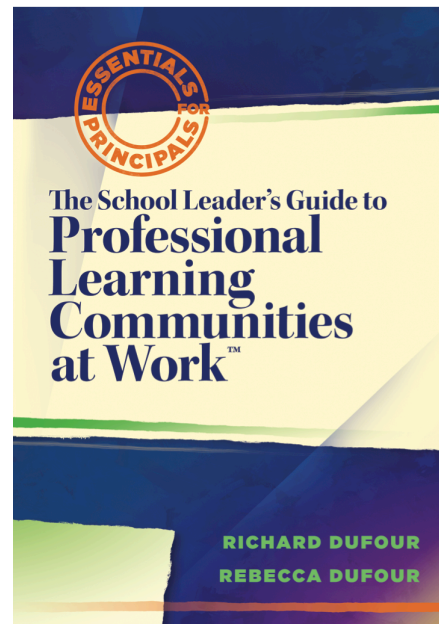


Essentials for Principals: The School Leader's Guide to Professional Learning Communities at Work

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Summary:

The School Leader's Guide to Professional Learning Communities at Work is based on three assumptions: a school's primary purpose is to ensure high levels of learning for all students, the most promising strategy for fulfilling this purpose is to develop a staff's capacity to collaborate as a PLC and the principal's role is to lead a collective effort to create a PLC through processes that promote adult learning. Richard DuFour and Rebecca DuFour provide specific, research-based and actionable steps principals can take to develop and lead a PLC, challenging leaders not to ask, "Will I make a difference?" but "What difference will I make?"

P-8 principals will learn how to:

- Build the foundation of a PLC, create school structures for collaboration, and transform groups into high-performing collaborative teams
- Focus on the right work and on results, monitor each student's learning through ongoing assessment and help teams improve individual and collective practice
- Respond to struggling learners through effective intervention, provide students with opportunities for enrichment and ensure high levels of learning for all
- Sustain school improvement, stay the course, and establish a culture where other school leaders can continue the PLC journey into the future

Supporting Resources:

- Leading by Design: An Action Framework for PLC at Work Leaders* (SOT3368)
- The Five Disciplines of PLC Leaders* (SOT1861)
- Learning by Doing: A Handbook for Professional Learning Communities at Work* (SOT7177)

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