



North TIER Partnership Online Professional Development

Spring 2011



**A \$200 Value for \$125
2 Graduate Credits for \$260**
See information on page 2 for details on Graduate Credit



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Registration begins January 3, 2011
Courses run from February 1-March 21, 2011

12 Northern Virginia School Systems, CRSTE, Germanna Community College, ETLO and MHz Networks form the North TIER Partnership. The partnership aims to provide professional development directly related to technology integration. Each course is comprised of seven project- and standards- based online sessions. An instructor trained and certified by EdTech Leaders Online facilitates each course, using a learning model that combines readings, videos, activities, and facilitated peer-to-peer collaborative discussions. The focal point of the course is online discussion and collaboration, where you can share your ideas, reflections, comments, and questions with your classmates.

For more information visit:

<http://www.mhznetworks.org/norhttier/>

Registration January 3-January 25, 2011



<http://tinyurl.com/yjpol6k>

Registration: January 3-January 25, 2011



HOW TO REGISTER –New & Returning Users **Please read the registration and refund policies before registering.**

http://www.mhznetworks.org/northtier/courses/#registration_refund

By registering, a participant agrees to these policies. Please read the following directions carefully.

TO REGISTER:

- Visit <http://tinyurl.com/yjpol6k> and click on register
- Click on “VIEW CATALOG.”
- Look through the list of courses, locate the course you wish to take, and click the title. Then choose the “CLICK TO ENROLL” button.

AT THIS POINT:

- If you have taken a North TIER course before, click on “I’M A REGISTERED USER,” and you will be prompted to sign into your account. **If you have forgotten your password, please use the “Login Help” feature in My Learning Plan.**
- If you have never taken a North TIER class before, click on “I’M A NEW USER” to create a user name and password and sign up for courses.
- Once you have completed the process you will receive an email confirming your enrollment.
- **Payment information will be sent to you at the start of the course. North TIER accepts PayPal or credit cards only.**

Graduate Credit:

North TIER is working with Colorado State University to provide a graduate credit option for all courses! If you choose the graduate credit option you will be required to submit a graduate level reflection paper. In addition, a graduate credit fee will be assessed. **You will be able to register for the graduate credit option during the first week of class.**

Courses run February 1-March 21, 2011

Terms and Conditions

There is a \$125 registration fee for each North TIER course. In addition, Course Participants must agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. Complete a pre-training and follow-up survey.
2. Work with another teacher on developing a technology-infused lesson, unit or project at some point in the future.
3. Agree to the North TIER policies. In particular, please note the policy for dropping courses without penalty.
4. Fees are now payable at the beginning of the course. A 90% refund will be offered during the 7 days after initial notification from your instructor. After this period, fees must be paid to drop or withdraw from the course.
5. The drop period for courses ends after the first week. Participants must notify the instructor and course manager in writing with the intent to drop.
6. After the first week of the course ends all students will be graded.

Spring 2011 Course Information

- ◆ Course information, **including where and how to login**, is mailed to you a couple of days before courses begin. **IF YOU DO NOT HEAR FROM YOUR INSTRUCTOR WITHIN 3 DAYS OF THE START DATE OF THE COURSE**, please contact your North TIER representative.
- ◆ The online courses are not conducted at a certain time of the day, nor a set time to log in each week. During the first day of the online course week, the instructor will post an assignment on the EDC Blackboard system. Class participants must log in to Blackboard at points during the course week, complete the activities, and participate in the discussion board.
- ◆ Participants are expected to go back to the discussion board a couple of times during the week to respond to other people's posts.
- ◆ Participants can expect to spend at least 4-6 hours each week completing class activities. These courses are 30 hours of work and earn either 30 hours towards recertification. Graduate credit requires completion of all course work and discussions, plus an additional graduate-level reflection paper. The graduate credit fee must be paid, as well.
- ◆ Registration is from January 3-January 25, 2011.
- ◆ Courses run from February 1-March 21, 2011. (The first week is an orientation.)
- ◆ Note: Participants in these courses are requested to consent to sharing their knowledge and participate in surveys. All sessions will be conducted online. All projects must be submitted on or before the final date. For more information contact aron.sterling@fcps.edu.



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<http://tinyurl.com/yjppol6k>





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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Assessing Technology Integration

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for: Elem., Middle, High School , Administrators, Instructional Technology Resource Teacher, Technology leaders, Media Specialists

This six-session workshop will provide technology leaders (administrators, ITRTs, technology committee members, technology coordinators, and inspiring administrators) with grounding in the key aspects of assessing the technology needs and the level of technology integration in a classroom/building/district. As a culminating project, participants will design a plan of action for their school/district that will focus on how they plan to observe and assess technology integration to ensure that it positively impacts student learning.

