As an increasingly critical partner in education, Cisco is bringing new technologies and solutions to the mission of teaching and learning. We believe that the same technologies that created the Internet and the information revolution have the power to transform education for the 21st century. Working together with schools and higher education, we can provide innovative education solutions that connect, engage, and empower learners, educators, and leaders to improve learning, accelerate economic growth, and strengthen social well-being.

Cisco has always had close ties to, and a strong focus on, education. Cisco works with schools and educational organizations in more than 125 countries today. Along with our education customers, we have learned that the network as the platform has the power to improve teacher training and professional development.

Imperatives for Educator Professional Development

In today’s 21st century teaching and learning environments, highly skilled teachers and faculty are the greatest determinant of student achievement. To be the best possible teacher, you need to be a lifelong student. That means participating in regular professional development to stay current on the latest research and trends in education, and sharing best practices with others in the field. Cisco® communications and collaboration technologies make it easier, less expensive, and more convenient to participate in these activities, so teachers and faculty can spend more time training, and less time traveling.

Together we can extend professional development beyond traditional in-service events and sustain the professional development experience with virtual classrooms, online content sharing, and professional learning communities.
Cisco Solutions for Professional Development

Integrated Web and Video Conferencing

Cisco solutions help enable face-to-face teaching and learning from anywhere, at any time, on any device. Table 1 lists features and benefits of Cisco integrated web and video conferencing solutions.

Table 1  Features and Benefits of Cisco Web and Video Conferencing Solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Cisco WebEx   | Using Cisco WebEx® solutions, schools can connect faculty members from different regions and skill sets. Combining audio, video, text chat, whiteboard, and application sharing into one environment, Cisco WebEx solutions are accessible from any personal computer and on most mobile devices. | • Connect swiftly and securely with colleagues through the Cisco WebEx collaboration cloud  
• Tailor instruction to individual teacher learning styles with advanced interactive features  
• Hold districtwide teacher and faculty training sessions and meetings without requiring educators to leave their campuses  
• Move professional development beyond the office or classroom by reaching faculty on the devices they use most, including smartphones  
• Remove the burdens of support and maintenance through the Cisco WebEx software-as-a-service (SaaS) delivery model |
| Cisco TelePresence | Cisco TelePresence allows an “in-person” professional development environment through live, interactive video communication. Educators, faculty and staff can collaborate, work, and learn in real time no matter where they are located without the time and cost of travel. | • Conduct meetings and share best practices without leaving campus  
• Collaborate “face-to-face” more frequently, and finish projects more quickly  
• Bring subject matter experts in from anywhere in the world for live, interactive professional development sessions  
• Receive and provide career mentoring in real time, anytime |
Digital Media Libraries

With digital media libraries, you can organize learning resources and share them in real time. Table 2 lists features and benefits of Cisco digital media library solutions.

Table 2  Features and Benefits of Cisco Products for Organizing and Sharing Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cisco Show and Share and Cisco Media Experience Engine</td>
<td>Cisco Show and Share facilitates web video publishing, engaging education professionals with video and providing full-featured online video library capabilities for professional development goals. Many teachers capture video, using their smartphones, laptop cameras, or Cisco Flip Video™ camcorders. With the Cisco Media Experience Engine, you can transcode that video, so that it appears correctly on different viewing devices, including smartphones, computers, and high-definition displays in classrooms or offices.</td>
<td>• Save significant time and money by creating instantly accessible videos instead of spending hours in face-to-face or audio conferencing meetings • Increase productivity by viewing critical video updates on your computer, within the flexibility of your schedule • Boost productivity by using transcription capabilities to scan videos for relevant information instead of watching entire clips • Use video recordings of lessons to extend opportunities for classroom observation, sharing of best practices, feedback by master teachers and personal reflection by teachers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Learning Communities

A private, secure professional environment that manages both intelligent workspaces and the communication necessary to enhance professional development is an imperative for faculty professional development. Table 3 lists the features and benefits of Cisco products for professional learning communities.

