

## Professional Learning Communities at Work: Bringing the Big Ideas to Life

The research is clear: The most promising strategy for sustained, substantive school improvement is developing the capacity of school personnel to function as a professional learning community (PLC). When schools operate as PLC's, staff members are united by a clear sense of purpose, a common understanding of the school they are trying to create in order to achieve that purpose, collective commitments regarding what they must do to move the school in the desired direction, and shared goals that provide benchmarks of their progress. Staff members work together in collaborative teams that engage in recurring cycles of collective inquiry on the big questions of teaching and learning, engage in action research, build continuous improvement cycles into the routine practices of the school, and assess their efforts on the basis of results rather than activities.

As a result of engaging in this event participants will learn specific, practical strategies that have been proven in the real world of schools to:

- shift the focus of a staff from teaching to learning,
- develop systematic responses that provide students who are struggling with additional time and support,
- create the collaborative culture essential to a PLC,
- focus collaborative teaching teams on the critical questions that drive PLCs,
- utilize the leadership strategies most effective in creating PLCs at Work.
- establish SMART goals that serve as indicators of the school's progress,
- provide each teacher and team with relevant feedback that will inform teaching practice, and engage in productive crucial conversations.

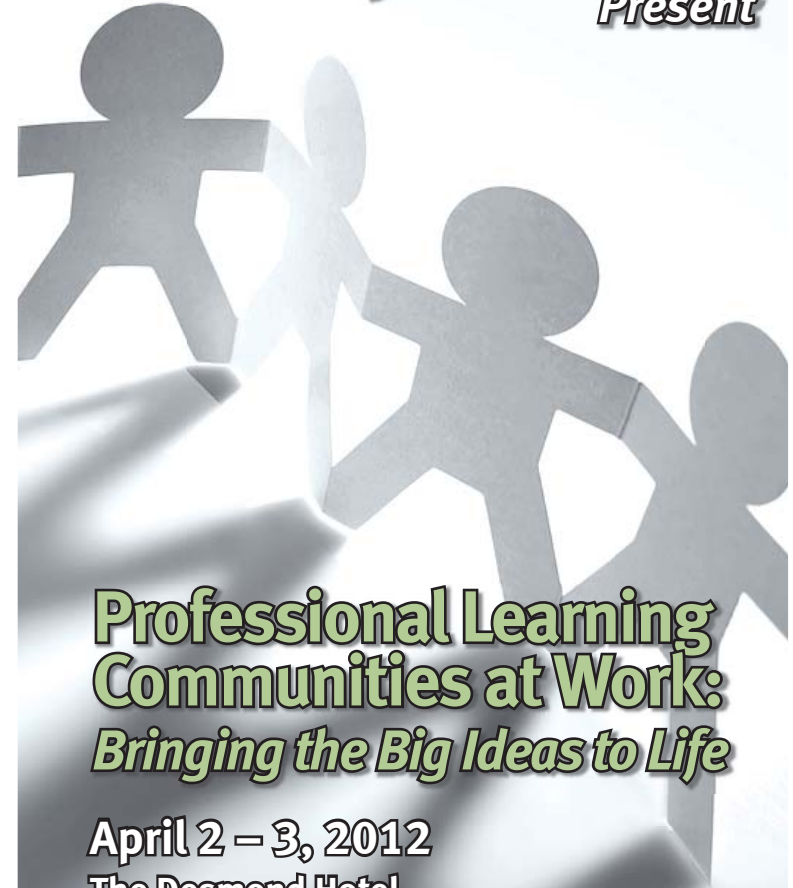


Leadership for Educational  
Achievement Foundation, Inc.

