



Pictured above are TEC21 Facilitators Luke Finchum, Shanna Opfer and Corey Nelson. Iron sharpens iron. (Proverbs 27:17)

Planning is underway for new TEC21 cohorts. Don't miss out! See why!

Greetings, friends in Christ!

A recent email from a new principal reminded me that it is important to occasionally introduce or re-introduce TEC21 to Lutheran schools that have not participated or recently participated in our Workshop Program. In that spirit, I want to answer here a few of the questions we are regularly asked.

First though, **please take a moment to register** -<https://tec21connect.com/registration/> - if you haven't already for Season 15 of the Workshop Program. If you know you will send a teacher(s) it would be enormously helpful to the planning we are doing now to receive your registrations. As always, if you don't yet know which teachers you will send, please register with your (principal) name to hold your spots. Thank you, in advance, for your attention and help!



*Principals who are unfamiliar with TEC21 ask, **how is TEC21 differentiated from other professional development opportunities?***

The TEC21 Workshop Program is trusted by hundreds of Lutheran schools across the U.S. and globally. [Our approach to teacher education is firmly rooted in discipleship and principles of adult learning.](#)

What are the tenets of the TEC21 professional development opportunity?

Evidence-based research* shows our Workshop Program meets all the benchmarks of effective teacher professional development:

- Content focused
 - From Early Childhood through grade 12, our cohorts focus on the Lutheran school teacher and the specific subjects they teach and how to integrate technology to enrich the student experience ... piquing their curiosity ... helping them gain new and better understanding of concepts in the world around them. The next six tenets happen because of this!
- Incorporates active learning
- Supports collaboration
- Uses models of effective practice
- Provides coaching and expert support
- Offers feedback and reflection
- Is of sustained duration

**From a 2017 research study on effective teacher professional development by the Learning Policy Institute*

In a season when Lutheran school teachers are once again very busy with everything from science fairs to extracurricular events, wouldn't it be easier to carve out time for a webinar versus a year-long Workshop Program?

Easier perhaps but missing the blessing! From resources to technologies to teaching methodologies that are tried and true to brand new, [the TEC21 Workshop Program gives Lutheran school teachers the gift of time to examine, question, evaluate and understand technology and develop practical applications for their classrooms.](#) Workshop participants tell us every year they are refreshed and energized ... spiritually, mentally, emotionally and intellectually.

Why do schools keep returning every year to TEC21, sending new teachers through?

#1: the very real [fear of technological obsolescence](#). Technology changes and advances every hour. Just consider the artificial intelligence industry that has educators all over the globe on their toes!

#2: TEC21 delivers a [very high return on investment](#), and that's before you consider that every teacher coming through the Workshop Program becomes a peer influencer in their schools and a careerlong participant of the TEC21 learning community.

#3: There is absolutely no replacement for the peer-to-peer practical application time in the workshop setting. Bringing Lutheran school teachers together around content and a curriculum on technology is vital, increasingly. We know time in TEC21 learning cohorts fuels the teaching fire that burns in all of us.

The 2023/2024 season—Season 15—begins September 2023. There are limited seats in each cohort, so sign up now at <https://tec21connect.com/registration/> for one of our virtual cohorts, a CUNE face-to-face faculty cohort, or one of 30 traditional, face-to-face, multiple grade-level cohorts impacting EC-12.

Link to [Workshop Program information for our traditional and virtual cohorts](#)

Link to [STEM Workshop Program information](#)

JoyFully HIS,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brent".

Brent Dieckhoff
TEC21 Founder & Executive Director