
Teacher Participant Posting

Physics: Electricity and Magnetism

Collaborating to Create a Science Learning Community Project

Background:

The *Collaborating to Create a Science Learning Community* is a three-year project funded by the United States Department of Education Mathematics and Science Partnerships Program to increase teacher content knowledge in science through the delivery of 2 courses per year. There will be 2 Physics courses, 2 Biology courses and 2 Earth Science courses offered over the 3 years. The goals of the project are to assist teachers, and ultimately their students, in better understanding scientific concepts using an inquiry-based approach that guides students in active science learning. Teachers are being recruited to participate in the *Collaborating to Create a Science Learning Community Project*. The 6 different courses are specifically designed to meet the science content needs of upper elementary, middle and grade 9 teachers (grades 5-9), but they will be open to teachers of all grades as space allows. Teachers of special education and ELL students are also encouraged to apply.

Teachers will receive over ninety-two hours of professional development in science from January 2011 – September 2011 by participating in the first course *Physics: Electricity and Magnetism*. Professional development for this course will take the form of (1) 60 hours of science coursework delivered by the Center of Science and Math in Context (COSMIC) at the University of Massachusetts Boston in an afterschool and Saturday format (see attached syllabus and schedule); and (2) participation in 32 hours of supplemental activities (face-to-face and online workshops) designed to assist participating teachers in the development of an inquiry-based science classroom lesson based on the course content.

Participant Qualifications/Requirements:

Participating teachers must:

- attend 60 hours of classroom and lab coursework led by the University of Massachusetts Boston faculty
- complete all course requirements including readings, homework, class participation, tests and other assignments
- participate in 32 hours of supplemental activities (face-to-face and online) designed to assist teachers to create classroom lessons incorporating the science content and inquiry-based learning experiences for students, facilitated by the district-based Teacher Learning Center Directors
- attend a pre-course afterschool meeting/orientation on January 18, 2011 (part of the supplemental activities)
- use electronic communication tool (Wikispace) to maintain contact among participants and participate as a member of the Science Professional Learning Community
- develop an inquiry-based student lesson based on the Physics course content
- implement the student lesson with a class, make lesson revisions as necessary
- participate in all required evaluation activities (surveys, classroom observations, pre-post content assessments, etc.)
- attend a fall 2011 district-based callback meeting to share completed lessons and implementation experiences.

Remuneration:

Each participating teacher will receive:

- **\$895 stipend** will be paid to each participant upon the successful completion of all project activities (coursework, supplemental activities, evaluation components, lesson development and implementation).
Prior to the start of the science course, \$295 + registration fee will be paid by each teacher participant to UMASS for the 3 graduate credit course.
- **PDP's** (to be determined by the district)

For additional information regarding the *Collaborating to Create a Science Learning Community*, please contact Molly Laden, Executive Director of TRITEC, Inc. at 617-381-2211. Application letters must be submitted via email to mladen@tritec-inc.org by **2:00 p.m., December 24, 2010**.
