Remote EDU Professional Development: Delivering at scale

Empowering educators to confidently and positively embrace change towards digital transformation is often an institution's top concern; and can be one of the biggest hurdles. Pursuing a widespread commitment to digital transformation among all educators and leaders can be expensive, difficult to track usefulness, and hard to provide the necessary support in growing teacher efficacy.

When schools around the world closed in 2020, educators were instantly thrust into a radically different teaching environment with their students. Without the right tools, training, and support; teachers were left to figure out their own path. Schools which were able to transition their professional development (PD) model turned to remote PD.

As we move into a post-Covid school experience, what can educators and leaders learn from the past year? How is remote learning impacting professional development going forward?

Even in remote settings, this can be achieved.

Providing opportunities for both synchronous and asynchronous learning for educators creates choice and flexibility. A recent study in the United States found that 64 percent of educators say they are likely to continue virtual professional development post-covid (EdWeek Market Brief) and a survey of Microsoft Innovative Educators indicated teachers prefer short, on-demand learning options and sessions that last no longer than an hour. Including varied and dynamic content keeps educators engaged in the learning.

Ensuring learning continues beyond the initial training is also important.

Ecuador put in place a scalable PD program that will serve their educators well going forward. Ecuador benefited from using Microsoft Teams integrated with Moodle to launch their remote PD program. A Teacher Reporting System was created on SharePoint and PowerApps and they built a library of high-quality resources from the UNESCO Digital Repository.

64%

of educators say they're likely to continue virtual professional development, post-COVID.

Khatib, 2021

When teachers are given the attention, development, and support to become leaders, outcomes improve across the board. Schools improve their standings, and more importantly, students do better.

Teacher effectiveness is the largest factor influencing student outcomes after the home environment, outweighing all other policy and program approaches. Time spent in professional development, especially collaborative professional development, is one of the most effective differentiators of high performing schools. *Jensen, Hunter, Sonnemann & Cooper, 2014*

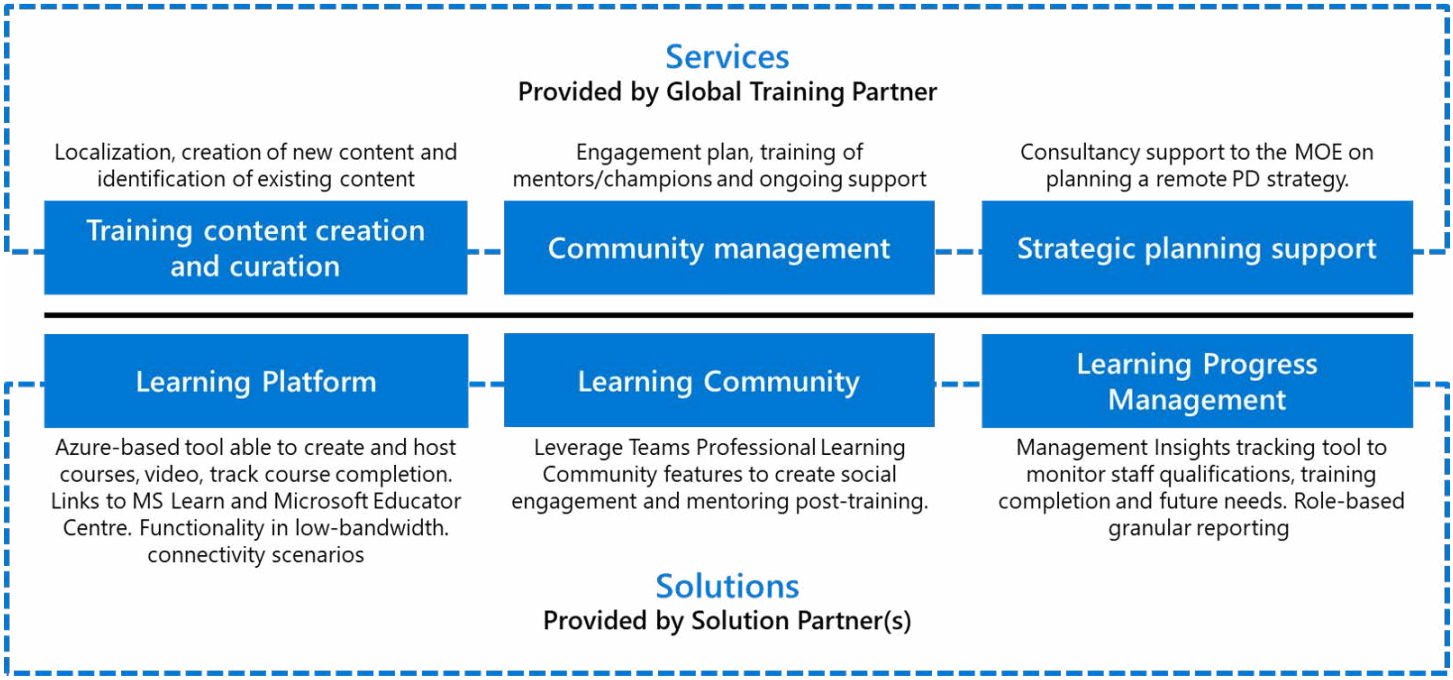
"What's most important is to focus on the classroom - that is, championing instructor expertise, and spreading it from classroom to classroom."

