevent this?

Take Action

Review your notes above. What will you and your team do to increase collaboration and shared accountability in your PL system?