# WHAT IS TEXAS LESSON STUDY?

Texas Lesson Study (TXLS) is inquiry-based, systematic professional development. Our program is:

- job-embedded,
- collaborative,
- closely connected to classroom practice,
- focused on student learning,
- directed toward the teaching of specific curriculum content, and
- complementary to Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

#### THE TXLS CYCLE



TXLS teams meet weekly as they progress through the 5 phases of the TXLS cycle.

Training and meeting schedules can be tailored to fit your campus needs.

ESCs are working in collaboration with TEA to support districts and campuses.

### **BENEFITS OF TEXAS LESSON STUDY**

#1

Improves teacher effectiveness through self-reflective, outcome-oriented, research-based learning communities

#2

Increases self-mastery and public perception of the teaching profession by producing high-quality research-based documents (similar to the medical and legal professions)

#3

Builds a massive repository of master lessons that have been delivered, dissected, and refined by teachers



This leads to improved student outcomes.

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What I like about Lesson Study is that it's targeted specifically to a group of teachers: for the content, for the skill development, for closing the gap—all things teachers need to help their students flourish and thrive.

-TXLS Principal

# **HOW IS TXLS DIFFERENT?**

Traditional PD	Lesson Study
Begins with an answer	Begins with a <b>question</b> developed by teachers
Driven by an outside "expert"	Driven by participants
Communication flow: trainer —> teachers	Communication flow: among teachers
Hierarchical relations between trainer & learners	Reciprocal relations among educators
Research informs practice	Practice is research



Goal 1—Recruiting, Supporting, and Retaining Teachers and Principals

The agency will improve educator pre-service and in-service training, and implement systems of continuous educator improvement, because teachers are the greatest asset in our school systems to improve student outcomes. (p.4)

Texas Lesson Study is listed as a specific action item to achieve this goal.

# **HOW DOES TXLS CONNECT TO T-TESS?**

Each T-TESS domain directly aligns with the phases of the Lesson Study Cycle. Below is a snapshot of the alignment.

1.2	Analysis of student data connected to specific instructional strategies and use of results to reflect on his or her teaching and to monitor teaching strategies and behaviors in relation to student success	<ul> <li>Determines "Points of Evaluation" in the lesson which connect to specific instructional strategies</li> <li>Reviews collected data to reflect and critically examine his or her practice</li> </ul>
2.2	Displays extensive content knowledge of all the subjects she or he teaches and closely related subjects	Researches key concepts underlying the topic, and considers content connections
2.2	Consistently anticipates possible student misunderstandings and proactively develops teaching techniques to mitigate concerns	Identifies anticipated student responses and misunderstandings, and proactively plans the research lesson to mitigate concerns
2.4	Consistently monitors the quality of student participation and performance	<ul> <li>Observes students during live teaching</li> <li>Collects qualitative data on the learning process</li> </ul>





