MISSION POSSIBLE

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Special Interest Articles

Celebrating Our Successes

This Teacher Will Self-Destruct…

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
http://www.gcsnc.com/depts/mission_possible/index.htm

Celebrating Our Successes

Each year, SERVE Center at UNCG prepares an external evaluation report of Mission Possible grant activities. The first annual report is complete and highlights many program successes. The NC Department of Public Instruction data cited for 2004-05 through 2006-07 shows improvements in teacher, principal, and student outcomes for Mission Possible Schools. Both teacher and principal turnover at Mission Possible Schools decreased by an average of 2% in Cohort 1 schools. Seven schools had turnover that was even lower than the district average! The percentage of students passing the North Carolina ABC's increased by 2% in Mission Possible Schools from 2005-06 to 2006-07. In 2006-07, 11 schools showed an increase in AYP goals obtained, with 9 schools making AYP.

Other successes include a decrease in the number of short term suspensions, an increase in student attendance, an increase in graduation rates, and an increase in the number of highly qualified teachers at Mission Possible Schools.

While only one year of data is currently available, this first annual evaluation report shows very positive results for North Carolina's most innovative pay for performance program!

The first annual evaluation report will be posted online for public viewing by mid-April under the Program Evaluation link on the Mission Possible webpage.

This Teacher Will Self-Destruct…

…by June 11th, unless you find ways to keep your sanity until the summer break. You've accepted your mission—to make it successfully to the end of the year. Now, you need to strategically keep your energy level up so that you can be on your "A game" for your students! Try out of few of these ideas to help you make it through the home stretch:

1. Instead of grading papers indoors, grab a picnic blanket, bag lunch and head to the Bicentennial Gardens off of Hobbs Road and Cornwallis Drive in GSO. The gardens are so beautiful they even make grading papers invigorating.

2. Treat yourself to a visit to the African American Atelier exhibit, "Jewels: Fifty Phenomenal Black Women Over Fifty." Free to the public, this exhibit is open 7 days a week.

3. Make a date with co-workers to attend the opening night of the Greensboro Grasshoppers at Newbridge Bank Park. See you on April 7th!

4. Laugh heartily at a comedy show at The Idiot Box on Elm Street. Guaranteed to eliminate stress!

5. For a few dollars, rent a kayak and spend the day out on Lake Townsend. Or, for the more adventurous, take a beginner's course in sailing. Let the wind blow your worries away!

Upcoming Events

April 2008 Events

1-2	Education Trust Value Added Data Retreat
3	SERVE Evaluation Update
4	Cumulative Effect Mentor Meeting
7	Mission Possible Focus Group Meetings
8	Cumulative Effect Steering Committee Meeting
10	Cumulative Effect Seminar Series on Brain-Based Learning, Dudley HS, 4:30-6:30
15	Teleconference with WESTAT
17	SERVE Evaluation Update
18	Cumulative Effect Mentor Meeting
24	Cemala Foundation School Tours

MP Vacancies

Do you know someone who would like to work in a Mission Possible School? Send them the following vacancies and have them contact Amy Holcombe at 336-335-3294:

Hairston Middle School, 8th Grade Math/Algebra I
Penn-Griffin, 8th Grade Math/Algebra I
Welborn Middle School, 7th Grade Math/Science

We are currently hiring Mission Possible faculty for the 2008-2009 school year.

Recruiting and Retaining the Best!

Frequently Asked Questions

Will Mission Possible ever pay incentive bonuses to other teachers and school faculty?

The Mission Possible program was funded as a three year pilot study. During the first three years, no incentive pay changes can be made due to budget limitations. Discussions are active about possible program enhancements. We are currently collecting information about the success of other models in states across the country. Any changes made to Mission Possible in the future will be dependent upon the availability of funding and local support.

I still need to take Undoing Racism but haven't registered. Are there new workshops being offered?

Yes. Two additional June workshops have been posted online for registration. To register, go to: http://www.solutionwhere.com/guilford/cw/showcourse.asp?1556 . There are plenty of available seats in these added sessions.

If I leave a Mission Possible School, am I obligated to repay all of the incentives I've received?

No. Your recruitment and performance incentives are yours to keep once they are paid out. Should you decide to leave, you are not obligated to pay them back.

Do I need to send in my professional development certificate for all new courses I complete for Mission Possible?

No. The Mission Possible Office now receives all course rosters for Mission Possible workshops. We track your course completion using our database.

Course Offerings

Cooperative Learning Sessions (Multi-Day)

4/5/08, 8:30-3:30, Washington Street Annex

4/15/08, 8:30-3:30, Washington Street Annex

6/16/08, 8:30-3:30, Two sections, Check Location Online

Anti-Racism Sessions (Multi-Day)

4/18/08, 8:00-3:00, Eugene PTA Room

6/16/08, 8:00-3:00, Eugene PTA Room

6/18/08, 8:00-3:00, Eugene PTA Room

Differentiated Instruction (Multi-Day)

4/12/08, 8:30-3:30, Washington Street Annex

4/16/08, 8:30-3:30, Washington Street Annex

TESA (Individual Make-up Sessions Only)

Check website for individual session times/locations.

Cumulative Effect Seminar Series for March

4/10/08, 4:30-6:30, Dudley High School

Summer Math Institute II, July 28-August 8, 2008

9:00 am-1:00 pm Daily, Smith High School

Register at:

http://www.solutionwhere.com/guilford/cw/CourseByAlpha.asp

For questions about Professional Development registration, call (336) 370-8010.

Professional Development

Year 1 Participants:

Cooperative Learning

Anti-Racism

Year 2 Participants:

Differentiated Instruction

TESA

Cumulative Effect Participants:

Anti-Racism

Cumulative Effect Seminar Series

Summer Math Institute

All workshops must be completed by June 30, 2008

Contact Information

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