

OPPORTUNITY CULTURE MODEL

Public Impact

The Opportunity Culture staffing model organizes teachers into teams led by excellent teachers and supports pay increases within the current school budget in order to extend the reach of great instruction to more students.

OVERVIEW

Public Impact's Opportunity Culture initiative aims to provide more students with consistently excellent teaching by extending the reach of high-quality teachers. The model takes existing school staff and redistributes roles and responsibilities to leverage talent in ways that boost student learning and educator satisfaction. Multi-classroom

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leaders are excellent teachers who lead a team of about six teachers. With additional support and more specialized staff, teachers collaborate on instructional planning, share best practices around rigorous and personalized learning, participate in just-right professional development sessions, and engage in more small-group tutoring than in typical schools. In some variants, teachers on these teams also extend their reach and earn more. This model ensures that teachers have access to more effective learning strategies and students receive consistently high-quality instruction.

Public Impact partners with K–12 schools and districts to support the restructuring of school design and operations to make this model work. Currently implemented across more than 10 states and 50 districts nationwide, Opportunity Culture has shown to provide approximately one-half year of extra learning in reading and math. ▶ Opportunity Culture Overview



What Makes This Model Innovative?



Connection & Community

A positive, collaborative adult culture is at the heart of Opportunity Culture's model. Teachers join teams to co-plan, colead, and codesign with excellent master teachers—in this model, everyone works toward excellence.



Rigorous Learning

Opportunity Culture's mission is to improve student learning through high-quality teaching. This can only be achieved when students are appropriately challenged by their curriculum, receive more personalized content, and have happy and well-trained instructors.



Customization

Opportunity Culture's principles support customization to fit schools' unique needs.
School-based design teams make context-specific decisions around schedules, budgets, and instructional priorities that leverage the expertise of its existing or new teaching staff.

DESIGN

Goals

The Opportunity Culture initiative aims to reach 75% of students and elevate learning to at least the 75th percentile of achievement while ensuring all educators are satisfied or highly satisfied with their roles and responsibilities. Opportunity Culture Goals and Principles

Achievement X	Students improve their achievement in core subjects by engaging in teaching and learning that is rigorous and culturally relevant.
	Students' social-emotional needs are more readily supported through individualized attention from specialized staff members.
Highly Satisfied Educators	Teachers and staff are adequately compensated, have access to career growth opportunities, and receive more relevant professional development—all of which contribute to higher levels of satisfaction.

Experience

Opportunity Culture has designed a suite of staffing configurations and development opportunities for schools, and at its core is the Multi-Classroom Leader. Additional elements, including Team Reach, Paid Residencies, and Multi-School Leadership, are optional and schools can offer them as needed in order to address specific staffing needs. While a comprehensive implementation of Opportunity Culture includes *all elements*, schools first prioritize the center of Opportunity Culture's design.

Complete Opportunity Culture Elements



Multi-Classroom Leadership

The Multi-Classroom Leader (MCL) is at the core of Opportunity Culture's staffing design. MCLs are teacher leaders who lead small teams averaging five to six teachers and closely guide and coach all members of a collaborative grade or subject team while also teaching for part of the day.

MCLs are teachers with a track record of high-growth student learning who are paid more for their leadership and instructional coaching. Some of their key roles and responsibilities include:

- Leading professional development and instructional coaching for their team.
- Coleading lesson planning, data analysis, and instructional changes.
- Modeling teaching techniques and often co-teaching with more novice teachers.
- Establishing each team member's roles and goals at least annually, as well as organizing teaching roles to fit each teacher's strengths, content knowledge, and professional development goals.

