



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 2013

# Blended Learning Executive Summary

Version 1

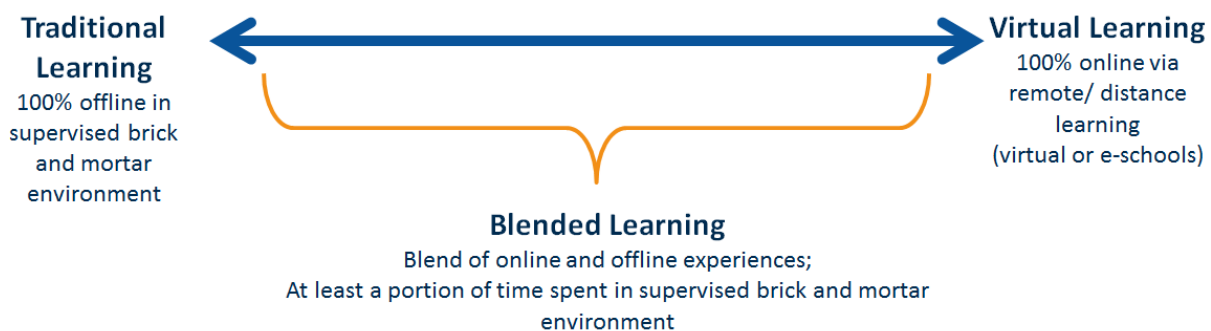
Submitted by: Blended Learning Team, Educational Technology and Library Media Services,  
Office of Teaching and Learning

## Overview of Blended Learning and its Role in DCPS

District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is focused on innovative learning models to aid teachers in improving student outcomes across all subject areas. DCPS is committed to building a high-quality, vibrant school district and has prioritized the implementation of blended learning models to drive student achievement.

### *Blended Learning Defined*

The term blended learning, also known as hybrid learning, refers to a mix of face-to-face classroom teaching and online instruction (see figure below). Blended learning models have changed the role of technology in the classroom from that of a supportive tool into an integrated component of instruction. Blended learning has been shown to accelerate student learning by engaging students, improving time on task, expanding access to content, and extending learning beyond the traditional classroom experience. For teachers, blended learning provides actionable data that can be used to deliver more targeted, effective instruction to personalize learning for all students.



### *Blended Learning in DCPS*

DCPS supports over a dozen blended learning programs focused on a variety of content areas including language development, literacy, and mathematics. Content specialists have researched and sought out the most powerful and proven products in the market which are aligned with district curriculum and academic goals. Attached is the initial list of products which have been identified to meet the needs of DCPS students and teachers to transform teaching and learning in DC Public Schools. Every product listed is accessible by students from home, library, or any location with internet access.

## Blended Learning Program Highlights for School Year 12-13

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### DreamBox Learning

- Available at 16 elementary schools and education campuses for students in grades K-5
- Provides students with an adaptive, individual experience based on learning needs: a second grade student could be working on a kindergarten standard for one skill and a third grade standard for another based on her strengths and weaknesses
- Provides teachers with lists of students who are on the same concepts to create flexible grouping and a breakdown of each student's proficiency on Common Core Math standards

### First in Math

- Available to all DCPS students in grades K-9
- Increases fact fluency with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and integers.
- So far in the 12-13 school year, students across the District have solved a total of over 22 million math problems on the program
- In the top class in the District, Ms. Pridgen's 4<sup>th</sup> grade, the students have solved over 9,000 problems each, putting them already over the program's recommendation by test time

### ST Math

- Available at 31 elementary schools and education campuses for grades 3-5 (grades 1-5 for SY 13-14)
- Develops a conceptual understanding of math rather than rote memorization
- Particularly popular at Mamie D. Lee, the DCPS school furthest along in the ST Math curriculum, because the program introduces math concepts without language, numbers, or symbols and then slowly introduces those elements back in when the student is ready

### Rosetta Stone

- Available at 18 schools for students in grades 4-8.
- The top languages chosen are Spanish (Latin America), French, and English (US)
- Offers five different levels of difficulty in each language and cutting-edge voice recognition software which ensures each student gets the pronunciation help he or she needs.

