Helping educators accelerate student success

Microsoft Partners in Learning offers a range of professional development programs to bridge the gap between technology skills and innovative teaching. It reaches beyond traditional software training to provide a scaffold that helps educators of all skill levels on their learning journey. Partners in Learning gives educators the knowledge they need to impart 21st century skills to their students and deliver exceptional student outcomes.

Research shows that innovative teaching practices, along with access to technology, supports student acquisition of 21st century skills. Those skills can mean the difference between being successful in school, or struggling every day, and having a career, or simply getting a job. Microsoft Partners in Learning offers a range of professional development programs to bridge the gap between technology skills and innovative teaching. Partners in Learning supports the success of each educator through world-class, research-based professional development, online communities, and exclusive recognition programs for the most innovative educators in the world.

Working with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, and education leaders, Microsoft supports the success of each educator through world-class, research-based professional development, online communities and recognition programs for the most innovative educators in the world.

Give educators the support they need

The Microsoft Teaching with Technology Curriculum helps educators move beyond learning technology tools to develop a deeper understanding of how technology integration can enhance the teaching and learning experience, give their students 21st century skills, and save them time. Teaching with Technology includes a self-assessment to identify learning gaps, eLearning content to help fill those gaps, summative assessments, and a range of learning activities and tutorials to help extend the learning and to encourage educators to apply their new knowledge in the classroom with their students.

It maps to a number of globally recognized teaching standards, including the UNESCO ICT Competency Framework for Teachers (UNESCO ICT-CFT), Technology Literacy Approach, and ISTE NETS for Teachers. It can also help support educator success, as the U.S. Common Core student standards require a high level of technology integration.

Competency-based

Teaching with Technology helps build both the skills and the ability to apply those skills to perform a particular job or task. Along with the global community of educators found on the Partners in Learning Network, Teaching with Technology provides six key components for effective competency-based professional development:

1 Innovate Teaching and Learning Research, 2011, www.itlresearch.com
Teaching with Technology has lots of great ideas for using ICT and I keep coming back to it. I find it very user-friendly, easy to read and easy to follow. It provides real life classroom examples and provides other educator perspectives on integrating technology.”
—Deirdre Hurley, Newly Qualified Primary Educator, St. Patrick’s College, Dublin

“Teaching with Technology has totally benefited me. The course itself doesn’t assume that everyone is at the same level and educators can see their progress. In the time that I have been doing the course, I have started to bring new ideas into my own teaching. I feel more confident about sharing these ideas with other educators.”
—Sarah Callaghan, Newly Qualified Primary Educator, St. Patrick’s College, Dublin

Measuring progress
There are multiple ways to support educators and see how they are progressing:

- **Ask them to share the results of their self-assessment.** If an educator answered questions based on their current practice, it will provide guidance needed to create a personalized professional development plan.
- **Review the summative assessment.** The summative assessment is a good indicator that the educator understands the concepts presented in the course; however, it is not a valid measure of competency.
- **The Microsoft Certified Educator Exam.** A valid and reliable assessment tool, the MCE exam measures the ways ICT integration can be used to improve outcomes in six core content areas mapped to the UNESCO ICT-CFT, Technology Literacy Strand. Passing the MCE exam provides validation that educators have achieved global educator technology literacy competencies as defined in the UNESCO ICT-CFT, Technology Literacy Approach.

Get started
The Facilitator Guide can help develop a plan for supporting educators in their learning. Online learning is most effective when combined with face-to-face instruction and communities of practice. Opportunities to practice newly acquired skills with a coach or a mentor will help embed new learning.

If your school has an IT Academy membership, educators can access the eLearning via the IT Academy member site. IT Academy includes an online reporting system and detailed tracking letting administrators see how teachers are progressing in their learning.

www.microsoft.com/itacademy

The curriculum can also be accessed free on the Partners in Learning Network.

www.pil-network.com/pd/curriculum/twt

About Microsoft Partners in Learning
The Microsoft Partners in Learning program is a 10-year, nearly $750 million commitment by Microsoft to transform education systems around the world. Announced in 2003, the Partners in Learning program helps governments envision a new future for education in their countries; provides leadership and change management information to school leaders; works to strengthen educators’ capacity to use technology effectively in the classroom; and provides greater access to technology for educators and students. Microsoft believes in expanding the power of education through personalized learning.

www.microsoft.com/education/ww/partners-in-learning