Table 3  Features and Benefits of Cisco Products for Managing Professional Workspaces and Communications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cisco Quad</td>
<td>Cisco Quad is a private, professional online environment. The professional development experience is transformed when educators are freed from traditional boundaries of time and location, allowing them to be more engaged in the professional development process.</td>
<td>• Create virtual working groups • Find colleagues with common interests • Share content, files, or videos • Instantly start video or audio conferences and chat sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Technology Education Program

Cisco provides comprehensive, cost-effective technology education programs that develop and sustain instructor training. Table 4 lists the features and benefits of Cisco education programs for professional development.

Table 4  Features and Benefits of Cisco Education Programs for Professional Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Cisco Leading Virtual Classroom Instruction Certification | Cisco’s Leading Virtual Classroom Instruction (LVCI) course teaches educators how to prepare and manage a virtual classroom, how to effectively deliver material online, and how to use collaboration tools such as Cisco WebEx to maximize student participation and comprehension. | • Demonstrate a commitment to excellence in virtual instruction
• Improve teaching success
• Expand your career options
• Increase student satisfaction |
| Cisco TelePresence Teachers Training Teachers (T4) | Cisco’s T4 Professional Services package is a set of consulting and training services. Designed by teachers, for teachers, the Cisco T4 Program provides hands-on practice and interaction with experienced distance educators. This end-user training is designed to help teachers more quickly begin using video communications in the classroom. | • Incorporate video teaching methods into the classroom more efficiently
• Gain new ideas, tips, and tricks for engaging students |

Cisco Solutions in Action

Anoka-Hennepin School District, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Challenge
• Increase opportunities for teacher cooperation and communication
• Offer robust interactive meeting experiences for multisite educators
• Support rapid exchange of ideas with collaborative document creation and sharing

Solution
• Cisco WebEx online meeting tools enable regular teaching strategy sessions
• Web-based conferences engage faculty through interactive professional development experiences
• Online tools allow access from multiple locations

Results
• Reduced travel costs while improving staff efficiency and productivity
• Increased frequency of planning and review meetings from biannually to weekly
• Improved peer support for specialized teachers

Cisco Networking Academy

Challenge
• Maintain quality of the program and student outcomes
• Provide development opportunities to almost 4000 instructors in more than 2100 education institutions across the country
• Assist instructor peer development, mentoring, and best practice sharing

Solution
• Web-based communities keep instructors connected with chat, blogs, posting of information, and access to online tools from any location
• Cisco WebEx allows for regular training sessions with a broad geographical reach and collaboration options for group participation
• Web-based virtual conference provides interactive professional development experiences

Results
• Increased instructor participation by removing hurdles related to travel and costs
• Improved student outcomes from sharing pedagogical best practices and evolving instructor skills
• Rapid deployment of teaching enhancement tools
“Before using WebEx, we tried setting up dedicated websites for teachers working in professional learning communities, but it still didn’t take care of the need for real interaction. With WebEx, we have a valuable tool that helps teachers meet face-to-face with colleagues in different buildings so they can share strategies.”

Tom Skoglund
Anoka–Hennepin School District Teacher

How Cisco Services Can Help

Cisco Services works with learning institutions to implement cost-effective, well-planned, and robust network-based solutions for true 21st-century professional development environments. We help facilitate the rapid deployment of new applications with minimal disruption, while helping ensure a manageable migration path and focus on academic achievement and budget requirements.

Why Cisco?

Cisco is committed to helping teachers and faculty develop the skills needed to flourish in today’s economy and society. Cisco solutions support collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. We provide tools that enable educators to design new blended models of professional development that assist teachers in achieving their continuing development goals.

Strengthen Your Professional Development Environment

To learn more about how Cisco solutions can help enable innovative professional development in your institution, contact your Cisco account manager, or visit:

www.cisco.com/go/education