

## Educators

*This school year West Virginia added world-class rigor to traditional core subjects and aligned state standards with national and international tests. We call it Global21.*

### Why is public education changing?

- As our schools continue to evolve in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, what we teach and how we teach in our schools must keep pace with the dynamic changes taking place in our world.
- Eighty percent of the jobs to be held by today's kindergarten students during their lifetimes do not currently exist.
- Eighty percent of the fastest growing jobs in the U.S. require a two- or four-year degree.
- Students need to be taught how to determine what to do when they don't know what to do. In addition to the traditional curriculum, students need to understand leadership, problem solving, innovation, relationships, self-direction, commitment, perspective and decision making.

### In the 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environment, as educators you will

- require your students to think critically, communicate effectively, manage and evaluate information, and use technology as a tool to solve problems;
- strive to make lessons relevant to your students' lives and address their interests;
- encourage collaboration in and out of the classroom;
- require your students to present the results of their learning to their peers, teachers and community members;
- make your students financially and civically literate, and aware of the necessity of a healthy lifestyle;
- enable your students to work with people from many cultures as they interact in a global society.

### What should I do?

- You are at the core of this educational revolution. Change will not happen without your enthusiastic support and leadership because parents and students will turn to you for guidance.
- You can make a personal commitment to learn and understand all components of 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning.
- Be proactive in transforming your classroom into a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning center.
- Work with other teachers at your grade level or in your content area to critically study, identify and explain the requirements in each objective of the West Virginia 21<sup>st</sup> Century Content Standards and Objectives (CSOs).
- Develop a plan to ensure your students master the CSOs.
- Utilize the Teach 21 Web site at <http://wvde.state.wv.us/teach21> to access model lessons, unit plans, instructional guides and Project Based Learning units that provide examples of 21<sup>st</sup> century instruction.
- Notify your principal or superintendent that you would like to attend a Global21 professional development session offered by school, county or state leadership.
- Be an advocate for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning.

