



**Union University Presents**

**Institute for School Leaders**

**Partnership of  
Tennessee Department of Education  
Peabody College of Vanderbilt University  
Bill and Melinda Gates  
Little Planet Learning**

The Institute for School Leaders (ISL) is a three-day professional development program offered as part of an effort to bring real change to our state's school systems by focusing on the skills of the school leaders who can make it happen. Tennessee school leaders are discovering a new program offered exclusively to assistant principals, principals, supervisors of instruction, and superintendents. More and more are coming away with a revitalized interest and new knowledge about how to propel student learning in their schools.

**Schedule for West Tennessee:**

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Session Title/Description</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Registration: Click on Name to send Email!</b>
<b>Dates:</b> Sept. 30 – Oct 2, 2003  <b>Time:</b> 8:00-3:30	The Institute for School Leaders	TASL Mandated Positions Principals, Assistant Principals and TASL Mandated Central Office Positions.	Union University Hammons Hall Room 215	Tennessee Department of Education	Registration Contact: Libby Welbes at <a href="mailto:Libby.Welbes@state.tn.us">Libby.Welbes@state.tn.us</a>  Contact Phone: 615.532.6205
<b>Dates:</b> Dec. 16-18, 2003  <b>Time:</b> 8:00-3:30	The Institute for School Leaders	TASL Mandated Positions Principals, Assistant Principals and TASL Mandated Central Office Positions.	Union University Blasingame Academic Complex Room, BAC44	Tennessee Department of Education	Registration Contact: Libby Welbes at <a href="mailto:Libby.Welbes@state.tn.us">Libby.Welbes@state.tn.us</a>  Contact Phone: 615.532.6205

### **Focus on Leading**

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### **Focus on Learning**

*How people learn is just as important as **what** people learn.* The ISL training begins with learning about learning. Even the best learners often don't recognize why they are good at absorbing and processing new information. In the 5 components of the How People Learn (HPL) model, the participant will

1. Solve a real-life, school-based **challenge**
2. Record **initial thoughts**
3. Consult expert **resources**
4. Revise and record **new insights**
5. Apply new learning with **feedback** from peers.

This learning process has proven effective among all age groups with widely varying learning styles. By understanding how they learn themselves, school leaders have found they are better able to improve student learning as well.

### **Focus on Leading Learners**

"Every time I make a decision, I need to ask myself 'how will this affect learning in my school?'"  
Lana Seivers, Former Superintendent and Current Commissioner of Education.

The ISL was designed by a team of top researchers in the field of school leadership and real world practitioners from schools across our state. Using a computer-based delivery system, participants will spend three days with Jonathan Edwards, the principal of a fictional Tennessee school, as he grapples with the critical issues facing our state's school leaders. By most accounts, Principal Edwards is doing a great job. In less than 5 years, he's lifted a low-performing school above the state average and has instilled a sense of safety and community the school hasn't seen for as long as anyone can remember. It is a huge, quantifiable improvement.

But is that enough? When his superintendent tells him it's not, he is surprised, confused, and desperate. "Why does my school have to change? How does it need to change? How do I lead this change?" Participants in the Institute will be delving into each of these issues.

### **Technology**

Much of the ISL program is delivered through a user-friendly computer program in a facilitated environment. The ISL models for school leaders the development and enhancement of technology usage in their schools. **The on-line TAGLIT technology assessment, which is completed by principals and teachers, is an ISL requirement.** The assessment will provide each administrator with a detailed picture of where his/her school stands techno-logically and how it can be improved. Participants who successfully complete all parts of the ISL, including their TAGLIT assessment, will receive either a high quality PDA or digital camera with a short introduction on how to use it in work and at home.

### **Questions?**

#### **Who may attend the ISL?**

All TASL-mandated individuals in public schools as well as directors of schools or administrators of non-public schools in Tennessee may apply.

#### **Will I receive CEO or TASL credit for my participation?**

All participants who complete the required portions of the program will receive either three days of CEO credit or 24 hours of TASL credit.