Blended for a Perfect Fit: Combining Face to Face with Online Learning

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

Does your district have a Course Management System, such as Blackboard? Have you been afraid to use it OR used it only to post documents? Blended learning is here to rescue you! Learn how to effectively integrate online learning in a Course Management System, such as Blackboard, with your current classroom practice. This course will cover the anatomy of the online learner, strategies, techniques and tools for mastering online learning as well as your district's Course Management System.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Building a Better Classroom: Constructivism in a Web 2.0 World

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
 Appropriate for: Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

Today's classroom teachers face many instructional challenges trying to balance the demands of NCLB, curriculum-pacing guides, technology and inquiry. Participants will examine and apply the principles of constructivist theory to identify changes that must take place to increase the level of technology integration in their classroom. Videos, websites, and Web 2.0 tools will accompany readings in this unique course. Participants will build a dream classroom, create rubrics and learn to use a Web 2.0 interface, which will become part of the final project.

Creating Educational Podcasts

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
 Appropriate for: Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

In this workshop, participants will explore the use of educational podcasts in regular curricula activities. Participants will take a look at a variety of podcasts and methods for incorporating podcasts into curricula projects, as well as the role of copyright, RSS feeds and Aggregators. Participants will create a simple podcast file using the free audio editor and recording software, Audacity. This workshop is geared toward the classroom teacher who has intermediate technology skills.

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Communication and Collaboration Web 2.0 Tools for Administrators

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School Administrators, Instructional Technology Resource Teacher, Technology/Teacher leaders, Media Specialists

This course will acquaint school and central office administrators with web-based applications, which can be used to streamline communication and collaboration among staff, teachers and community. Focusing on helping busy administrators find practical ways to collaborate and communicate, this course will provide a hands-on introduction to audio applications, survey and data gathering applications, and visual organizers to communicate and gather input, as well as review social media tools. In addition, this course will identify critical issues for administrators to consider before implementing these technologies into school practices. By the end of the workshop, administrators will have gained hands-on experience with these applications and developed a personal vision and action plan for integrating at least two Web 2.0 applications into their current work location.

Cycling Through Science 2.0

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, School

Science and technology go together in many ways! Through the use of videos, readings and web-based tools, participants will explore the use of real-time data, look at a variety of web-based tools, and find out how the web can connect students to real science and scientists. Participants will understand how science and mathematics fit together and have the opportunities to work in a group to develop final projects based on shared interest. This course is designed for elementary and middle school teachers, but is open to everyone!

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Daily Digital Images

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for: Elem., Middle, High School and College Instructor

The course will focus on using digital images in the classroom. Participants will explore digital image sites on the web, learn to use most of the essential features of digital cameras, explore how to use photos "instantly" in the classroom, understand how to integrate images into other classroom applications and connect it all together with the power of higher order thinking skills. Participants will both find and create digital images that enhance and expand their curriculum and will review the work of their fellow participants through the use of the discussion board. As a final activity, participants will develop one or more lesson plans that focus on a specific topic and have developed a complete list of strategies for using digital images in the classroom.

Designing Instructional Projects in Google Earth

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for: Elem., Middle, High School and College Instructor

Google Earth is about more than maps! Join us to learn how you can mix geography with language arts, science, history, art and other topics into cross-curricular, multimedia projects that allow students to show their learning in new and dynamic ways.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Differentiation: Using Technology to Plan, Organize, Assess and Instruct Each Student

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

Every classroom is made up of individuals with diverse strengths, backgrounds, and approaches to learning. Understanding and responding to students' individual learning styles and needs can be challenging for teachers. Participants in this workshop will be introduced to learning theory related to learning styles and multiple intelligences. They will explore web-based resources to assist teachers in identifying students' learning styles, intelligences as well as technologies that can address and engage students in activities which best suit those styles and intelligences. Participants will become familiar with instructional strategies and technology tools targeted for each learning style, intelligence, and develop a preliminary lesson plan/unit using those strategies and tools.

