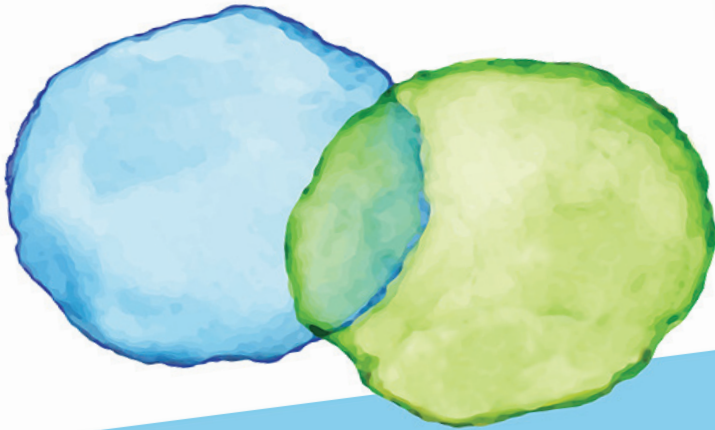STEPAN MEKHITARIAN

THE ESSENTIAL BLENDED LEARNING PD PLANNER

Where Classroom Practice Meets Distance Learning

CORWIN

Foreword by Michael Fullan

Thank you

FOR YOUR INTEREST IN CORWIN

Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from *The Essential Blended Learning PD Planner* by Stepan Mekhitarian.

LEARN MORE about this title, including Features, Table of Contents and Reviews.

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Foreword

The Essential Blended Learning PD Planner is, indeed, the best of both worlds. It will help you take the best of distance learning and leverage it to enhance learning in the classroom. Mekhitarian is a wonderful, clear writer – succinct and to the point about a complex topic: **How will schools transition back to in-person learning?** How will they honor and leverage the skills they learned during distance learning as they rethink what the classroom looks like?

What I like most about this book is its comprehensiveness and clarity, and above all its focus amidst complexity. While Mekhitarian walks us through all key concepts in this transition, we remain focused on what is most important: how technology can promote constructivist learning in the classroom. Mekhitarian addresses the use of technology in classrooms with many techniques for ensuring that quality instruction is the driver. The focus is always on the learning. Around this core message of redesigning instruction, there are tools to help you and your team make every powerful connection and translate your learning to your context. Thus, we have "Professional Development," but always carefully in support of instruction. Ideas for implementation are evident, as is the role of culture and the role of assessment in the blended learning school. Particularly valuable is how social justice and equity are explicitly attended to every step of the way.

Throughout the book there are brief, targeted sections exploring Tech Tips, Blended Learning for Social Justice, Maximizing Technology for Learning, and how we can distinguish Distance Learning from Blended Learning. There is a technique to how Mekhitarian keeps the reader on track and cultivates deep learning (quality learning that sticks with you) while he addresses these key insights and practical strategies.

The Essential Blended Learning PD Planner is designed to help us answer these looming questions: How will schools transition back to the classroom after distance learning? How will we rethink professional development for blended learning? How can we embrace personalized assessment and feedback, create a blended learning culture, and bring it all together to make an actionable plan for our schools to move forward?

Stepan Mekhitarian takes an absolutely messy topic—major change under chaotic conditions—and makes it practical and clear. He does so succinctly and includes all important elements while always showing what elements need to remain front and center. It is a remarkable accomplishment. This book is amazingly timely and provides guidance for forging our way into a new future. Read this, and learn how we can leverage present possibilities to create a new world of learning for all students.

Michael Fullan,
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