



## #VaLIN Cohort Site Visit

Wednesday, May 9, 2019 | 8:00am - 4:00pm

Washington County Public Schools

Bedford County Public Schools

Norton City Public Schools

Buchanan County Public Schools



**Prepared By:** John Ross

I will conduct a three-hour mini-Institute with teachers from **Norton City** and **Buchanan County** at the end of the school year to help inform teachers in the division about the Virginia is for Learners Initiative and to consider their roles in the fall. I have been asked to focus on Scott McLeod's Four Shifts protocol as well as helping staff to generate a vision for their work.

**Washington County** has engaged with the Buck Institute and plans to have administrators complete a PBL training in June. Teachers will complete training in July. They are interested in a site visit to Loudon County, but they are really interested in a webinar because of their distance from NOVA.

**Bedford County** has been working on personalized learning prior to joining the network and has contracted with Reimagined to guide their work. The Division has both a director of Personalized Learning and an experienced core team of educators who have been implementing personalized learning strategies in their own classrooms. The director would like to expand the work of the core team to as many other teachers in the Division as feasible. One difficulty identified by the team is a lack of understanding of how to create effective online and blended learning opportunities, whether for adults or students. While some staff members have explored creating online learning, the team has asked for support with helping staff across the Division develop better online and blended learning.

ALP consultant, Dr. John Ross, is going to host a [full day](#) on Wednesday, May 9, with the Division's ITRTs and any available team members on designing blended and online learning. Dr. Ross has many years of experience of designing and delivering online learning and supporting online learning communities. He is the author of *Online Professional Development. Design, Deliver, Succeed!* from Corwin and has a chapter about online courses in the popular *Powerful Designs for Professional Learning* series from Learning Forward. Dr. Ross will create and deliver a blended course that educators in Bedford County will engage with in order to develop a list of division-specific design guidelines to help educators within the division develop their own blended and online course material. The course materials will become available to all participants in the Virginia is for Learners Network. Members of the network that are interested in participating in the on-site session on May 9 should contact Dr. Ross.