MISSION POSSIBLE

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

Developing Teacher Leaders

Next year, Mission Possible Schools will have an exciting new professional development option that will create teacher leaders at every Mission Possible School. As a part of the voting process, teachers who are currently in participation years 2 and 3 will be able to select to implement a Train-the-Trainer professional development model for the 2009-2010 school year. The Train-the-Trainer model will enable the school to select two teachers to fly to a training location and learn how to re-deliver top quality training in the area of their school's identified need. Mission Possible will cover the cost of airfare, hotel, meals, and tuition.

Upon their return, the teacher leaders will work with the principal to develop a professional development schedule for the school year. Training will then be re-delivered throughout the year on half-days, workdays, or at other designated times. This model was heavily favored by both Executive Advisory Board members as well as Teacher Advisory Board members because it creates on-site experts who are able to not only deliver high quality professional development but will be available for follow-up support and training. If a school were to continue to opt for this training model, the school could build up a whole cadre of experts!

Providers of Train-the-Trainer certification include but are not limited to: Kagan, Jensen, Project CRISS, and Ruby Payne.

Linkage Verification Insures Accuracy

For the second year in a row, Mission Possible teachers were provided the opportunity to verify their student-teacher linkage rosters prior to the creation of Value Added Data reports. This year, principals received hard copies of student-teacher linkage rosters that identified teachers and the students they taught in tested courses during the 2007-2008 school year.

Teachers had the opportunity to review these student rosters and make corrections to them. This process will result in all Value Added Data reports being 100% accurate. Additional protections that are built into this process include the exclusion of student scores that:

- Are not from students that were in a teacher's class for 140 or more days
- Are not from students who took a standard EOG or EOC course
- Are not from students for whom the state has three prior standardized test data points

Upon completion of the linkage verification process, SAS, Inc. will generate individual teacher Value Added Data reports. Principals will distribute these reports to teachers during a sit-down conference in which the Value Added Data results are discussed. At this time, principals will be able to inform teachers of any performance incentive for which they may have qualified.

We are excited to have been able to offer this opportunity to all of our Mission Possible teachers again this year!

Upcoming Events

Nov	4	Teacher Workday
Nov	6	SERVE Evaluation Meeting
Nov	7	Alliance for Excellent Education Meeting
Nov	11	Cumulative Effect Steering Committee
Nov	11	GCS Holiday
Nov	12-14	The Education Trust- National Presentation
Nov	20	SERVE Evaluation Meeting
Nov	20	Cumulative Effect Seminar- Andrews
Nov	26-28	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec	4	SERVE Evaluation Meeting
Dec	8-10	NSDC- National Presentation
Dec	10-11	Alliance for Excellent Education- National Forum Featuring Mission Possible

Mission Possible 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:

Allen Middle School, 6th Grade Math
Allen Middle School, 7th Grade Math
Aycock Middle School, 7th Grade Math
Aycock Middle School, 8th Grade Math
Bessemer Elementary School, 2nd Grade
Fairview Elementary School, 5th Grade
Smith High School, English I

To see upcoming vacancies, visit our Mission Possible Vacancy webpage at:
http://webapps.gcsnc.com/vacancy/search.do?MP=true

Know a great teacher who is interested in working in a Mission Possible School? Use our employee referral system to recommend them for a faculty position! Contact Amy Holcombe at 335-3294 for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I have taken my required Mission Possible courses but am not seeing them on my data sheet?

A: The Mission Possible Office relies upon your official Professional Development transcript to grant Mission Possible credit. We can only give you credit for courses that show up on your transcript. If you feel that there is an error on your transcript, please contact Connie Hicks at (336) 370-8010.

Q: Can I have a copy of my data sheet to keep in my records.

A: Yes! Wynde Brady will be sending out a copy of your data sheet that you can keep for your records. If there are ever any changes to be made, please email updates to Wynde at bradys@gcsnc.com.

Q: Will the professional development options for participation years 3-5 be the same as last year?

A: Recently, the Mission Possible Executive Advisory Board and Teacher Advisory Board met to decide upon the professional development options for participation years 3-5. This spring, teachers at each school will vote on which of the following three options they would like to implement at their school:

Option 1: Train-the-Trainer. The school will elect to send two teachers to be certified to deliver staff development in the area of the school's choosing.

Option 2: Independent Study. The school will be allocated $400 per qualifying teacher to fund individually selected staff development for teachers.

Option 3: Outside Consultant. The school will schedule an outside consultant to deliver training in the school's area of need. The whole staff may participate.

Course Offerings: 2008-2009

Year 1 Participant Courses:

Cooperative Learning Sessions

3/3/09, 5:30-8:30, 3 days, Washington Annex (open)

5/16/09, 8:30-3:30, 2 days, Washington Annex (open)

Anti-Racism/Undoing Racism Sessions

3/7/09, 8:00-3:00, 2 days, Eugene PTA Room (full)

3/21/09, 8:00-3:00, 2 days, Eugene PTA Room (open)

Year 2 Participant Courses:

Differentiated Instruction

2/3/09, 5:30-8:30, 3 days, Washington Annex (open)

3/21/09, 8:30-3:30, 2 days, Washington Annex (open)

5/2/09, 8:30-3:30, 2 days, Washington Annex (open)

TESA

8/20/08, 8:30-11:30, 5 days, Aycock Middle

8/20/08, 8:30-11:30, 5 days, Union Hill Elementary

8/21/08, 9:00-12:00, 5 days, Allen Middle

8/21/08, 12:30-3:30, 5 days, Bessemer Elementary

8/21/08, 12:45-3:45, 5 days, Cone Elementary

8/21/08, 1:00-4:00, 5 days, Penn-Griffin SFA

8/21/08, 1:30-4:30, 5 days, Falkener Elementary

10/2/08, 8:00-3:00, 3 days, Hampton Elementary

Cumulative Effect Seminar Series for Fall 2008

11/20/08, 4:45-6:45, Andrews High School

12/11/08, 4:45-6:45, Eastern High School

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

Professional Development Requirements

Year 1 Participants:

Cooperative Learning

Anti-Racism

Year 2 Participants:

Differentiated Instruction

TESA

Year 3 Participants:

Determined by the principal and faculty at each school based upon needs assessment.

Cumulative Effect Participants:

Anti-Racism (year 1 only)

Cumulative Effect Seminar Series

Summer Math Institute

All workshops must be completed by June 30, 2009 for your current participation year.

Contact Information

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