Multi-Classroom Leadership for Pre-K-12 Opportunity Culture in Early Childhood Education

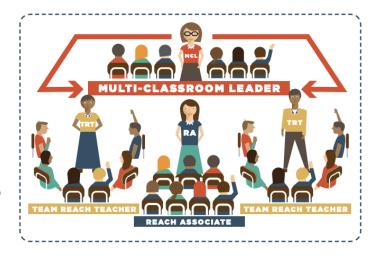
An MCL may also be remotely located and virtually lead a team whose members are co-located or spread among several schools. Remotely-Located MCL

Multi-Classroom Leadership + Team Reach

Opportunity Culture offers MCL + Team Reach when schools want to reach more students with the available teachers they have and increase teacher collaboration, pay, and career advancement opportunities. Better Together:

Combining Multi-Classroom Leadership with Team Reach

MCL + Team Reach allows team teachers to reach more students than typical by rotating students through learning modalities or groupings during a class



period. The Team Reach structure leverages additional, specialized staffing positions such as paraprofessionals, teacher residents, reach associates, and master team reach teachers, who support by running small-group rotations and further personalizing instruction.

Team reach teachers (TRTs) can take on different roles and leverage various learning modalities to better reach more students. Key responsibilities and roles include:

- Planning and delivering instruction for small-group tutoring and whole-group instruction.
- Planning how to leverage additional staff such as advanced paraprofessionals known as reach associates, who can supervise projects and skills practice, offline or digitally, and may tutor individuals or small groups.
- Strategically dividing classes into manageable sizes to deliver learning modalities that best suit their students' needs.
- Schedules require time for individual planning, team planning and development with the MCL, monitoring student progress, grading, and improving instructional plans.

Multi-Classroom Leadership + Team Reach in Elementary School

Multi-Classroom
Leadership + Team Reach in Secondary School

Paid Residencies

Opportunity Culture models allow schools to offer paid, yearlong teacher and principal residencies within regular school budgets in collaboration with nearby colleges, universities, and other accredited program providers.

Teacher Residencies in an Opportunity Culture

Residencies ensure that prospective teachers learn elements of instructional excellence while on the job, attract an outstanding and more diverse pipeline of teacher candidates, and provide the district's students with strong learning experiences from new teachers.

 Residents pay the usual provider tuition and fees, which are offset by their district-paid salaries

- Residents participate in experiences aligned for rapid and purposeful development.
- Coursework is focused on academic knowledge of key topics, such as student development, pedagogy, and subject content.
- Residents receive on-the-job support on instruction from a multi-classroom leader.

Paid Teacher and Principal Residencies Summary Teacher Residency Job Description

Multi-School Leadership

Multi-school leaders (MSLs) are excellent principals with a record of high-growth student learning who lead a small group of two to eight related or closely located schools for more pay, funded within the budgets of their schools. Offering MSLs in a district helps build a strong pipeline of excellent instructional leaders, as well as provides advancement opportunities for excellent principals and supports their retention. Across schools, MSLs extend their excellent leadership to more teachers while support principals and teachers continuously improve their leadership and instruction. Multi-School Leadership Summary Multi-School Leadership Description

The key responsibilities of a multi-school leader include:

- Leading a small, collaborative group of two to eight related or closely located schools.
- Guiding each school's top instructional leader in key elements of instructional and administrative leadership.
- Continuing to lead one school in the group directly.
- Leading data review sessions for each school.
- Supporting in creating plans to identify the best instructional, behavioral, and operational approaches to achieve student success.
- Observing and giving feedback, coaching, and leading performance data analysis and problem-solving throughout the multi-school team.
- Being accountable for the student outcomes at each of their team schools, their leaders, and teachers.

Multi-School Leadership combines with MCLs to create a career advancement path with multiple levels, all focused on instructional excellence and frequent guidance and support for teachers and principals. Multi-School Leadership Slide Deck Multi-School Leadership Critical Design Decisions



Supporting Structures

Below you will find both required and suggested supports that will help make the most of this model in your learning environment.

Instruction requires a curriculum that is aligned to rigorous standards and prioritizes subject matter content and skills, leverages interim assessments, and offers opportunity for personalization.



