Executive Summary

The third goal under *Pathways to Opportunity: The Virginia Plan for Higher Education*, the statewide strategic plan for higher education, is "transformative." This is defined as "expanding prosperity by increasing the social, cultural and economic well-being of individuals and communities within the Commonwealth and its regions." Public education has long been seen as a linchpin of our communities, and a strong public education system is correlated with social, cultural, and economic well-being. Therefore, if we are going to expand prosperity by increasing well-being, we need schools that include transformative learning experiences for students who are expected to be active participants in our deliberative democracy and productive members of our future workforce. ***T^3: Transformative PD for Transformative Learning Experiences to Transform the Workforce*** is designed to be a transformative professional development experience for public school teachers with the goal of helping them to design those transformative learning experiences and to inspire students to explore professional pathways where artificial intelligence (AI) is in play.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is already becoming an indispensable component of numerous aspects of our society. Therefore, if one goal of public education is to prepare students for the workforce, then we need our current students to explore the affordances (and constraints) of AI. Currently, we are experiencing just the tip of the iceberg of how AI might be integrated into teaching and learning, including intelligent tutoring systems, plagiarism detection, and speech-to-text applications. There is now no shortage of collections of resources for teachers looking to integrate AI-assisted learning applications. But the potential affordances of AI in education go well beyond AI as a learning assistant. For students to be able to really see what AI is and can do (and might be able to do), they need to tinker with artificial intelligence technologies and get under the proverbial hood of artificial intelligence; they need learning experiences that are truly transformative.

To help teachers help students do this work, the professional development experience proposed herein is, itself, transformative with a focus on sustainability. This is not a one-time, drive-by PD opportunity; this is an extensive and extended experience where teachers, across disciplines, can learn with and from each other and deep subject matter experts (SME). Twenty teachers from one rural and one suburban school division will spend two years engaged in a professional development experience that includes intensive face-to-face meetings in 3 consecutive summers and synchronous and asynchronous work together virtually during academic years 2024-25 and 2025-26.

As AI continues to evolve, its integration into public education promises to enhance accessibility, efficiency, and effectiveness, preparing students for the demands of the rapidly changing future. ***T^3: Transformative PD for Transformative Learning Experiences to Transform the Workforce*** will be a transformative PD experience aimed at helping teachers help students prosper in the face of a rapidly changing workforce and society.