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Newsletter



**Rebecca Lindgren,**  
**Senior Communications**  
**Strategist**

Greetings!

The Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) West helps bridge education research and practice by partnering with state and local education leaders to build their capacity to make evidence-informed changes that improve student outcomes. This work is done through three main activities:

1. Applied Research
2. Training, Coaching, and Technical Support (TCTS)
3. Dissemination

Dissemination is a critical piece of REL West's work. It is where we provide information to enable education leaders to identify ways to apply research to high-leverage issues of policy and practice. Our priority is to disseminate the results of REL West's work in a way that policymakers and educators can leverage and apply it to their local context.

As the Dissemination Lead for REL West, I work with partners (both inside and outside of the REL) to craft tailored messages and communication strategies to reach specific audiences. Our work is designed to provide engaging experiences that reach new and existing audiences. Our goal is also to support our partnerships with communication strategies as they deliver on the outcomes stated in their logic models.

We utilize several communication strategies including maintaining a social media presence to share links to our resources, populating a blog with stories about our work and its impact, producing videos that highlight projects being done with partners, and developing infographics and handouts that communicate information visually that is strategically aligned to REL West's work.

It is also a priority to understand how our dissemination materials are being used and how they are reaching our intended audiences. Through all our dissemination work, we are identifying the right people, at the right time, and the right framing to support the intended outcomes for each partnership.

To that end, we encourage you to assist us in our dissemination efforts by sharing this newsletter with friends and colleagues, following us on social media at @REL\_West (X Twitter handle), and visiting our website regularly to read our blog and access our other resources. We also request that you share with us how you are using our materials and how we can provide additional resources that are relevant to your work. We can be reached at [relwest@wested.org](mailto:relwest@wested.org).

In this newsletter, you will learn more about some of our recent dissemination work. To explore more about our partnerships and the associated projects within each partnership, please visit <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/rel/region/about/west>.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lindgren  
Senior Communications Strategist

### Spotlight on REL West Strategic Dissemination Efforts –

The following are examples of REL West dissemination products that are available at the links below.

[Designing a Professional Learning Community Around Math Instruction](#)

Designing a Professional Learning Community Around Math Instruction

This REL West video provides an overview of a technical support project conducted with Lyon County School District in southern Nevada to help the district design and implement a professional learning community around math instruction. The video features interviews with REL West staff, Lyon County district leadership, and staff from the Northwest Regional Professional Development Program in Nevada.

### Blog

[Planting Seeds for Joyful Literacy Practices in Early Childhood Settings](#)

Educators everywhere are asking: How can we infuse more joy in teaching and learning? The REL West *Partnership for Joyful Literacy in PreK–1st Grade*, in collaboration with the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE), is responding to this need with educator-friendly tools and events to introduce evidence-based—and joyful—practices in early literacy.

### Webinar

[Defining and Measuring Progress: Aligning Data and Measures to Outputs and Outcomes of Logic Models](#)

Defining and Measuring Progress: Aligning Data and Measures to Outputs and Outcomes of Logic Models

In this webinar, REL West hosted a discussion on how to align data in the development of a logic model. The presentation was based on work that REL West has done with the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) in helping them develop a logic model and aligned measurement process for their Head Start program.

### Infographic

[Aligning Data and Measures to Outputs and Outcomes of the Logic Model](#)

Logic models are helpful tools for explaining educational programs or initiatives and their intended impacts. While plentiful guidance exists on how to construct a logic model, less information exists on how to identify data and measures that align with the components in a logic model. This resource aims to help state-, district-, and school-level educators and staff use logic models to guide data collection efforts to determine progress toward measuring outputs and short-, medium-, and long-term outcomes.

We encourage you to bookmark the REL West site and check back regularly for new resources.

- **Learn More About the RELs** – IES has recently featured the work of the Regional Educational Laboratory program in a blog series called “RELs Make a Difference.” Click here to read the most recent blog in the series [Data-Driven Decision-Making in Education: How REL Work Makes a Difference](#). This blog features work from three RELs that illustrate how data-driven decisionmaking can be a critical tool to address resource disparities, enhance student success, and promote equitable outcomes.
- [3 Ways Educators Can Use Artificial Intelligence](#) – an EdTech interview with the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences.

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## Contact Us

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about our work. [Follow us on X](#), formerly known as Twitter, for daily updates on REL West projects and resources. Please share your feedback and ideas at [relwest@wested.org](mailto:relwest@wested.org).

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