### Think Through Math

- Available at 16 schools in grades 4-9
- Provides instruction and practice on the five-step problem-solving process
- Provides incentives built into the program including class pizza parties; for example, Takoma EC won a contest to be Think Through Math's top school in the Eastern Time Zone for November. (continued on next page)

- At Prospect Learning Center, students have already passed an average of 10 lessons (the goal is 20 by test time) and each student has spent an average of 3 hours on the program outside of school time.

### **Teach To One: New Classrooms**

- Available for all students at Hart MS during math instruction
- Provides daily individualized pathways and multiple modalities in which to personalize each student's math learning
- At the end of class every day, students take a 5 question exit assessment on laptops (1:1 laptop to student ration) which is immediately scored, and the program then calculates the best lesson for each student for the next day based on his or her mastery level

### **Plato Learning**

- Available to all 6-12 grade students across the District
- Provides credit recovery, remediation and acceleration for students, as well as diagnostics and test prep for the ACT and SAT
- 5188 students have been given assignments so far across all wards

### **WriteToLearn**

- Available to 8 high schools with high numbers of under-performing writers
- Gives instant feedback to students based on the six traits of writing; saves teacher time grading.

### **Discovery Education**

- Available to students in the District
- Provides Electronic resources for all content areas; health resources in lieu of textbooks

### **TextHelp Read and Write Gold**

- Available to all students in the District in grades 6-12
- Electronic tool for decoding, reading comprehension, translation, research, and screen reading

### **Edmodo**

- Available to all students in the District in grades 6-12
- Provides a safe and user-familiar social networking site that better engages students in their classroom.

## DCPS Blended Learning Portfolio for School Year 2012-13

Program	Target	Grades	Dosage	Wards	# of schools
<b>DreamBox Learning</b> (page 4)	Mathematics supplement: adaptive learning	K-5	Two 45-min or three 30-min sessions per week	1,3,4,6,7,8	16
<b>First in Math</b> (page 5)	Mathematics supplement: fact fluency	K-9	50 min per week, usually achieved by 10 min per day	All	All
<b>ST Math</b> (page 6)	Mathematics supplement: conceptual and non-verbal learning	Used in grades 1-5, with content ranging from K-8	Two 45-min sessions per week	1,3,4,5,6,7,8	31
<b>Rosetta Stone</b> (page 7)	World language supplement	4-8	Two 45-min or three 30-min sessions per week	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	18
<b>Think Through Math</b> (page 8)	Mathematics supplement: problem-solving skills	4-9	Two 45-min or three 30-min sessions per week	4,5,6,7,8	16
<b>Teach to One (TTO) New Classrooms</b> (page 9)	Adaptive math curriculum	6-8	90 minutes per day	8	1

Continued on next page

## Blended Learning Portfolio, continued

Program	Target	Grades	Dosage	Wards	# of schools
<b>PLATO Learning</b> (page 10)	Credit recovery; remediation and acceleration; diagnostic for reading and math; test prep for the ACT, SAT	6-12	Variable	All	All
<b>WriteToLearn</b> (page 11)	Writing supplement	9-12	At least 2 pieces of writing per month	1,2,4,5,8	8
<b>Discovery Education</b> (page 12)	Electronic resources for all content areas; Health resources in lieu of textbooks	All	As needed for instruction	All	All
<b>TextHELP Read &amp; Write Gold</b> (page 13)	Electronic tool for decoding, reading comprehension, translation, research, and screen reading	6-12	As needed for instruction	All	All
<b>Edmodo</b> (page 14)	Safe social networking	6-12	As needed for instruction	All	All



Program

Target

Grades

**DreamBox Learning**

Mathematics  
supplement: adaptive  
learning

K-5

**Overview**

DreamBox Learning is a supplemental math program that adapts and differentiates for students at all levels of understanding. DreamBox develops fluency and mental math with numbers and operations as well as algebraic reasoning with whole numbers and fractions.

