Background
NB-ELL is built on the foundational work of the ELL-ACE Project, which has provided online PD courses on literacy improvement for K-12 ELL students in Hawaii, American Samoa, and the Marshall Islands since fall 2007.

Goals
1. Professional Development:
NB-ELL will provide quality PD activities, materials, and support to improve teachers’ K-12 ELL students’ literacy skills for math and science.
2. Capacity Building and Sustainability: NB-ELL will train and coach Master Teachers selected from course completers to (1) mentor future participants and (2) ensure the growth and permanency of the PD program in partner sites.
3. Data-based Decision Making in Teaching: NB-ELL will enable more data-based decision making in teaching by evaluating and publishing the outcomes of the PD activities.

PD Offerings
1. Anchor Courses – online, Spring, Fall, and possibly Summer semesters
   Approach: Practical application of coursework to school’s own curriculum and teaching to spark and solidify learning
   Topics:
   - Reading and writing skills in science and math for K-12 ELL students
   - Instructional techniques
   - Technology for differentiated instruction and to motivate learning
   - Metacognitive strategies for students to monitor own work and growth
   - Assessment of ELL students
   - Peer collaboration
   - Multicultural learning in science/math
   - Peer, family, and community tutors

2. Short-term Workshops – online or in-person trainings, depending on partner needs and project budget/availability

3. Presentations – at conferences, meetings, and other events

Outcomes and Impacts
Teachers will develop:
- Improved skills, knowledge, and confidence to help ELL students acquire literacy skills for math and science
- Better competence to select and use appropriate strategies for ELL literacy
- Ability to more purposefully implement technology for learning and enjoyment
- Understanding of math and science learning and teaching among cultures

ELL students will gain:
- Improved literacy skills for science/math
- Increased self efficacy and motivation
- Higher academic achievement
- Enjoyment of learning and school
- Greater technology knowledge/skills
- Effective collaborative learning skills
- Focused ability to monitor own work and growth

Schools will reap:
- Greater capacity to educate ELL students
- Clearer view of ELL students’ potentials
Evaluation
Formative evaluations answering these questions will continually improve the PD offerings:
1. Do the PD offerings meet the schools’ needs?
2. Do participants incorporate the skills and knowledge learned into their teaching?
3. Do participants’ ELL students achieve more than comparable groups taught by non-participants?

Qualitative and quantitative data will reveal project’s effects:
1. Changes in participants’ literacy and technology knowledge and practices
   • Student outcomes in literacy, self-efficacy, motivation, and academics
   • Impact on the schools
2. Predictors of sustainability at partner sites (administrative support and technology availability)

Findings will be used to:
1. Revise and refine project offerings
2. Produce a “blueprint” for wider implementation
3. Inform educators and researchers via various sources and venues in final year
4. Identify possible replication sites beyond the Pacific islands (i.e., home countries of ELL students studied)

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New Beginnings for ELL: Innovation through Technology for English Literacy and Academic Success Project (NB-ELL)
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Professional Development (PD) for Teachers of K-12 ELL Students on Literacy Skills for Science and Math

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