Though Opportunity Culture teachers can implement learning modalities and instructional strategies differently across schools and contexts, the model relies on content-rich and culturally relevant lessons that are aligned to rigorous learning objectives. Recommended High-Quality Curriculum

CURRICULUM,
INSTRUCTION &
ASSESSMENT

Teachers are encouraged to strategically leverage technology-enabled learning platforms and engage in small-group tutoring to support all students. MCLs help teachers use differentiated lesson plans that provide frequent opportunities for teachers to reteach or provide accelerated learning paths for their students. Instructional Excellence Summery Students set personal learning goals and track their own progress through frequent diagnostic assessments and informal assessments such as checks for understanding and exit tickets. Executing Rigor and Personalization

Teachers must leverage positive student engagement practices—these build trust with students and families and aim to cultivate an environment where learning and respect are paramount.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY & CULTURE Examples of these practices include leading informal morning meetings where students share highs and lows, get to know each other, and receive support from their teachers. Teachers also leverage interest surveys where students get to share what they would like the teacher to know about them at the beginning of the year. A common approach is a "fresh start each day" mentality where no one carries over unproductive feelings from the day before, and instead students are received with a warm welcome every day.

To achieve this, teachers must maintain open lines of communication with parents, build trust by following through on actions, no matter how small, and celebrate achievements with the entire learning community.

Schools must clearly distribute roles and responsibilities across staff in order to more effectively collaborate, extend best practices across classrooms, and ensure that every teacher feels supported.

Each school creates a design team of teachers and leaders that make decisions about what roles, staffing, and scheduling will suit its school's needs. This team designs teacher teams, the master schedules, pay supplements, and a communications plan to share with relevant stakeholders. Opportunity Culture's Recruitment Toolkit Teacher and Staff Selection Toolkit



Scheduled, weekly common planning meetings and individual coaching and feedback time focus on the specific needs of each team of teachers. Led by MCLs, teachers are supported in lesson planning, instructional techniques, data review, leading small groups, and much more.

ADULT ROLES, HIRING, & LEARNING

Team Reach is often supported by additional and more specialized staff, such as paraprofessionals known as reach associates or teaching assistants. Reach associates are a key part of MCL teams who play a variety of roles, but the core is providing instructional support through tutoring small groups, supporting students on skills practice and other assignments, and providing release time for MCLs. Teams may also include yearlong, paid teacher residents, embedded in existing reach associate roles. Reach Associate Job Description

For schools who leverage supplemental staff, Opportunity Culture can help design paid residency programs to attract an outstanding, diverse pipeline of teacher candidates and ensure prospective teachers are learning instructional strategies in order to provide students with excellent teaching.

Teacher Residencies in an Opportunity Culture

A school's master schedule must shift to accommodate each staff members' key role and responsibilities.



Opportunity Culture supports school-based design teams to develop schedules that are just right for them. Though tailored to the needs of each school, schedules with Opportunity Culture have a few required features. They include consistent common planning meetings that are built into the school day, offer ample time for MCLs to work independently and with their school leaders, and carefully take into consideration when Team Reach teachers can extend their instruction to more students.

 MCLs have specific schedules where they both lead and teach for part of the day. MCLs must meet with principals, meet with their

SCHEDULE & USE OF TIME

- team of teachers, spend time in their team teachers' classrooms, and still have time to plan and execute their lessons. <u>Sample MCL</u>
 <u>Schedule Multi-School Leader Schedule Specifications</u>
- Team Reach teachers' schedules must provide adequate time for reaching more students through whole-group and small-group instruction, individual and collaborative planning time, and weekly coaching and feedback sessions with the MCL. Multi-Classroom Leadership + Team Reach Elementary Schedule Example
 Multi-Classroom Leadership + Team Reach Secondary Schedule Example

Explore additional scheduling resources made by Opportunity Culture when they pivoted to at-home learning. Multi-Classroom Leadership + Team Reach Schedule Example for At-Home Learning



Schools should provide support on using technology or new digital platforms when connecting teams across schools and/or districts.

TECHNOLOGY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Opportunity Culture's online portal digitally connects participating team members to one another and offers one place to safely house student data, resources, and information. This platform supports providing feedback, uploading recordings for observations, eases collection of data for synthesis and analysis, and provides teachers with resources and other relevant information.

Schools must rework their existing budgets to account for new team and teacher-leadership salaries.



Opportunity Culture works with schools and their design teams to allocate existing funds *differently* to support new teaching or principal roles for the long term, instead of relying solely on supplementary funds or onetime incentives.

