Use integrated social media and professional development tools to complete this free online PD program:

Vision. This program is designed to promote a vision of students interacting with technologies in collaborative, inquiry-based learning environments with teachers, administrators, and parents/guardians who are willing and able to assist them in transforming knowledge and skills into products, solutions, and new knowledge.

Challenge. The challenge is to support school leaders to learn about and apply new and better ways of teaching and learning with technology to help teachers and students achieve the vision. This challenge expects school leaders to embrace and use technology, plan for its successful implementation, and make on-going adjustments and improvements as technology evolves in the 21st century.

Context. The power and potential of technology have already changed the world outside of the education sector. For example, the movement by the financial industry to use ATMs, online home banking and investing, loan application software, and e-commerce on the Internet demonstrates how a vision of technology changed the industry. To support changes such as these in the business sector, educators will be expected and required to use technology as a way of doing business in schools and classrooms. Otherwise, the education sector will simply not be able to deliver the knowledge and smart skills its students will need to compete in the 21st century workplace. *What, then, do these technology trends mean for school leaders?*

- Does my school reflect the expectations of the 21st century? For example, how do I persuade my teachers and to use technology routinely and creatively while planning, teaching, assessing, and analyzing data?

- Why are leaders changing their vision of technology from integrating technology into curriculum, teaching, and assessment to integrating curriculum, teaching, and assessment into technology?

- How do I motivate teachers to think, analyze, evaluate, create, consume, remix, and share information about best practices with each other?

- How does a school use Web 2.0 mass collaboration applications to enhance teaching, learning, professional development, and school improvement?

- Who will provide the leadership and resources to develop and deliver customized online instructional activities that support each student's learning style and learning pace?

- How do I know my students are achieving the skills, knowledge, and processes they need to be successful with content and technology in the 21st century?

Solution. Throughout the United States and other countries, new models and practices for using technology to support learning are evolving. On the downside, these models are pioneering efforts and not widespread practice. On the upside, the results of pioneering efforts will help to pave the way to new learning platforms for children, youth, and adults. Ultimately, they will help to define new learning systems for homes, schools, colleges, and the workplace. This program provides aspiring and experienced school leaders with professional knowledge, skills, and resources needed to become active participants and contributors to achieving the vision in their classrooms and schools.

What you Learn: The program includes seven Learning Layouts that are delivered online or in blended learning settings according to schedules posted in school district professional development programs, college catalogs, and eLearningTeacher program listings. The Learning Layouts, schedule, and outcomes may be modified for independent study or home school professional development.

Learning Layouts:

1. **Program Information and Self-Assessment:** Relates to understanding and monitoring the program description, products and performances, and schedule and the participants' background knowledge and progress in the program.

2. **Leadership and Vision:** Relates to creating, delivering, and constantly improving a shared vision for combining people, teaching, and technology to improve the knowledge and skills of children, youth, and adults.

3. **Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development:** Relates to combining technology with curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional development, and school improvement to improve student achievement.

4. **Data-Driven Decision Making:** Relates to employing technology to access, analyze, and share multiple sources of data to set goals, objectives, and activities and analyze results in a school improvement plan.

5. **Management and Operations:** Relates to using technology to implement, manage, and continuously improve policies, procedures, and practices for delivering school offerings to all students.

6. **Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues:** Relates to understanding the social, legal, and ethical issues related to technology use and how to ensure responsible adherence to acceptable practices.

7. **Professional Practice and Productivity:** Relates to developing a habit of mind and skills for using technology to enhance professional practices and student achievement and to increase personal productivity.

Act Now!

- **Online:** *Technology for School Leaders* is available for free by clicking the "eLearningTeacher" link in the Tool Box on your homepage after joining LearningFront:

  http://www.learningfront.com

- **Blended:** Want to try a blended face-to-face and online approach with your school leaders? Contact Nick Hobar, LearningFront Team Leader, to explore a way this program can be customized for your school, district, state, or teacher education program.

Telephone: 410.666.5701

Email: nickhobar@learningfront.com