



DEN Leadership Council Overview

The Discovery Educator Network Leadership Councils (DEN LC) play a critical role in supporting the state-level DEN communities through consistent and varied communications as well as organization and support of local activities and events.

Each DEN LC is comprised of current STAR Discovery Educators within a given state. DEN LCs can have up to 5% of their current STAR DE population participate in the LC each year or for LCs that have less than 200 STAR DEs in the state they can have up to ten people on the LC.

At minimum, the DEN LC must have:

- Chair
- Blog Coordinator
- Events Coordinator
- One Blog Team Member
- One Events Team Member

Responsibilities

Chair

- Serve as liaison between DEN LC and DEN Team
 - Monthly meetings with DEN point of contact
- Maintain consistent communication with LC and state-level STAR DE community
 - Create and send monthly email updates to state-level STAR DE community
- Organize and arrange LC team meetings
 - Meetings held a minimum of five times per year
- Support LC members to ensure activity
 - Work with DEN point of contact on yearly review process



Blog Coordinator

- Maintain an active state blog
 - At least one post per week
- Attend online blogger training
 - Blogging guidelines
 - Consistency and customization
- Meet with DEN point of contact as needed
- Support members of LC Blog Team

Events Coordinator

- Meet with DEN point of contact to develop year-long schedule of state LC events
 - Minimum of 4 events per year
- Take an active leadership role in planning and organizing at least 4 LC events per year based on input from your LC
 - Submit LC Event Request Form for all events (must come from Events Coordinator)
- Work with DEN staff to provide support for regional and state events

Blog Team Members

- Help Blog Coordinator maintain an active state blog
 - Each blog team member must contribute at least twelve posts per year
- Attend online blogger training
 - Blogging guidelines
 - Consistency and customization

Events Team Members

- Take an active leadership role in planning and organizing at least 2 LC events per year
 - Work with Events Coordinator to prepare the LC Event Request Form (official request must come from Events Coordinator)
- Work with DEN staff to provide support for regional and state events

Benefits of Joining a DEN LC

- Active voice in shaping the DEN
- Increased networking opportunities
- Access to the Discovery Education suite of products
- Formal recognition (e.g., press releases, features on the DEN website, etc.)
- Priority for exclusive events
- Opportunity to attend LC Symposium and LC retreats

Election Process

In order to provide the necessary support to ever-growing state-level DEN communities, give new STAR Discovery Educators the opportunity to take an active leadership role with the DEN, and allow current LC members a break (if they choose) there is an annual LC election process.

Step 1

Every STAR Discovery Educator is encouraged to formally express interest in becoming (or continuing to be) active with a DEN LC by completing the self-nomination form. STAR DEs will select which leadership role(s) they are interested in as well as provide a brief statement of interest that will serve as their “campaign speech” should someone else wish to be considered for the same leadership role.

In order to be considered for the Chair, Blog Coordinator or Events Coordinator roles you must serve on the DEN LC for at least one year as part of the Events Team or Blog Team. For new LCs this does not apply.

Step 2

After the self-nomination windows closes, the DEN Team will review all the information and set up formal elections in states where it is necessary (e.g., one state has 3 people who want to be Chair).

Step 3

During the formal election process the STAR Discovery Educators' statements of interest will be posted online. Targeted communications will be sent to all STAR DEs in the states where formal elections are necessary encouraging these STARS to vote.