

# Professional Learning & Coaching Opportunity: Networked Improvement Community to Accelerate Learning and Recovery

## The Urgent Need

According to our Education Quality Standards, we share a **collective responsibility to ensure all students receive equitable, quality educational experiences**. Despite best efforts and energy, years of state assessment data reveal that many of our Vermont learners are not meeting the standards, and opportunity and achievement gaps persist. Further, COVID challenges have made it more **imperative to accelerate learning and recovery**.

## The Networked Improvement Community (NIC)

Different from a learning network, a NIC is a **rigorous, scientific, professional learning community, in which researchers, subject matter experts, and educators/leaders use improvement science principles, processes, and inquiry cycles** to collectively problem-solve toward common goals by testing, implementing, and accelerating the spread and scale of evidence-based solutions. Using **Continuous Improvement processes, this work will help participants connect and act on current legislative/policy initiatives, including Act 173, Act 28, Recovery, and Special Education priorities**.

The network operates around ongoing Convenings and Action Periods. During Convenings, members engage in **direct collaboration, professional learning, data review, reflection, and coaching** with researchers/experts. During interim **Action Period Inquiry Cycles**, participants implement practices and collect data about student learning to share during network convenings. Participants will receive between 20-50 **professional development credit** hours with potential options for graduate credit.

## Register

Register for [this informational webinar](#) to join us, either August 17 or August 31 from 10-10:30, to learn how to get your school teams involved! There is **NO COST** to participants to engage in this rich professional learning opportunity.

## Testimonials

What current participants are saying about their experiences in the Early Learning Networked Improvement Community (ELNIC)

“Being part of ELNIC was just what our district needed. It has transformed instruction and student outcomes have drastically improved. Dr. Nell Duke has the unique ability to translate the current research in the field of literacy, in a way that is clear and practical and immediately actionable.”

“Dr. Nell Duke provided meaningful, relevant, and reliable research-based instructional practices for our district to implement. Thank you for letting us be a part of ELNIC.”

“The deliberate process of identifying and implementing a small change idea with support and follow up was very useful to my practice. The ability to get input from others like Doug Clements and Julie Sarama was valuable.”

“Homing in on number talks and thinking about how best to move students forward was career changing for me. I have a way that I can start out my year and hope to move students' thinking toward strategies to compute. Thank you!”