Discovering Horizons: Decision Making Through Virtual Maps

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for 5th-6th grade, Middle, High School, College Instructor

This workshop will lead participants through explorations in the use of spatial analysis and virtual maps for decision making. Participants will learn how to engage students in making decisions and answering questions through the analysis of web-based virtual maps when solving real world problems. This concept can be applied to any grade 5 - 12 content area, including Science, History, Geography, and Math. As a culminating project, participants will design a problem-based lesson plan using virtual maps centered on their curricula.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Formative Assessment: Low Tech to High Tech Tools for Data Collection

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

This workshop will look at embedding simple tools, ranging from low to high-tech, in instruction that capture student knowledge and understanding. Along the way, participants will learn to develop questioning techniques that elicit data about student progress/understanding and explore technology tools that can facilitate this process. Participants will investigate strategies to implement if student learning does not meet expectations. Participants will create a unit of instruction with strategic measures of student understanding. This unit will use technology to capture and report data. As part of this culminating project, participants will design a lesson that incorporates questioning techniques and strategies for implementation.

Get Engaged...Using Interactive Whiteboards in Your 21st Century Classroom

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

This course is designed to introduce new and beginner users of any interactive white board to the many ways you can incorporate it into your classroom and engage students in learning. Interactive whiteboard technology is a powerful tool when embedded into classroom instruction. This course will provide users with an array of ideas - from online blogs and websites, to teacher created lessons. Participants will also be introduced to communities of educators where they can share ideas and gain additional uses of the interactive whiteboard and other technologies.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Harnessing the Power of Digital Images in the Elementary Classroom

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for Elem. and Middle School

In this workshop participants will explore the concept of visual literacy and digital images in instruction. Participants will look at a variety of digital image galleries and a range of methods for incorporating these digital images into curricula projects using software programs such as Inspiration, ImageBlender and the Microsoft Office Suite. Each participant will create a project-based lesson, including digital images, which supports their curricular goals. This workshop is geared toward the elementary classroom teacher but with some modification in the final project and related student activities, it would also be suitable for middle school teachers.

Implementing Technology into your Social Studies Curriculum

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School

This course will take teachers on adventures geared toward enhancing social studies instruction by exploring the world of technology and ways to integrate it into classroom instruction. Each week of this six week course will take participants on a new adventure in this wonderful and ever changing world of technology with the ultimate goal of improving instruction to better educate all students. Participants will look at kid-safe strategies, primary sources and a variety of great tools to make movies, timelines and graphic organizers. When this course ends teachers will have created their own web based project and a hotlist of valuable websites that they can use in their classrooms.

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Information Literacy and Technology

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School

Using the Big6(tm) Information Literacy model, this course will focus on best practices in teaching information literacy skills. We will be using available hardware and software to integrate online research. The focus will be on the skills needed to locate, analyze, interpret, evaluate and record information and ideas using online resources. At the completion of the course, participants will have gathered all of the resources needed to teach their students information literacy skills in their own classroom. This model is just one model for Information Literacy. If your district has its own model you are required to use, you will be encouraged to incorporate this into your learning.

Integrating Technology with Marzano's Strategies for Inclusion Students

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School

This course is designed to assist teachers who have special needs students in their classroom by incorporating technology tools with research-based instructional strategies to increase student achievement for the resource student, as well as the regular education student. Participants will gain knowledge and skills to integrate various strategies using technology within their everyday subjects or units of study. Participants will plan activities utilizing specific strategies integrating technology before, during and after this unit to improve student learning. They will have the opportunity to focus on their individual student needs when applying the strategies learned through the course. Strategies and activities can also be designed with regular education students in mind.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Integrating Web 2.0 Technologies in Classroom Learning **30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits** Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

The rise of interactive technology has created exciting new possibilities for student learning and teaching, from online collaborative learning, interactive learning and communication spaces, to production of multimedia presentations. The purpose of this course is to explore the opportunities for learning with Web 2.0 technologies to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom. We will focus on Web 2.0 applications that enhance the possibilities for student collaboration, exchange of information and content creation. Tools explored include collaborative applications such as wikis, Google Docs, Wordl, Skype, Animoto, Glogster, and VoiceThread.

Introduction to Blogs **30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits** Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

While blogs have been around for a while, the idea seems to have caught on in education over the past two years. This online course will help participants explore questions such as: What is a blog? Do blogs have any implications for the way instruction happens in the classroom? How can blogs make a difference for students? How can someone start a blog? The course will allow participants to create blogs, learn about the different tools and options available inside of popular blog tools and understand the legal considerations surrounding this instructional tool.

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ITRT 101

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Instructional Technology Resource Teachers

The position of Instructional Technology Resource Teacher, or ITRT, has been evolving in Virginia for the past several years and is associated with standards of quality in terms of school population. The same position may also be called ITI (Instructional Technology Integrator), SBTS (School Based Technology Specialist), TRT (Technology Resource Teacher), or several others. New ITRTs hit the ground running, and need to draw upon a complex set of instructional, interpersonal, and technical skills. The position demands everything from long term planning to short term problem solving, and from working independently to working collaboratively. In this course you will work on defining roles, developing a vision for the position, and identifying those who can assist you in navigating through these new waters.