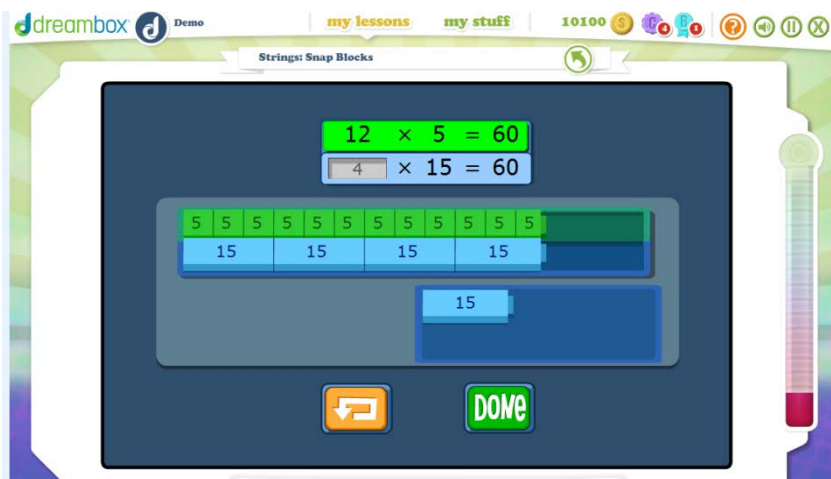
**Status** New pilot for SY 2012-13

**Schools** 16 Elementary Schools and Education Campuses: Bancroft, Beers, Brightwood, Drew, Hendley, Ketcham, Lafayette, Mann, MC Terrell, Miner, Murch, Orr, Patterson, Savoy, Thomas, Truesdell

**Website** [www.dreambox.com](http://www.dreambox.com)

**Preview**

Primary (K-2) learning environment



Intermediate (3-5) learning environment



Program	Target	Grades
First in Math Online	Mathematics supplement: fact fluency	K-9

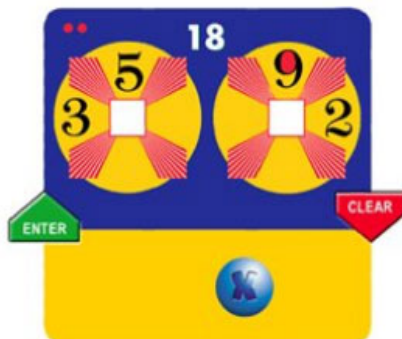
**Overview**

First in Math is an online program that provides deep practice necessary for skill retention. Activities increase fact fluency with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and integers. The program provides differentiated instruction with extensive content ranging from one-step addition to multi-step algebra, plus measurement, geometry, and trigonometry. Students learn how to adapt and apply knowledge in a variety of problem-solving situations.

<b>Status</b>	Piloted in 15 schools for SY 11-12, expanded to all schools for SY 12-13
<b>Schools</b>	Available to all schools for students in grades K-9
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.firstinmath.com">www.firstinmath.com</a>

**Preview**

Grade 3



**SS3 - G1 (Multiply)**

Pick the wheel that makes the target number (shown in white) using multiplication ONLY. Use all numbers on the wheel, but use each number only once.

Example:  
Target number is 18.  
The right wheel works.  
 $9 \times 2 = 18$

Grade 5



**SS5 - G2 (Double Digits)**

Make the target number 24. You can add, subtract, multiply and divide. Use all four numbers on the wheel, but use each number only once.

Example:  
Target number is 24.  
 $8 - 6 = 2$   
 $2 \div 2 = 1$   
 $24 \times 1 = 24$





