

Central Office TEN

(Transformation for Equity Network)



OVERVIEW

School district central offices are now more important than ever for ensuring excellent, equitable teaching and learning for every student every day. But many superintendents and other central office leaders have inherited central systems that do not contribute to those results and sometimes work against them. Mounting research and experience show that to do better, district leaders must stop tinkering with and start transforming how their central offices operate to truly drive excellent, equitable teaching and learning.

The Central Transformation for Equity Network (“Central Office TEN”) supports districts’ success with that essential and challenging work. Network members are leaders from school districts across the country who have committed to central office transformation. Over an academic year, leaders convene online and onsite in participating districts to learn while doing—deepening their understanding of central office transformation as they design and implement their own approaches and support each other’s efforts.

NETWORK ACTIVITIES

June 2026

- Virtual job-alike meetings to review research on the transformation of Teaching & Learning, Human Resources, and Principal Supervision and create initial theories of action and action plans.

September 28-29, 2026

- In-person convening in Seattle, WA to advance theories of action and develop Cabinet structures and routines for moving central office transformation forward.

October 2026–April 2027

- Monthly virtual job-alike consultancies for peer support on plans and progress in: Teaching & Learning, Human Resources, Principal Supervision, and the Superintendent’s Cabinet.
- Monthly virtual meetings with district leadership teams to advance cross-unit collaboration and Cabinet leadership of central office transformation.

May 2027

- In-person working session.

PARTICIPANTS

Travel Team

Cabinet-level leaders who oversee design and implementation, attend the in-person meetings in September and May, and serve as main participants in the monthly virtual discussions.

Recommended travel team members: Superintendent, Deputy or another senior leader who will coordinate the work across departments, and heads of Teaching & Learning, Human Resources, and Principal Supervision.

Bench

2-3 leaders from each unit who will be integrally involved with design and implementation and participate in the monthly job-alike meetings.

COST

Thanks to generous support from the [William & Flora Hewlett Foundation](#) and [The Wallace Foundation](#), the Central Office TEN will provide participants with facilitation, lodging, and meals at no cost. Participants must arrange for their own travel.

GET INVOLVED

DL2 is now accepting applications for 2026-27.

Visit the [DL2 Central Office TEN webpage](#) to:

- ✓ Learn more about the Central Office TEN.
- ✓ See the dates of upcoming informational webinars.
- ✓ Access the online application.

DL2 accepts applications on a rolling basis and recommends interested districts apply no later than **April 21, 2026**.