

GEF/MSU iPad Teacher Journal Study

GE Foundation (GEF) has provided Michigan State University (MSU) with a grant to carry out an attitudinal study around the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The GE Foundation selected Jefferson County Public Schools (JPCS), Erie Public Schools and one school in New York City that has shown advancement with the new CCSS and its work.

Through active collaboration with JCTA, 600 iPads were purchased for future distribution for the study. Area Assistant Superintendents were asked to pick two elementary schools and one middle school, with preference being given to schools with GEF funded School-based Staff Developers (SBSD), in the hopes that the SBSBs would provide additional support with the technology and would serve as a point person for the study at the school level. The following schools in each region were identified to participate and approved by JCTA:

- Region 1: Farnsley MS, Crums Lane ES, Dixie ES
- Region 2: Noe MS, Coral Ridge ES, Kenwood ES
- Region 3: Knight MS, Hartstern ES, Minors Lane ES
- Region 4: Newburg MS, Klondike ES, Price ES
- Region 5: Crosby MS, Byck ES, Englehard ES
- Region 6: Westport MS, Chancey ES, Lincoln ES

Original plans were to purchase and distribute iPads at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year. However, complications with the GEF Board, funding and other logistics at MSU delayed the rollout. In the meantime, further collaboration with JCTA finalized guidelines around participation as well as a plan for distribution and level of teacher responsibility:

- Only those teachers (including ECE and ESL) teaching a mathematics class, K-8, will be given the option to participate. MSU provided further criteria for participation (see attachment 1). Participating teachers need to be able to reflect on the following questions on a daily basis:
 1. In today's mathematics lesson, which common core standards did you cover?
 2. How much time did you spend on each standard, separately or together?
 3. What materials were used including page numbers?
 4. Which mathematics practice(s) did you cover, if any, for each standard?
 5. How confident were you in teaching each standard?
 6. How confident were you that your students mastered the standard covered?
- Participation at the school is on an individual volunteer basis. If specific teacher(s) decides not to participate, this will not opt out the school.
- Reflections/journaling will need to be completed outside of the workday; it should not require more than 5-10 minutes.

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- Any training offered will also need to be completed outside of the workday, on a volunteer basis (no stipend will be offered as teachers will be compensated with the iPad).
- Teachers will need to remain as JCPS employees and commit to one full school year before iPads will be relinquished as teacher property.
- Teachers will have full responsibility of repairs, lost/stolen as it will not be replaced by MSU/GEF and/or JCPS/JCTA.
- Teachers will need to sign a *JCPS Property Registration Form and Acknowledgement* letter (see attachment 2) at a scheduled non-paid, after school training before an iPad will be assigned to them. The training will include a verbal overview of the commitment and responsibility, brief training on accessing and entering data, and a brief professional development from CES on apps that will leverage the use of the iPad in the classroom with students.

Region	Grade Level	Date/Time	Location
Region 1, 2, 3	Middle	March 11 th from 3:00 - 4:30pm	Gheens, Flex A
Region 1 & 2	Elementary	March 11 th from 4:30 - 6:00pm	Gheens, Flex A
Region 4, 5, 6	Middle	March 13 th from 3:00 - 4:30pm	Gheens, Flex A
Region 3 & 4	Elementary	March 13 th from 4:30 - 6:00pm	Gheens, Flex A
Region 5 & 6	Elementary	March 15 th from 3:00 - 4:30pm	Gheens, Flex A

Currently:

- 600 iPads have been inventoried by JCPS and are ready for distribution.
- Principals and potential participating teachers have received an invitation to participate with the appropriate documentation to assist in the decision making process (see attachments 1, 2 and 3). Teachers have been asked to attend the training session outlined above if they choose to participate.
- Following the training, teachers are expected to begin journaling right away.
- In June 2014, the iPads will be given to participating teachers to be used for personal and professional purposes as long as they remain a JCPS employee and commit to journaling during the 2013-14 school year.
- Teachers will be invited to continue journaling after the 2013-14 commitment concludes.