Drive Effectiveness with Teacher Professional Development

If your school is like most, professional development for your teachers is a critical success factor. Ongoing, skills-focused professional development drives teacher effectiveness. Today, that training must include how to use the online classroom effectively, whether your program is fully virtual or blended.

Blackboard Collaborate can help you prepare your teachers to teach today’s active learners with the learning technologies and media they already embrace. Ensure consistency and continuity to build expertise in academic standards, like Common Core. And online professional development will eliminate travel and related expenses, while keeping your teachers in the classroom.

Extend the Brick-and-Mortar Classroom with Blended Learning

Today, many schools are supplementing face-to-face learning with a virtual component. Blackboard Collaborate enables schools to connect onsite and online students from across town, across the state, or on the other side of the world. Wherever they are, students can easily access engaging, interactive sessions via desktop, laptop, or mobile device.

Schools can leverage instructors and offer specialized subjects, like advanced placement or credit recovery. Teachers can bring in remote experts, reach out to parents, provide virtual office hours, and record content for students who miss a class. To facilitate the current flipped classroom model of learning, teachers can easily create recorded lectures for at-home viewing by the student.

Go Virtual with Equal Opportunity Learning

For completely online schools, Blackboard Collaborate enables real-time engagement that replicates the interaction of a physical classroom—with the same outcomes. Blackboard Collaborate enables virtual schools to reach students who need a less-traditional setting with flexible, individualized learning, whether they are gifted, travel extensively, or have an illness or disability.

With Blackboard Collaborate, schools can deliver a broad range of learning options to today’s active learners on their computers, mobile phones, or tablets—anywhere, anytime. And along with classes, schools can offer extra-curricular activities like clubs, virtual open houses, student orientation, school-wide assemblies, parent-teacher conferences, career fairs, and summer school.
Built for Education from the Ground Up

With more collaboration choices for everyone, Blackboard Collaborate meets the expansive needs of today’s educators and students with a comprehensive set of teaching and learning capabilities.

Blackboard Collaborate Web Conferencing

Blackboard Collaborate goes well beyond traditional web conferencing and instant messaging to meet the expansive collaboration needs of today’s educators and learners. Our web conferencing capabilities enable your school to support virtual classroom teaching, blended learning, meetings, webinars, professional development, and more.

Collaborate has allowed me to step out of the traditional classroom setting and approach students with the same information in a different way. Students love the flexibility of reviewing for a test from home while using an electronic device. They feel more comfortable asking questions and participating in these sessions than in the classroom. Students have the privacy of asking questions seen only by the moderator, but they can also confirm publicly their understanding by using the tools such as the green check mark. The use of Collaborate has given me the opportunity to expand my classroom outside of school walls, enhance student learning of mathematics, and allow students to enjoy the benefits of technology.

Cassie Lythgoe
7th Grade Math Teacher
Tabb Middle School

Teachers and students can interact using robust features, such as an object-oriented whiteboard, multipoint video, breakout rooms, surveys, polling, and application and desktop sharing. Plus, teachers can develop lesson plans and create reusable course content to ensure standardized delivery across district or state.

Blackboard Collaborate Mobile Collaboration

Today’s active learners expect access to education opportunities wherever and whenever they want. Collaborate mobile web conferencing provides access for anyone, anywhere, and on any LMS. Teachers can participate in professional development and access recording archives from a mobile device.

With Blackboard Collaborate mobile capabilities, participants can easily join a live web conference to view class content, communicate via chat and audio, and interact in many ways—answering poll questions, raising hands, joining a breakout session—to replicate the physical classroom experience. Plus, participants can access session recordings in industry-standard formats on any mobile device, providing even more options for mobile learning.

Blackboard Collaborate Enterprise Instant Messaging

With enterprise instant messaging, your school can create an education network to support office hours, informal ad hoc meetings, and teacher networking—all initiated through presence and instant messaging. With Blackboard Collaborate, you can give teachers and students the ability to see who from their learning network is available to quickly work together and solve problems using audio, video, chat, application sharing, or whiteboard.
Blackboard Collaborate Voice Authoring

Make the learning process more interesting and engaging by adding a human, personal touch, even when interaction is not live. With voice authoring, teachers can add voice instructions, annotation, and commentary to course pages as well as personalized coaching, feedback, and assessments to online courses delivered through your LMS.

Threaded voice discussion boards enable online learners to add vocal comments, ask for clarification, and raise new points, making asynchronous, self-paced learning more engaging and interactive. Podcasting enables teachers to easily create instant lectures and notes for their students, and voice recordings allow teachers to leave thoughtful, quick feedback to students.

Integrating with Your LMS for a Seamless Experience

Blackboard Collaborate integrates with leading learning management systems, like Blackboard Learn and Moodle, so you can add real-time engagement while reducing the overhead and inconvenience of working with different systems. To provide even more support for your technology choices, Blackboard Collaborate also provides an LTI (Learning Tools Interoperability) integration and a standard set of Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for custom integrations.

WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE

- Online professional development
- Professional learning communities
- Extended learning, flipped classrooms
- Mentoring, tutoring
- Leadership development
- Common Core training
- New technology training
- Administrative meetings
- Virtual library resources
- Foreign language programs

Maximizing Benefits with Professional Services

To achieve the full benefits of a collaboration solution, schools must think strategically about deployment, adoption, and usage. Our experienced, on-staff consultants will work closely with you to determine your academic and administrative goals and help build the pathways to meet them.

- **Implementation Services** help maximize investment and improve learning outcomes with solutions that incorporate mentorship, education, and knowledge management.
- **Technical Services** provide tailored solutions that include architecting and implementing an integrated Blackboard Collaborate solution.
- **Learning Services** help clients deliver more engaging online learning through online or onsite workshops, asynchronous learning, user guides, and certification programs.
Blackboard Collaborate is a very powerful and versatile tool that is used for the Virtual High School program and blended learning. Our teachers have used Collaborate to host various “live” sessions with guest speakers, join other classrooms, and extend the instruction beyond the walls of the classroom. Teachers enjoy bringing lessons to life with this type of multimedia instruction.

Reginald Fox
Coordinator of Online Learning and Principal
YCSD Virtual High School

Blackboard Collaborate: Built for Education in the 21st Century

In today’s world, technology that promotes engaging and interactive learning is essential to K-12 institutions. Recognizing the role that technology plays in driving change, Blackboard Collaborate designed and built a platform to help deliver the engaging, vibrant, and personal learning that the 21st century demands.

Unlike products built for informational meetings, Blackboard Collaborate was designed specifically for education. It incorporates the capabilities that matter to K-12 educators, capabilities that promote two-way interaction and engagement, provide mobility for students, remove barriers to accessibility for all learners, and offer seamless access to learning through LMS integration.

For more information
Visit bbcollaborate.com, email collaboratesales@blackboard.com, or try Blackboard Collaborate FREE for 30 days at bbcollaborate.com/try

HOW BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE CAN HELP

ENGAGE STUDENTS
• Increased student satisfaction
• More learner-to-learner, class-to-class collaboration
• Improved access to help and expertise

REDUCE COSTS
• Efficient meetings and events
• Effective professional development
• Savings on travel and related expenses

IMPROVE OUTCOMES
• Improved student retention
• Increased course completion rates
• Improved exam scores and grades

EXPAND ACCESS
• Expanded reach outside physical classroom
• Virtual classes and seminar offerings
• Increased capacity for enrollments