

GRREC Elementary Math Initiative 2008

GRREC has an opportunity to replicate and expand our three-year math initiative. The funding, through the Kentucky Department of Education's Math/Science Partnership program, will support and supplement a new round of professional development for elementary teachers.

Following are the general benefits and responsibilities of the project for individual schools (not all inclusive). Additional detail will be available during the informational meeting on May 16 (10:30 a.m., Carroll Knicely Conference Center).

Benefits

1. **Teacher Content Training:** We will utilize trainers from Carnegie Learning as well as master math practitioners in grade-level summer academies (five days) to entrench teachers in math content. They will learn or re-learn the foundations of Algebra that will support their teaching in the classroom and help them, as the new National Math Report states, prepare students to be successful in high school math.
2. **Math-Whizz Software:** Math-Whizz turns a classroom white board or PC into an interactive and responsive tool for individual students and/or whole group instruction. The program is valued at \$3,500.
3. **Formative assessment training and modeling:** Teachers will work with trainers from GRREC and Measured Progress to learn how (and why) to create Student Friendly Learning Targets for and with their students.
4. **Professional Learning Communities:** Teachers will work in PLCs to share what works in their classrooms – strategies that will respond to specific needs of each teacher Team Member. Teacher Leaders will receive a stipend of \$500/semester for their increased involvement and support of the local work, their participation in quarterly conference calls, and more.

Responsibilities/Commitments

1. Cost for each participating school will be **\$800 annually** (\$200 per team of four teachers).
2. Teacher Teams will need **three release days** during each of the three school years. District/Schools will be asked to pay substitute teacher costs.
3. Districts/Schools will be strongly encouraged to **provide a stipend** to each of the four teachers for the annual, week-long summer academy.
4. Principals will be **required to attend two half-day meetings** annually to understand and support the work of their Teacher Teams.

Other requirements will include cooperation with fiscal policies related to invoicing as well as full participation in our project evaluation. These will be covered more fully if/when we are funded (c. August 2008).

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