BUDGET & OPERATIONS

That may mean, for example, using the funds from an unfilled vacant classroom teaching position on a team to pay for a reach associate (who earns a teacher assistant salary plus a stipend), the MCL's stipend, and stipends for the remaining team teachers. Depending on the budget, Opportunity Culture schools frequently pay multi-classroom leaders about 20% more than the average teacher, often more. In districts, multi-school leaders remain as a principal of a school to receive base pay and participating schools each transform one assistant principal role into a lower-paid operations manager to supplement the pay for the MSL position.

IMPLEMENTATION

Supports Offered

<u>Opportunity Culture</u> offers the following resources and supports to help you implement their approach.

Professional Learning Programming for Educators

Cost Associated



Opportunity Culture offers a professional learning program for participating educators. Sessions prepare educators to leverage research-based practices and deliver rigorous content to students through their new roles. Sessions are grounded in adult learning principles and participants engage in group reflections, collaboration, and problem-solving to learn from one another.

- Opportunity Culture offers three years of programming to participating educators.
- Sessions are differentiated based on roles and can be virtual or in person, and are offered at different times during the year to accommodate many schedules.
- Sessions have built-in time to collaborate and share expertise and resources with educators from across the country.

Registration for Opportunity Culture's national professional learning program is limited to individuals in Opportunity Culture roles. Pricing Information

Learn More

Comprehensive Implementation Support for Districts, Cohorts, CMOs

Cost Associated





Opportunity Culture offers support for districts in the implementation of this new staffing structure across multiple schools. Services range from the highly facilitated Intensive Co-Design process to the more streamlined and lower cost Focused Co-Design, with a set of technology-enabled Self-Driven offerings coming in fall 2023. These services include but are not limited to:

- Design of career path and compensation structures
- Design of team structure and schedules for each school
- Support in reallocating funding so that models are sustainable
- Site visits and feedback
- Analysis of outcomes and results
- Professional development and training for teachers and relevant staff
- Recruitment and selection supports
- Virtual planning and communications support

Express Interest

Reach

800+ 5,400+ 150,000+ 11

Schools

Teachers

Students

States

Impact

Schools implementing Opportunity Culture's model show positive learning outcomes in reading and math for students as well as increased collaborative experiences and retention rates for teachers. Explore Opportunity Culture's impact data in more detail: Backes and Hansen, 2018 and Wiseman, Gottlieb & Kirksey, 2021.

Students with teachers who participate in MCL teams tend to experience extra learning instruction in reading and in math.

- Students in schools implementing MCL teacher teams received an extra 0.2 to 0.8 years of learning in reading (Backes and Hansen, 2018; Wiseman, Gottlieb & Kirksey, 2021).
- Students in schools implementing MCL teacher teams received an extra 0.3 to 0.7 years
 of learning in math (Backes and Hansen, 2018; Wiseman, Gottlieb & Kirksey, 2021).

Teachers who participated in MCL teams tend to improve their student learning in math and reading.

- Teachers who joined Opportunity Culture multi-classroom leaders' teams **moved from producing 50th percentile student learning growth to 77th percentile** student learning growth across two years (Backes and Hansen, 2018; Wiseman, Gottlieb & Kirksey, 2021).
- After joining the teams, teachers produced learning gains equivalent to those of teachers in the 75th to 85th percentiles in math (Backes and Hansen, 2018).
- After joining the teams, teachers in seven schools with statistically significant results produced learning gains equivalent to those of teachers in the from the 66th to 72nd percentiles in reading (Backes and Hansen, 2018).

Contact

Public Impact Team

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RESOURCES



What Could You Do in an Opportunity Culture?

This video showcases educator perspectives on the impact of implementing Opportunity Culture in their contexts.



Opportunity Culture Goals and Principles

This document details
Opportunity Culture's guiding principles and goals.



Multi-Classroom Leadership for Pre-K-12

This document describes Opportunity Culture's MCL model in detail.



Opportunity Culture in Early Childhood Education

This document details
Opportunity Culture's case for change and potential for great impact.