# MIND Research Institute

A neuroscience and education research-based non-profit corporation



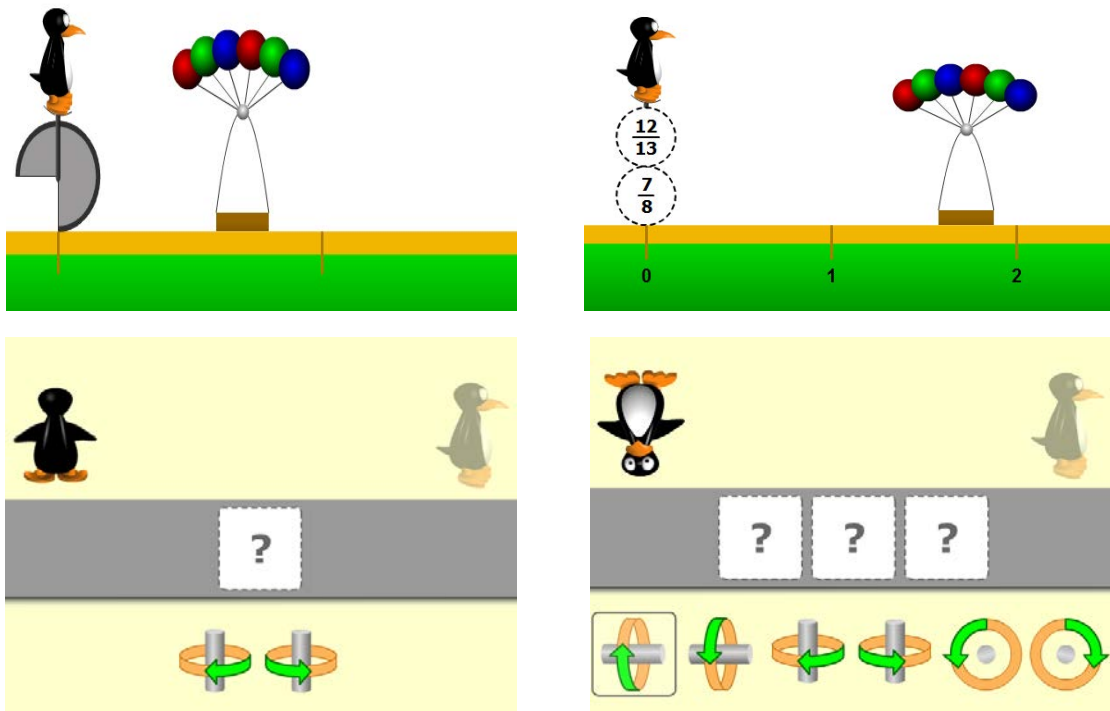
Program	Target	Grades
ST Math	Mathematics supplement: conceptual and non-verbal learning	Used in grades 3-5, with content ranging from K-8

### Overview

The ST Math product family consists of engaging courseware which uses the learners' spatial-temporal reasoning abilities to explain, understand, and solve multi-step math problems. This means that each student is visualizing the concepts of math, rather than relying on rote memorization. The program introduces math concepts without language, numbers, or symbols, making it an excellent fit for English language learners and students with special needs.

<b>Status</b>	New pilot for SY 12-13
<b>Schools</b>	31 Elementary Schools and Education Campuses: Amidon-Bowen, Bancroft, Beers, Brightwood, Browne, HD Cooke, Drew, Garfield, CW Harris, Hendley, Hearst, Houston, Lafayette, Langley, LaSalle-Backus, Leckie, Ludlow-Taylor, Malcolm X, Mamie D. Lee, MC Terrell, Nalle, Patterson, Powell, Prospect, Raymond, Shepherd, Simon, Stanton, Takoma, Truesdell, Winston
<b>Website</b>	stmath.com

### Preview





**Program**

**Target**

**Grades**

**Rosetta Stone**

World language curriculum/supplement

3-8

**Overview**

Rosetta Stone is a world language program that offers an immersive language experience for speaking, listening, and writing. Through Rosetta Stone, DCPS students at pilot schools will be able to get deep exposure in Spanish, French, Chinese, English, and other languages to support world language programs where there may not be an instructor at a school. At one DCPS school, students have access to live studio sessions with a native speaker with Rosetta Stone TOTALE licenses.

**Status**

New pilot for SY 2012-13

**Schools**

14 locations: Burroughs, Brookland, CHEC, CW Harris, Deal, Dunbar, HD Cooke, Jefferson, LaSalle-Backus, MacFarland, Noyes, Ross, Shepherd, Takoma

**Website**

[dcpublicschools.rosettastoneclassroom.com](http://dcpublicschools.rosettastoneclassroom.com)

**Preview**





Program

Think Through Math (TTM)

Target

Mathematics supplement: problem-solving skills

Grades

4-9

Overview

Think Through Math (formerly called Apangea Math) is a supplemental online math program that focuses on building word-problem-solving skills and covers content from 3rd grade through Algebra I. Through an initial diagnostic and a dynamic customization process, each student works on an individualized pathway that remediates when necessary and offers enrichment when the student demonstrates mastery of grade-level subject material. The program also offers artificial-intelligence-based avatars and access to live, online certified math teachers to further support both students and teachers. Easy-to-access reports provide teachers snapshot overviews and item-level views of student responses to inform instructional practices and identify areas of both strength and need.

