SAS Professional Learning Communities: Guidelines for Members

SAS Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are collaborative learning environments for educators in which they can reflect on practice with colleagues; share expertise and resources; and build a common understanding of instructional approaches, standards, and curriculum.

Members should be proactively engaged in communities to foster collegiality and professional practice. Members must agree to follow the guidelines listed below:

- **Search before posting:** Before posting a question, comment, or creating a new topic, search for existing discussions on the subject you are posting about.

- **Be specific and to the point:** Summarize your post in the title. Keep comments brief and make sure that the post is directly relevant to the forum and topic. Use paragraphs and bulleted lists to break up longer passages of text.

- **Maintain professionalism:** Respect people as individuals by keeping the tone positive and comments constructive. Active discussion and debate is encouraged, disrespect; harassment or other inappropriate conduct is not tolerated.

- **Respect privacy:** Do not post anyone's personal information, including name, address, phone number, email address, etc.

- **Observe copyright laws:** Do not post commercially licensed materials or anything that violates any patent, copyright, or trademark without express permission from the third party. Refrain from promoting or advertising any products or services. Please see the SAS Portal [Terms of Use](#) for further guidance.

- **Visit frequently:** The vitality of a professional learning community depends upon active participation from members. Be sure to visit the community 2-3 times per week, and post regularly.

PLC moderators will monitor content posted by community members and will prohibit content that can detract from the experience of other members or the purposes of the community. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and moderators retain the right to remove material that does not comply with usage guidelines or is otherwise inappropriate, harmful, objectionable, or inaccurate.

If a post appears questionable, members should alert the moderator by checking the box within the posting that reads *"This is an inappropriate posting."* If you have any issues with another member of the community, please contact the moderator or the SAS Portal Help Desk at helpdesk@pdesas.org, or toll free at 1-877-973- 3727.