



### The Monthly Connection

Some days, we all crave that extra boost to ignite our innovative spirit. Instead of (or in addition) to reaching for the usual coffee, tea, or chocolate, consider a different kind of pick-me-up: a bite-sized professional learning activity! Whether you embark on this journey independently or with a colleague or two, take 5-10 minutes to step outside or find a cozy space. Engage your brain, explore new ideas, and let curiosity be your guide. The goal? These moments infuse you with natural energy, inspire fresh perspectives, and spark wonderings that keep you moving forward.

## Energize Your Day with Bite-Sized Learning Adventures!

Below are a sampling links to short, impactful readings, videos, reflections, etc. that you can check out the next time you have 5-10 minutes. Or maybe you have some of your own you have been collecting and meaning to engage with? Make sure to add these to your collection! We are all busy, but can't forget to continue to grow our understanding, connections, and competencies as educators to help us meet the needs of the students we serve each and every day.

Did a bite-sized  
adventure energize you?  
Share your learning  
adventure with us on  
social media by tagging  
**@TheLearnerFirst**

**SHARE**

**TLF Resource Hub** - take a few moments to peruse our new **resource** hub that houses FREE resources! Check out the *Magic of Self Understanding* free resource you could use for your own reflection and learning or with students.

**Try Something**: a guest **blog post** from Superintendent Ellen Perconti in Goldendale School District, Washington State.

**Joanne McEachen - The Maori Way of Learning** - a Knowledgehook Signature Series **podcast** episode where Joanne shares how her Maori ancestry has influenced her as an educator and describes to us the "Maori way of learning".

## WEBSITE REFRESH!

The Learner First has had a  
website refresh!

Check it out for updated  
content and resources!

**www.TheLearnerFirst.com**

**THE Learner First**

What We Do Who We Are

**We empower leaders, teachers, and students**

Wherever you are in your school-improvement journey, we can help guide the way with processes, tools, and actionable evidence to break through the noise to what's best for your students.

**Welcome to our resource hub!**

Whether you're an educator, school leader, or district staff member, we've shared a few of our evidence-based tools and resources that have been used across the globe.

Connect with Us

f in e y

Particular challenges for supporting...ers want to. There's a lot of content to...ing well-being focuses to the mix...from teaching the curriculum...the curriculum is taught—making...aging for all.

**Design Workshop Series**

on, assessment and measurement...y process of teaching—enhancing and...viding meaningful, actionable data

Workshops over the course of six-nine...g students' experiences and

**CONTRIBUTIVE LEARNING DESIGN**

Our hands-on, collaborative professional...development workshops integrate a...holistic learning and well-being design...framework. This framework seamlessly...weaves together the elements of lifelong...success—self-understanding, connection...knowledge, and competency—into...teaching and learning.

**CONTRIBUTIVE LEARNING THROUGH MATHEMATICS**

The Contributive Learning through...Mathematics workshop series empowers...teachers to effectively plan, teach, and...assess by optimizing existing curriculum...resources and integrating high-impact...routines.

Our workshops seamlessly blend effective...teaching strategies, resulting in engaging...learning experiences that foster self...understanding, meaningful connections, and the integration of mathematics... (knowledge) with essential competencies.

# Partner School Spotlight

## CHECK OUT THESE CONTRIBUTIONS

These are articles, media, resources, etc. our team have come across that have **#contributed** to our learning and wanted to share them with you!

**Partner:** Goldendale School District  
**Grade Levels:** Kindergarten-Grade 12  
**Location:** Goldendale, Washington, USA



GSD is a small, rural district in Central Washington, USA, serving approximately 900 students across three buildings: Goldendale Primary School, Goldendale Middle School, and Goldendale High School.

As a partner for four years, GSD has been focused on “**everyone contributing, everyday.**” This year the administration team collaborated to use an inquiry-driven process to help gain a comprehensive understanding of their strengths and opportunities as both a school building and a system using AMMA (authentic mixed method assessment). This approach aimed to build deeper understanding of strengths and needs, reflect on current practices, and implement necessary structures, systems, and strategies to meet student needs effectively.



From Self-Reflection to School Success: A Checklist for K-12 Principals  
[Article on NewLeaders.org](#)

More Bite  
Sized  
Adventures!

4 Case Studies: Schools Use Connections to Give Every Student a Reason to Attend Education Weekly  
Author: Matthew Stone  
April 2024

[Edutopia: Making Math Review a High Energy Game \(video\)](#)

**Congratulations to GSD Primary School and Middle School for receiving Recognition for Outstanding Achievement in Washington State by the State Board of Education & Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction!** Both schools were recognized for significant advancements for Closing the Gaps & for Academic Growth for one or more groups of students for the 2022-23 school year.



Read more on the [WA State Board of Education School Recognition Webpage](#)

Contact us today  
to learn more  
about how we can  
partner!



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