Status

Launched August 2011 in MS/ECs, expanded to 1 HS pilot for 2012-13

Schools

16 Education Campuses, Middle Schools, and High Schools: Anacostia, Brightwood, Browne, Burroughs, Eliot-Hine, Jefferson MS/Academy, Johnson, Kelly Miller, Langley, MacFarland, Prospect Learning Center, Sousa, Takoma, Truesdell, Walker-Jones, Winston

Website

[www.thinkthroughmath.com](http://www.thinkthroughmath.com)

Preview

The screenshot shows the Think Through Math interface. At the top left is the TTM logo and the text "Slope and Rate of Change" and "1 out of 8 Questions". At the top right is a user profile for "Dana". Below the header are navigation buttons: "WARM UP", "FOCUS", "GUIDED LEARNING" (highlighted), "PRACTICE", and "POST-QUIZ". The main content area contains a question: "The slope of the graph is 4. What is the x-coordinate of point A?". Below the question are four answer options: 0.4 (with a red X), 40, 6, and 2.5. To the right of the question is a coordinate plane with a red line passing through the origin and point A. The y-axis is labeled "y" and has a tick mark at 10. The x-axis is labeled "x" and has a tick mark at "?". Point A is marked with a blue dot and labeled "A".



	Program	Target	Grades
	<b>Teach to One (TTO) New Classrooms</b>	Adaptive math curriculum	6-8

**Overview**

New Classrooms employs a unique model for instruction that allows each student to access multiple learning modalities. The model includes small group instruction, student-driven centers, and independent practice using adaptive software. Each day, teachers receive a rotation list with notes on which students need which topics re-taught. Similarly, at the beginning of class, each student receives a personalized "playlist" of his or her activities for the day, based on the previous day's assessment.

<b>Status</b>	New pilot for SY 2012-13
<b>Schools</b>	Hart MS
<b>Website</b>	Newclassrooms.org

**Preview**





**Program**

**Plato Learning**

**Target**

Credit recovery, remediation, acceleration, diagnostic and test prep

**Grades**

6-12

**Overview**

PLATO addresses needs for credit recovery, remediation, and acceleration in grades 6-12. For credit recovery, all core courses are aligned with DCPS scope and sequence documents to mirror concepts in the traditional classroom. The Accucess feature assesses a student's skill gaps and assigns an individualized learning path. Test preparation for the SAT and ACT are also available.

**Status** Replaces Apex Learning for 2012-13

**Schools** All HS and MS

**Website** ple.platoweb.com

**Preview**



**Assignments**

**Location:** Ballou HS  
**Class:** Britt\_English 1  
**Assignment Name:** English 09 Unit 1

**Instructions**  
Sorry. There are no instructions at this time.

[Icon Legend](#)

(FOR TEACHER TRAINING ONLY) DC English 10. Unit 1-The Dead > **Unit 1 - The Dead**

Title	Exemption	Mastery	Status
Unit 1 - Pretest		(---)	<input type="radio"/>
<a href="#">Finding Answers</a>		☆	<input type="radio"/>
<a href="#">Understanding Literature</a>		☆	<input type="radio"/>
<a href="#">Character and Motive</a>		(---)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<a href="#">Understanding the Social Sciences</a>		☆	<input type="radio"/>
<a href="#">Powerful Oratory</a>		(---)	<input type="radio"/>
<a href="#">Finding the Resources</a>		☆	<input type="radio"/>



<b>PEARSON</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Grades</b>
	<b>WriteToLearn</b>	Writing supplement	9-12



### Overview

WriteToLearn is a writing program that focuses on drafting summaries of informational texts and writing more sophisticated essays. These essays are scored by computer to provide instant feedback and allow teachers to provide more targeted writing instruction based on writing deficiencies.