Let's Collaborate!

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for: Teaching Teams (all levels); College Instructor Teams

This course will prepare teachers to use productivity tools in a collaborative manner with students to enhance learning and creativity. Participants will practice what they are learning by working collaboratively right from the start! Projects in the course provide participants with opportunities to create meaningful learning experiences through peer review, collaborative presentations, and online groups and discussions. This course is great for school teams, grade level teams, and Collaborative Learning Teams who want to experience and practice the tools in a similar way to student use.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Reading and Writing in Your 21st Century Classroom **30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits** **Appropriate for Elementary, or working with Elementary Levels**

Close the digital divide and seamlessly integrate technology into your Language Arts curriculum. Educators must create an interactive environment utilizing the read/write web if they are going to be successful in engaging students in learning.

Participants will explore a variety of exciting online tools and resources designed to provide teachers in the elementary classroom with 21st century ideas to enhance their Reading and Language Arts curriculum.

Student Productivity and Communication **30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits** **Appropriate for Middle & High School , Administrators**

The purpose of this course is to identify, evaluate and improve student productivity and communication both in the classroom and while completing coursework outside of the classroom using a variety of technological tools. The audience for this course is educators and administrators at the secondary level. This includes but is not limited to teachers and principals in middle and high schools, as well as central office administrators.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Teacher Leaders: 21st Century Staff Developers

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School Teachers, Administrators, Instructional Technology Resource Teacher, Technology leaders, Media Specialists

Participants will have an opportunity to reflect on their own work as a teacher leader, and to expand their understanding and self-awareness as a professional change agent in their school or school division. In addition, opportunities to examine school culture and develop an action plan are included as required activities. Participants will receive an introduction to the National Staff Development Council Standards, teacher leadership, and research best practices on cultivating a climate of "continuous improvement" among teachers and students. By the end of the course, each participant will produce a leadership plan for personal and/or professional growth.

Teaching Students to Navigate the Digital World Safely

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for 3rd grade to Middle School

Focusing on grades 3-8, this course will explore different areas of Internet safety that include current "hot topics," such as social networking and cyberbullying. Participants will engage in dynamic activities and discussions that focus on keeping students safe when utilizing the World Wide Web in the school setting. A wide variety of web-based resources will be explored and developed into a useful guide to enhance classroom integration of technology.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Technology in Support of the Struggling Elementary Math Student

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem. and Middle School

This course, designed for elementary teachers, specialists and administrators, gives participants an opportunity to share concerns about struggling math students and receive concrete suggestions and advice. Along the way, participants will learn about web-based resources that may be valuable for helping students such as the National Library of Virtual Manipulatives, which will be explored in great depth. Participants will also explore how other technologies, such as video or digital cameras, can make an impact.

Technology To Support Writing SOLs - Secondary

30 recertification hours |Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Middle and High School,

Teaching writing to students can often be overwhelming. Technology can provide teachers an opportunity to help students organize their thoughts easily, create quick outlines and easily edit and submit their work. Technology can also facilitate more thorough peer editing and allow teachers to provide detailed, meaningful feedback on student work. Finally, with the advent of many Web 2.0 tools, the sharing and "publishing" of student work to an "audience" is more convenient and more accessible. This course is meant for any secondary level teacher in any subject area who is interested in using common technology tools to help students improve their writing skills.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Transition to the 21st Century Classroom

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

This course is designed for educators looking to make that transition to the 21st century technology teaching tools that are transforming our traditional classrooms into interactive environments. These instructional technologies include interactive white boards, wireless slates, classroom amplification systems, student response systems, visual presenters, and so much more. Educators will learn ways to transition from using traditional classroom tools and learn concepts so that they can begin incorporating these new technologies into their teaching and further engage students in learning. Participants will also be introduced to online communities of educators where they can become active participants, share ideas, access lessons, and gain support in their use of the interactive whiteboard and the supporting cast of 21st century classroom technology.

Upgrade! Integrating Technology into Models of Teaching

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

This course is intended to provide participants with the skills necessary to upgrade traditional teaching methods. Traditional models of teaching that will be explored include: using the Jigsaw Method, Direct Instruction, Inductive Model of Teaching, Question and Answer Model and the Reciprocal Model of Teaching. Participants will be asked to participate in a reflective process and explore ways in which technology can be effectively integrated into practice. By the end of the course participants will be able to effectively upgrade their practice by tying the technologies to the models of teaching, leading to improved student performance.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Using Graphic Organizers to Promote Higher Order Thinking Skills

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

This course provides strategies to help participants integrate graphic organizers into classroom lessons and activities in order to promote higher order thinking skills among students. Participants will develop graphic organizers to use with students and become familiar with the different options available for integrating activities into the classroom that will increase student learning and understanding of complex topics. By the end of this course participants will have developed graphic organizers that will help students make connections, demonstrate understanding of processes, and determine relationships such as cause and effect and sequence of events.

