**IEA Awesome Podcast**

**Episode 25 – Ed Leaders Network**

00:00 KELSEY: Welcome to the Awesome IEA Podcast brought to you by the Illinois Education Association.

00:06 DIANA: The podcast for curious well-informed Association members.

00:09 KELSEY: I’m one of your hosts, Kelsey Harms, a Computer Specialist from the IEA Program Development Department.

00:14 DIANA: And I’m Diana Zaleski, one of your Instructional Resource and Professional Development Directors from IEA Teaching and Learning.

00:21 KELSEY: The goal of this podcast is to educate our members about important new educational policy initiatives in a brief and hopefully entertaining format.

00:29 DIANA: Today we are going to discuss a new professional development collaboration that we have with the Illinois Principals Association called Ed Leaders Network.

00:37 KELSEY: Diana, oh my gosh, Happy New Year!

00:40 DIANA: Happy New Year!

00:41 KELSEY: So, I know that some of our members have resolved to get their PD on in 2020 and I hear we have an interesting new opportunity for them to learn about. Diana, can you share a little bit more about why we are partnering with Illinois Principals Association?

00:55 DIANA: So, we’re partnering with the Illinois Principals Association because they have developed this fabulous online learning platform called the Ed Leaders Network and it’s funded by the Illinois State Board of Education so that means it’s open to everybody and so we want to make sure IEA has high quality trainings available on that site as well because we know that many of you are being asked to go to the Ed Leaders Network to do you state-mandated trainings. While you’re there, we also want to have other opportunities for you to get clock hours in a convenient way.

01:27 KELSEY: This sounds like an excellent opportunity. What other professional development does the ELN offer?

01:33 DIANA: The ELN offers training on a wide variety of topics related to teaching and learning, curriculum and instruction, as well as educational policy. IEA has partnered with IPA to create courses specifically geared towards our members’ interests.

01:49 KELSEY: I know you have been the subject matter expert for some of those courses. Can you tell us more about some of those courses that can be found on ELN?

01:57 So far we have developed seven courses in collaboration with the IPA. Topics include understanding adverse childhood experiences, mindset, Illinois Senate Bill 100 and student discipline, increasing student attendance and engagement, and an introduction to cultural competency. Our two most recent courses that we are working on now include understanding chronic absenteeism and measuring student growth.

02:22 KELSEY: Those course topics sound amazing. Will we continue to develop more courses for the ELN?

02:27 DIANA: We definitely have plans to continue to develop more courses, so keep checking back for new content on a regular basis and let us know if you have any ideas for courses that you need.

02:37 KELSEY: That’s phenomenal. How do our members access the ELN?

02:41 DIANA: Many of our members already have access to the ELN. However, if you do not, all you need to do is talk to your building principal or request access directly from the Illinois Principals Association. We will include the webpage and contact information on our podcast page.

02:59 KELSEY: Diana, that is phenomenal. Are there any other professional development opportunities you’d like to make sure our members are aware of?

03:06 DIANA: So, we also have new professional development opportunities and we advertise those regularly in that member newsletter so make sure that you always open our emails that have those member newsletters because there’s a lot of important professional development information in those newsletters.

03:20 But, coming up this month we have a great workshop about selfcare for educators and it’s with Ian Jorgensen who is a fabulous yoga, Pilates, and Alexander Technique instructor and he’s going to talk about how to take care of your body in the classroom, releasing unnecessary stress and tension so you can feel good and be well.

03:45 So, we’re really looking forward to that. That is going to be on Saturday, January 25th in our Bloomington IEA office and we’re going to go ahead and attached this flier to the podcast page as well.

03:57 KELSEY: That sounds like an awesome opportunity for some our members, they might really be getting into the planning and organizing piece for their resolutions. Do you have any professional development coming up this summer? Or, interesting topics that you’d like to get us excited?

04:13 DIANA: Educator wellness is going to be a theme for this year. So, we’re going to develop lots of new exciting professional development opportunities around educator wellness starting this summer as well. So, make sure to read that member newsletter. That is where we’re going to advertise that information.

04:28 Also, this summer we are going to continue to offer our trainings on restorative practices. We will offer online and in-person opportunities for those restorative practices trainings. And, we will also offer a train the trainer opportunity for restorative practices. So, if you’re interested in that, also keep a look out for that in the member newsletter. We will be advertising that information soon.

04:50 KELSEY: Thank you so much for sharing opportunities for our members to get their professional development hours in. If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, please check out the contact section on the Podcast page on the IEA Website.

05:04 DIANA: Special thanks to Mark for the audio help, Amanda for the transcription, and Dan for the website. As always, thank you so much for being a member, and thanks for joining us!

05:12 End

<https://edleadersnetwork.org/subscribe/illinois/>

[Selfcare for Educators workshop Jan 25 Bloomington flier](https://newsyoucanuse.ieanea.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Self-Care-for-Educators-Flier-10-28-2019.pdf)