<b>Status</b>	New pilot for SY 2012-13
<b>Schools</b>	7 HS: Anacostia, Ballou, Cardozo, Ellington, Luke C. Moore, Roosevelt, Spingarn
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://pearsonkt.com/writetolearn/dc/rshs">http://pearsonkt.com/writetolearn/dc/rshs</a>

### Preview

**Scoreboard**

English ▾
 

textHELP

**That is a very good first draft. Use the feedback below to make it even better.**

User: **Demo Student**
Prompt: **Community Service**
Tries left: **5**

Scores ?	1	2	3	4	5	6
Overall						<b>4 of 6</b>
<a href="#">Ideas</a>						<b>4 of 6</b>
<a href="#">Organization</a>						<b>4 of 6</b>
<a href="#">Conventions</a>						<b>3 of 6</b>
<a href="#">Sentence Fluency</a>						<b>3 of 6</b>
<a href="#">Word Choice</a>						<b>4 of 6</b>
<a href="#">Voice</a>						<b>3 of 6</b>

**Length ?**

312 words

Long

Good

Short

Editing Tools ?	Status	Comment	Get Definition
<a href="#">Spelling</a>	<b>Almost</b>	A few misspelled words	
<a href="#">Grammar</a>	<b>Fair</b>	A few grammar errors detected	
<a href="#">Repeated</a>	<b>Excellent</b>	No repeated information	<a href="#">repeated</a>



Program

Discovery  
Education

Target

Electronic resource for  
all content areas

Grades

All

Overview

Discovery Education streaming is a comprehensive K-12 library of digital resources that enables seamless integration of standards-based videos into classroom lessons. It offers videos and resources from award-winning producers such as Discovery Education, Discovery School, Standard Deviants, Weston Woods and more. Used in lieu of health textbooks.

<b>Status</b>	Available to selected schools for SY 11-12; expanded to all schools for 12-13
<b>Schools</b>	All
<b>Website</b>	discoveryeducation.com

Preview





**Program**

**TextHELP Read & Write Gold**

**Target**

Electronic tool for decoding, reading comprehension, translation, research, and screen reading

**Grades**

6-12

**Overview**

Read&Write Gold is a literary support software toolbar that integrates with applications, allowing individuals to access reading, writing, studying, and research support tools from within programs the student uses every day.

**Status**

Available to all schools with grades 6-12 since SY 11-12

**Schools**

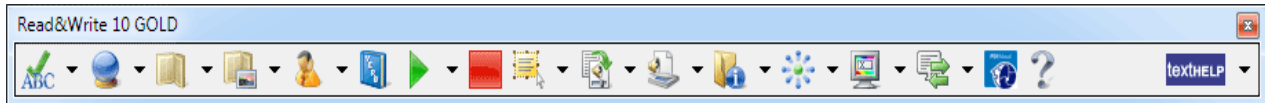
Available to all schools with grades 6-12

**Website**

<http://www.texthelp.com/North-America/our-products/readwrite>

**Preview**

**For Windows:**



**For Mac OS X:**







	Program	Target	Grades
	<b>Edmodo</b>	Safe social networking	6-12

### Overview

Edmodo is a “closed-garden” social networking site that allows teachers to create groups for each of their classes. Students are able to use the social networking site in a carefully monitored and secure environment to take assessments, post links, connect with their teacher, receive and submit assignments, and much more.

<b>Status</b>	Used by 15-20 schools in SY11-12; available to all schools in SY12-13
<b>Schools</b>	Currently used by teachers at about 30 schools
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://dcpublicschools.edmodo.com/">http://dcpublicschools.edmodo.com/</a>

### Preview

The screenshot displays the Edmodo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Edmodo logo, a search bar, and links for Calendar, Grades, Library, Home, Profile, and Account. The main content area shows a group page for "DCPS Edmodo Training". On the left, there is a sidebar with user information for Ms. Britt and navigation options like Latest Posts, Direct, By Students, and Assignments. The main feed shows a post by Grace Ting titled "Grace Ting to DCPS Edmodo Training" dated Jul 31, 2012. The post content reads: "Next Wednesday August 8th is EdmodoCon - a full day of virtual professional development with Edmodo educators from around the world. Teachers will share the ways they are using Edmodo and other digital tools in the classroom. Check out the presentation schedule and register at edmodocon.com". Below the post is a link to "EdmodoCon 2012" at edmodocon.com. There are also replies from Pat Brown and Mr. Anderson. On the right side, there are options to show notifications, switch to the latest version, and view group members.