Using Mobile Devices in the Classroom

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits
Appropriate for: Teachers (all levels), College Instructor, Instructional Technology Resource Teachers, Medial Specialists, Administrators

This introductory workshop is for K-12 teachers, technology and curriculum specialists, and school administrators interested in exploring the vast possibilities for enhanced instruction through the use of mobile devices in the classroom. This course will allow instructors and administrators to capitalize on what they already know about mobile devices and stay abreast of the current technological resources available, even if mobile devices cannot currently be used in the school division. Participants are expected to have access to computers, a basic cell phone - iPods will be explored, but are optional. Please note that a texting plan is needed for some activities, but those without will still be able to complete the workshop activities.

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ETLO/NORTH TIER COURSES

Virtual Environments, Games, and Simulations

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

A hot topic in education these days is how effectively games, simulations, and virtual environments can be as a supplement or alternative delivery method to instruction in classrooms. Today's students are of the digital generation, having been born into a world where they have always had computers in their classrooms, the internet available to answer almost any question, and video games in many differing platforms. This course is designed to help the educator who is a novice with games, simulations, and virtual environments get the opportunity to experience them in a safe learning environment where they can take the time to experiment and share their discoveries with colleagues.

Visual Literacy: Creating a Media-Rich Classroom

30 recertification hours | Optional 2 Graduate Credits

Appropriate for Elem., Middle, High School, College Instructor

Our students are visual learners and thus understanding and mastering visual concepts and techniques is a primary strategy for reaching today's students. In addition, helping students understand and be able to produce media extends their learning in ways not possible with traditional classroom tools. In this class participants will learn how to make their classroom a media-rich environment by both finding and creating everything from effective print documents to short videos. Participants will learn simple principles that will improve any media and understand the underlying brain research and practice applying these concepts in their classroom. Participants should have access to: a page layout program of their choice (MS Publisher, InDesign, word processor); a video camera (a flip-type camera or in-camera video will do—as will a web cam); video editing software (Windows Movimaker, Apple iMovie, Premiere Elements).

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North TIER Partners and Contacts

<i>Germanna Community College</i>	Julie Mersiowsky	jmersiowsky@germanna.edu
<i>Alexandria City Public Schools</i>	Christine Hull Mary Fluharty	christine.hull@acps.k12.va mary.fluharty@acps.k12.va.us
<i>Arlington Public Schools</i>	Dana Smith Jeannine Richardson	dana_smith@apsva.us jrichar@arlington.k12.va.us
<i>CRSTE</i>	Walter McKenzie	waltermckenzie@crste.org
<i>Culpeper County Public Schools</i>	Heather Glick	HGlick@culpeperschools.org
<i>Fairfax County Public Schools (Course Manager)</i>	Aron Sterling	aron.sterling@fcps.edu
<i>Falls Church City Public Schools</i>	Susan Jinks	jinkss@fccps.org
<i>Fauquier County Public Schools</i>	Ellen Nosal Julie Kuzma	enosal@fcps1.org jkuzma@fcps1.org
<i>Fredericksburg City Public Schools</i>	Robert Young	ryoung@cityschools.com
<i>Loudoun County Public Schools</i>	Dr. Nancy Farrell	Lynn.McNally@lcps.org
<i>Manassas Park Public Schools</i>	Patty Gilham	patty.gilham@mpark.net
<i>Manassas City Public Schools</i>	Patti Shaw	pshaw@manassas.k12.va.us
<i>Prince William County Public Schools</i>	Pat Donahue	donahuep@pwcs.edu
<i>Stafford County Public Schools</i>	Lisa Rollins Andy Wolfenbarger	rollinsle@staffordschools.net wolfenbargeram@staffordschools.net
<i>Spotsylvania County Public Schools</i>	Dr. Jan Streich Dr. Cindy Pixley	jstreich@spotsylvania.k12.va.us cpixley@hs.spotsylvania.k12.va.us
<i>MHz Networks</i>	Preeti Balakrishnan	pbalakrishnan@mhznetworks.org
<i>ETLO</i>	Barbara Treacy	btreacy@edc.org