



Microsoft Innovative Mentor School

Congratulations! Your school has been selected to be a Microsoft Innovative Mentor School as part of the Microsoft Partners in Learning Program! As a Mentor School, you were selected because you have created scalable and replicable educational transformation and can influence schools within your own community, country and around the world. As the school leader, you have proven that you have community and professional support for the change process and strong school-level leadership. You have an overall vision for what you want to achieve, and as a Mentor School, you will be able to influence and shape the direction of other Pathfinder Schools from around the world.

As a Mentor School, we are asking you to commit to support our Pathfinder Schools for one to two years through your leadership, dedication and knowledge sharing. The list below outlines the expectations of the schools who are participating as a Microsoft Innovative Mentor School.

- Participation of one senior member of the leadership team to attend the **Microsoft Partners in Learning Global Forum (PILGF)** on November 5 – 11, 2011 in Washington D.C, USA. **This meeting is mandatory for all Mentor School school leaders.** If a member of your leadership team is unable to attend this important meeting, your involvement as a Mentor School will be postponed until next fiscal year.
- Participate in the Mentor School training at that the Global Forum. This training will focus on building mentor capacity including roles and responsibilities, mentoring skills, and communication. This meeting will occur the day before the start of the Global Forum – November 5, 2011
- Participate in in-person leadership workshops lead by education experts. These in-person meeting are optional.
- Participation in Mentorship teams meetings. Each team will consist of six to eight Pathfinder Schools, two or more Mentor Schools and a third party coach. These teams will be grouped together by countries and region. Each team will work together during the Global Forum and seven virtual mentorship meeting during the next 12 months. The goal of these meetings is to provide guidance and examples of best practice that will assist schools with developing a culture of innovative and improve teaching and learning within their schools.
- Provide one to one mentoring to two Pathfinder Schools. This mentoring is first and foremost a collaborative relationship between trusted peers who face common issues. In this collaborative relationship mentors are not necessarily experts. These mentoring team rests on the fundamental premise that the mentor may in some situations be an expert, but will often be learning from and with their peers. In the Innovative Schools model of

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mentoring, both mentors and mentees are helping each other improve their craft of leadership.

In addition, we ask you to commit to joining one or more other areas of focus.....

- Participate and contribute to two Virtual University workshops. These workshops are hosted by leading educators from a variety of fields relating to topics on innovation and school transformation. Virtual University sessions run monthly (see attached schedule).
- Utilize the Partners in Learning Schools Research tool. If it's appropriate for your school, Mentor Schools will be asked to participate in Partners in Learning School research and utilize the surveys and reports that are part of this tool as part of your overall school development.
- Provide three case study profiles. A template will be provided for each case study which will focus on various aspects of the learning experience (ie: teaching, learning and assessment, learning environment, professional development, student voice, and leadership)
- Organize 2 local or regional Innovative School events/ briefings in collaboration with your local Microsoft representative to drive education transformation discussions in your country or region.

Plan now! Upcoming Virtual University workshops

Topic: Welcome to the Microsoft Innovative Schools Program!

Overview: In this session, we would like to welcome you to the Pathfinder Program and provide an overview of the program and the plan for the year. Additionally, we will cover expectations and logistics for the **Partners in Learning Global Forum**.

Date: September 21, 2011

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 am and 5 – 6:30 pm PST

Topic: School Leadership with Michael Fullan

Overview: With this Virtual University workshop, Michael Fullan would like to make sure all schools have the needed elements in place to implement their transformation successfully. For that, they need to understand the leadership and basic change process. This session is twofold: to provide participants with a summary of the main concepts with respect to the change process and professional learning communities and for the Pathfinder schools to examine where they are in terms of progress being made, challenges being faced, and support needed

Date: September 28, 2011

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 am and 5 – 6:30 pm PST

**We will send the link to the meeting in early September.