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7 Elk Street, Second Floor  
Albany, New York 12207

## Dr. Rick Dufour & Becky Dufour *Present*



## Professional Learning Communities at Work: *Bringing the Big Ideas to Life*

April 2 – 3, 2012

The Desmond Hotel  
& Conference Center  
Albany, NY



## Professional Learning Communities

**PROGRAM DATE** • April 2 – 3, 2012

**HOW TO REGISTER** • Mail or fax the completed form with payment to:

The Leadership for Educational Achievement Foundation, Inc.  
7 Elk Street, Third floor  
Albany, New York 12207  
Fax (518) 426-2229

**Tuition** • \$375 per person; \$350 per person for teams of four or more

Registrant Name(s)	Title	Fee
1 _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NYSASCD Member <input type="checkbox"/> Council Member		\$ _____
2 _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NYSASCD Member <input type="checkbox"/> Council Member		\$ _____
3 _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NYSASCD Member <input type="checkbox"/> Council Member		\$ _____
4 _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NYSASCD Member <input type="checkbox"/> Council Member		\$ _____
5 _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NYSASCD Member <input type="checkbox"/> Council Member		\$ _____

\*Provide additional registrant names/titles on a separate sheet if necessary.

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**Payment - Three easy ways to pay** • Please check one.

- Check or Money Order (payable to LEAF)  
 Purchase Order (include with registration form)  
 Please charge my credit card    Visa    Mastercard

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I agree to pay the total amount listed above.



## Professional Learning Communities at Work: Bringing the Big Ideas to Life

### Program Date/Information

Monday, April 2 & Tuesday, April 3, 2012

Registration & Continental Breakfast 8 am  
Program 9 am – 4 pm

The Desmond Hotel & Conference Center  
660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12211

### Tuition

The cost is \$375 per person; \$350 per person for teams of four or more. Includes two days of professional development, materials, breakfast and lunch each day. Accommodations are not included in the cost of tuition.

### For More Information

Please contact Vren Banks, Programs & Resource Development Associate, at 518-694-4875 or email [vren@nyscoss.org](mailto:vren@nyscoss.org).

### Who Should Attend

Plan to bring a team that can include superintendent, assistant superintendents, directors of curriculum, principals and teachers. Individual participants are also welcome to register.

### Overnight Accommodations

A room block has been set aside at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center at the rate of \$136 per room. Please call (518) 869-8100 or toll free at (800) 448-3500 and reference group ID # 11S99R under the Leadership for Educational Achievement Foundation/ASCD 2012 conference. Reservations must be made no later than March 11, 2012.



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**Dr. Rick DuFour, Ed.D.**, is one of the nation's foremost authorities on applying the principles of professional learning communities in the real world of schools. He draws upon 34 years of experience as a public school educator – teacher, principal, and superintendent – and his two decades as a leader of one of the most recognized and celebrated schools in America, Adlai Stevenson High School District 125 in Lincolnshire, Illinois. Dr. DuFour has authored 14 books, has published more than 80 articles on the Professional Learning Community concept, and served as a columnist for the *Journal of Staff Development* for nearly a decade. He has received numerous state and national awards for distinguished educational service and scholarship.



**Rebecca B. DuFour, M.Ed.**, has served as teacher, school administrator and central office coordinator. As a former elementary principal, Becky helped her school earn state and national recognition as a model Professional Learning Community. She is a featured principal in the Video Journal of Education's program, *Leadership in an Age of Standards and High Stakes* (2001), and a lead consultant/featured principal for Video Journal's *Elementary Principals as Leaders of Learning* (2003).

She is coauthor of several books including *Learning By Doing: A Handbook for Professional Learning Communities at Work* (2006) and co-editor of *On Common Ground: The Power of Professional Learning Communities* (2005). Becky has written for numerous professional journals and a quarterly column for the National Association of Elementary School Principals' Leadership Compass. Becky has served as a Journal of Staff Development book reviewer and has consulted with professional organizations, school districts, universities and state departments of education throughout North America.

### Cancellation Policy

THE COUNCIL and LEAF, Inc. work hard to accommodate the unpredictable nature of superintendent schedules while keeping high quality programs affordable. All cancellations must be made in writing and mailed, faxed (518-426-2229) or emailed ([karen@nyscoss.org](mailto:karen@nyscoss.org)) prior to the event. A \$75 cancellation fee will be charged on all cancellations received by (March 26, 2012), a \$100 cancellation fee will be charged on all cancellations received after (March 26, 2012) and there will be no refunds after the program start date. No shows will be charged. We regret we cannot accept telephone cancellations. Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing.