

Your Aha! Network is Now Available

District 49 is focused on becoming [the best district to learn, work and lead](#). Please see the below special message below, describing a new network for educators preparing students to achieve like never before.

Dustin Senger, Acting Public Information Officer

This message sent by District 49's communications team. Subscribing or unsubscribing will not affect messages sent from schools, or the emergency FlashAlert system.



A Better Way to Connect, Collaborate, Inspire

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our Aha! Network at ahanet.org. This online hub for professional learning has been a vision for the past couple of years. As our district transitioned to zones and continued to grow in population and area, we collected feedback from teachers and leaders across our district. They've been providing great ideas on ways to better connect, collaborate and inspire one another. We know these are commonly shared interests for professional development.

The Aha! Network supports our goal of being the best district to learn, work and lead in several ways. You are invited to join the network by posting your "aha!" moments, as a way to share your experiences and expertise with your colleagues. You will find a variety of blogs related to instructional practices, leadership development and individualized education. Your new educator resource site also contains articles for professional growth, videos of best practices and opportunities for training in online, offline and blended environments that fit your busy schedule.

From today on, District 49 will offer all professional development resources at



<http://www.ahanet.org>

"As I progressed as an educator and began learning from the experience of other teachers, discovering possible solutions to my professional struggles, I began to embrace the idea of life long learning. Not as cliché, but as essential to my growth as a teacher and colleague. The need for professional development, learning from experts in the field, is immeasurable. The Aha! Network dispels the idea that well-renowned trainers must be contracted in to improve the personal and professional practices of teachers. Aha! Network leverages the expertise of local specialists, providing a valuable resource through relevant, realistic opportunities.

– Joshua Sieczkowski, English Teacher

"Teachers appreciate timely and relevant

ahanet.org. You'll now find this link at D49.org under the "Staff Resources" dropdown menu. The Aha! Network website is your new destination for links to ERO, Schoology and similar sites.

We are excited to announce this initiative and invite you to collaborate with your friends, colleagues and peers in the Aha! Network. We are open to your feedback and input as we continue to develop this network.

We also look forward to sharing with you information about our official launch of the Aha! Network with District 49 parents and other stakeholders.

Amber Dawn Whetstine
Executive Director of Learning Services

professional development. The Aha! Network will provide our teachers an opportunity to learn from each other across zones by sharing ideas and best practices happening daily in our schools."

– Lori Maher, Instructional Coach

"With the scarcity of time and money in education, teacher professional development and collaboration time is becoming more and more difficult to schedule. Professional development is often dictated by the calendar and scheduled weeks or months before or after an individual teacher may actually need it. The Aha! Network will give teachers and opportunity to collaborate when it works for them and they will have real-time access to the professional development that they need and want."

– Cheryl DeGeorge, Principal

Join us on social media

