

GRREC Middle School Science Initiative 2008

GRREC has an opportunity to develop and implement a three-year middle school science initiative within our region. The funding, through the Kentucky Department of Education's Math/Science Partnership program, will help us **form 12 science teacher teams** that will include a 7th grade Teacher Leader and up to three 7th grade teacher Team Members.

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 (9 a.m., Carroll Knicely Conference Center).

Benefits

1. Professional development based in inquiry; the use of formative assessments and student friendly learning targets; and the work of professional learning communities (12 days of direct training for the Team Leader; three days of summer training and periodic after-school team meetings for your team members)
2. New curriculum tools aligned to the Program of Studies for 7th grade science, including **FOSS science materials for the classroom** (\$2,000+ in materials each year per school)
3. Stipends for Teacher Leader work within the school and to allow Team Members to work together after school. All participants receive stipends for summer work.
4. Substitutes to cover out-of-classroom time for the Teacher Leader.

Responsibilities/Commitments

1. One 7th grade science teacher in each school will be designated as the school's Teacher Leader and will be required to **attend nine training days during the school year** (out of classroom days) as well as three days during the summer. Substitutes and stipends will be paid through the grant as appropriate.
2. Teacher Teams will be required to meet in non-school or planning time to work on new lessons and activities within the classroom (PLCs; hourly stipends paid for non-school hours).
3. All Team Members will attend the three summer training days. Stipends will be paid.

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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