Developing Technology Vision Statements

In Professional Learning Communities at Work (1998), Rick DuFour and Bob Eaker argued that effective vision statements in a PLC articulate, "a vivid picture of the organization's future that is so compelling that a school's members will be motivated to work together to make it a reality." Use this handout to begin crafting a set of 5-10 vision statements that articulate a vivid picture of what technology use will look like in your school's future. Remember that all vision statements must be connected to your school's mission.

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Remembering Your School's Mission: Write your school's mission statement below as a reminder of the core priorities of your building. Underline or highlight the most important words and phrases.

Sample Response:	Your Response:
"Salem Middle School is a collaborative community that ensures high student achievement and values the unique needs of every learner"	

Writing Your Vision Statements: Write 5-10 technology vision statements below. Each statement should be a specific action step describing what students and/or teachers would be doing if your school was using technology to effectively support your mission. Remember that you're imagining an ideal future—not describing your current reality. Also, remember that your vision statements will change over time as your teachers and students master practices placed on this list. Your goal is to create a manageable list of digital behaviors to begin working towards.

Sample Response:	Your Responses:
If we were using technology to ensure high student achievement and to value the unique needs of every learner, we would: 1. Create regular digital opportunities for students to give and receive feedback about their ideas and their work products. 2. Ask students to maintain digital portfolios documenting the concepts that they've mastered as well as the concepts that they continue to wrestle with during the time spent in our school. 3. Maintain digital warehouses of screencast tutorials connected to the key concepts in every subject area that can be used for remediation and/or enrichment. 4. Maintain digital warehouses of exemplars of student work products and thinking that clarify expectations for both parents and students. 5. Use digital survey and response tools to collect formative assessment feedback from students at the end of lessons that can be used by teachers to inform instructional choices.	

Questions to Consider:	Your Responses:
• *Place your vision statements in order from most to least important. Then, explain your rankings.* • *Now, place your vision statements in order from the easiest to the hardest to implement. Do your lists differ? Why? How will that change your implementation plans?* • *Are different learning teams better prepared to tackle some vision statements than others? What role will differentiation by team and/or teacher play in your implementation plans?*	