Hattie, 2015

Microsoft

Remote Professional Development

Microsoft supports educator Professional Development through internal resources and partnerships with Global Training organizations



At Microsoft, we believe a scalable remote Professional Development platform offers:

- Just-in-Time' training that is better than 'Just-in-case' training. MS Learn and the Microsoft Educator Center provides searchable, scenario-based content available at your fingertips.
- Built-in social learning for the educator community – Enabling instructor expertise, coaching and peer assisted learning, and a place to share ideas and resources through the Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert and Showcase Schools Programs.
- Data tools for the tracking of progress and supportive intervention from leadership, including initial assessment and personalized learning pathways for each teacher. Role-based dashboard with granular tracking at all levels.
- Ingestion of local and international content, including competency frameworks for initial teacher assessment.
- Integration with MS Learn and the Microsoft Educator Centre for additional content and resources.
- Globally recognized industry certifications – with exams available online and on-demand.
- An extensive education training partner network for more customized PD.
- Microsoft's Education Transformation Framework – A proven methodology for digital transformation.
- An international community in which world leading organizations explore and pilot new approaches to remote and hybrid professional development for teachers.
- An opportunity to leverage expert training, blended learning, and digital expertise to design and test new integrated platforms for professional development.

Microsoft EDU Professional Development resources

LDTE program	Leaders in the Digital Transformation of Education (LDTE) program brings together visionary education leaders and expert stakeholders in a global movement to accelerate digital transformation with insights from the technology industry. Facilitated by Microsoft, the LDTE program shares best practices to help every nation build knowledge and human capital for the benefit of all.
Global Training Partners Program	Every year, the Microsoft Global Training Partner (GTP) program connects training partners to thousands of education leaders, educators, and faculty throughout the world – helping them to best leverage technology for teaching and learning, no matter where they are.
Microsoft Educator Center	The Microsoft Educator Center provides a comprehensive library of on-demand courses that let educators learn new skills on their own time. Nearly a million courses were completed worldwide spring 2021 on the Microsoft Educator Center; bringing new skills to the classroom, and earning professional development hours and acquiring badges by educators, while learning how to confidently implement remote, hybrid, or in-person learning.
Microsoft Learn	Using Microsoft Learn, educators can discover new skills, find certifications, and advance their careers in minutes with interactive, hands-on learning paths.
Microsoft Innovative Educators Program	The Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) program recognizes global educator visionaries who use technology to pave the way for themselves and their peers for better learning and student outcomes. There are a variety of programs under the MIE umbrella to help both educators who are just beginning this journey, as well as for educators who are leaders in innovative education.
Showcase School Program	Microsoft Showcase School program is a global community of pioneer schools around the world. This program provides an opportunity to engage with Microsoft and like-minded school leaders to deepen and expand education transformation using Microsoft Education Transformation Framework.
Student Teacher Program	The Student Teacher Education Program (STEP) is prepares pre-service teachers to be successful in using technology tools to create learning environments that empower students as independent and creative learners; building reading, language, and STEM skills; and prepares them for their futures.
Live and OnDemand Webinars	Find live and on-demand training, webinars, and events that empower educators and students to make the most of remote learning.
Connect live with MSFT associates	Our interactive virtual workshops and training sessions are taught live by Microsoft associates—wherever you are.

For more information and to find a partner training company for your schoools, visit:
aka.ms/FindaTrainer