Remotely Located Multi-Classroom Leadership

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Remotely Located MCL

This Opportunity Culture website provides some details on a pilot plan to conduct MCL training remotely.







Better Together: Combining Multi-Classroom Leadership with Team Reach

This presentation describes how MCL and TRT can be leveraged together to maximize impact on student learning.



<u>Multi-Classroom Leadership +</u> <u>Team Reach in Elementary</u> <u>School</u>

This document describes how MCL and TRT work together in elementary schools.



<u>Multi-Classroom Leadership +</u> <u>Team Reach in Secondary</u> School

This document describes how MCL and TRT work together in secondary schools.



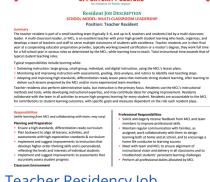
Teacher Residencies in an Opportunity Culture

This presentation describes the teacher residency program that Opportunity Culture offers in some locations.



<u>Paid Teacher and Principal</u> <u>Residencies Summary</u>

This document details the residency program and possible opportunities for both teacher and principal positions.



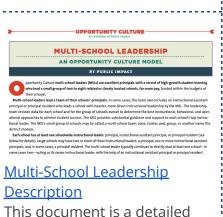
<u>Teacher Residency Job</u> <u>Description</u>

This document describes the roles and responsibilities of a teacher who participates in the residency program with Opportunity Culture.



Multi-School Leadership Summary

This document is an overview of Opportunity Culture's Multi-School Leadership program.



description of how

Opportunity Culture's



Multi-School Leadership Slide

Deck

This presentation is a



Multi-School Leadership Critical Design Decisions Multi-School Leadership program can work across various learning environment types. synthesized overview of the MSL program.

This document describes key design decisions required of districts seeking to implement the MSL program.



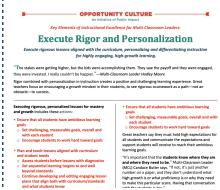
Recommended High-Quality Curriculum

This document shows
Opportunity Culture's
suggested curriculum options
for schools to consider while
implementing the MCL
program.



<u>Instructional Excellence</u> <u>Summary</u>

This document is an overview of Opportunity Culture's vision for instructional excellence.



Executing Rigor and Personalization

This document goes deeper into the rigor and personalization aspects of Opportunity Culture's vision for instructional excellence.



Key Elements of Instructional Excellence for Multi-Classroom Leaders: Connect

This document goes deeper into the connection aspects of Opportunity Culture's vision for instructional excellence.



Opportunity Culture's Recruitment Toolkit

This website provides information on Opportunity Culture's recruitment, outreach, and hiring strategies.



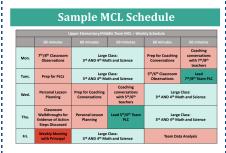
<u>Teacher and Staff Selection</u> <u>Toolkit</u>

This website offers documents to support the selection and hiring process of new teachers within Opportunity Culture's vision for excellence.



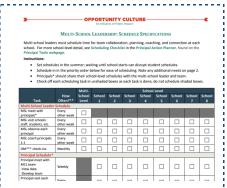
Reach Associate Job Description

This is a team reach teacher job description that details the roles and responsibilities of the position.



Sample MCL Schedule

This document offers a few schedule options to implement MCL into existing school hours.



Multi-School Leader Schedule Specifications

This checklist helps multi-school leaders decide on the types and frequency of meetings and other activities across their schools.



<u>Multi-Classroom Leadership +</u> <u>Team Reach Elementary</u> Schedule Example

This document details the scheduling specifications and suggestions required to implement Opportunity Culture into elementary schools.

IGURE 1. EXAMPLE WEEKLY SCHED	ULE WHEN TEA	M REACH TEAC	HER EXTENDS	REACH IN THREE	CLASS PERIOD	is
n this example in Figure 1, the team re	ach teacher tea	ches nine classes	of students ins	ead of six, reachi	ing 50 percent m	ore students
werall without increasing class sizes. 9	tudents spend	every other day i	n a learning lab-	working on pro	ects and skills p	ractice (offlin
or digital). The teacher "extends reach	in only three d	ass periods, keep	ing the other th	ree class slots w	eekly for individ	ual planning,
eam planning and development with	the MCL, monit	oring student pr	ogress, grading,	and improving in	structional plan	s.
	Class Periods with Student Cohort A or B*					
DAYS OF THE WEEK		2	3	4	5	6
Team Reach Teacher (TRT)						
Mon./Wed. and alternating Fridays	Class 1-A	Class 2-A	Class 3-A	Class 4-A	Class 5-A	Class 6-A
Tues./Thurs. and alternating Fridays	Class 1-B	Class 2-8	Class 3-B	TRT planning time, alone or with MCL and team	TRT planning time, alone or with MCL and team	TRT planning time, alone or with MCL and team
Reach Associate monitoring learning la						
Mon./Wed. and alternating Fridays	Class 1-B	Class 2-8	Class 3-8	(Students from other classes)	(Students from other classes)	(Students from other classes)
Tues./Thurs, and alternating Fridays	Class 1-A	Class 2-A	Class 3-A	Class 4-A	Class 5-A	Class 6-A

<u>Multi-Classroom Leadership +</u> <u>Team Reach Secondary</u> Schedule Example

This document details the scheduling specifications and suggestions required to implement Opportunity Culture into secondary schools.

	Time Slots in Same Order and Same Duration as When at School*							
Student Classes	Period 1: 66 min.	Period 2: 66 min.	Period 3: 55 min.	Period 4: 55 min.	Period 5: 66 min.	Period 6: 66 min.		
Class A	LAYSS Black Part 1 With Teacher A	LAYSS Block Part a With Teacher A	Special 1 (Art, Music, Etc.)	Lunch/Recess	Math/Science With MCL	Supervised Learning Time with Reach Associate/Special 2**		
Class B	LA/SS Block Part 1 With Teacher B	LA/SS Block Part z With Teacher B	Lunch/Recess	Special 1 (Art, Music, Etc.)	Supervised Learning Time with Reach Associate/Special z**	Math/Science With MCL		
Class C	Math/Science With M.C.	Supervised Learning Time with Reach Associate/Special 2 nd	Special 1 (Art, Music, Etc.)	Lunch/Recess	LA/SS Block Part 1 With Teacher A	LAJSS Block Part 2 With Teacher A		
Class D	Supervised Learning Time with Reach Associate/Special 2**	Math/Science With MCL	Lunch/Recess	Special 1 (Art, Music, Etc.)	LA/SS Block Part 1 With Teacher 8	LA/SS Bleck Part 2 With Teacher 8		
*Supervises	ile does not include hor I by reach associate.							
Option A: Full-Day Schedule Example for At-Home Learning, Elementary MCL + Team Reach Daily Schedule for Students' Time in Classes A=D			Multi-Classroom Leadership teaching teams: * Teach mostly in small groups and by providing assignm					
This schedule keeps the continuity of the in-school schedule for students, teachers, and the teaching team, ensuring face-to-face time for students with their classmates and teachers. Summary. This schedule spreads out face-to-face student teacher interactive work over a full day confudent time for students to				appropriate for each student's needs. # Form small groups of students at the same or mixed lew to introduce new content, discuss, and check for under- standing, as each teacher would teach typically, Mixed- grouping allows students to show up online for a differ- ent small group of the class period if a disruption occurs				

<u>Multi-Classroom Leadership +</u> <u>Team Reach Schedule</u> Example for At-Home Learning

This document details the scheduling specifications and suggestions required to implement Opportunity Culture into remote, at-home learning environments.



standards, personauzed instruction

Opportunity Culture Website

This website houses all of the documents, contacts, and details on opportunities for Opportunity Culture.



Pricing Information

This website offers details around the pricing of professional learning opportunities with Opportunity Culture.



Reaching Further and
Learning More? Evaluating
Public Impact's Opportunity
Culture Initiative

This is the evaluation report by CALDER that details Opportunity Culture's positive impact on student learning and teacher instruction.



Opportunity Culture Update and Program Evaluation

This is the evaluation report by Texas Tech University that details Opportunity Culture's positive impact on student learning, specifically at Encino Independent School District.