

Advanced Academics Professional Development Renewal

Timeline:

August 14 – deadline for mini-units to be turned into AAS for renewal stipend (Renewal for 2009-2010)

November 20 – deadline for in class delivery of mini-unit and learning walk to have occurred

December 11 – Portfolio due to AAS (Renewal for 2010-2011)

Mini-Unit: Focus is gifted; Series of lessons, project, or assignment that is designed to last 2 or more days (will receive 3 hour credit for renewal – 09-10 and \$10/hour at completion of unit by 8/14/09)

What each mini-unit must include:

Lesson Sequence to follow CF template

1. Enduring Understandings (Big Ideas) – can come directly from the Curriculum Frameworks, based on a topic within the CF, or an extension/alternative after curriculum compacting
2. Essential Questions – must be broad
3. Instructional Practices – must use at least 2 differentiation strategies (Anchoring Activities, Learning Centers, Learning Contracts, RAFT, Flexible Grouping, Tiered Assignment, SEM, Service Learning, and Problem Based Learning)
 - or use a self created ***Renzulli Learning Systems*** assignment or Super Starter
4. Teaching Notes – how are the instructional practices and activities put into practice to get students to come to an understanding of the big ideas and essential questions? What are your objectives for the students? How do you plan to achieve stated objectives? How will you evaluate students to ensure that objectives have been met?
5. Product – Student products to be evaluated using a created rubric
6. Schedule – when will this mini-unit be taught (week?)

Learning Walks:

Schedule a learning walk to be conducted by AAS, ACs, LCTs, Coaches, AP teachers, and/or administrators for at least 10 minutes of your unit. Learning Walks will be conducted using the AALW “Look-Fors.” Our goals are to support advanced level teaching and learning, **not to evaluate**, and to gain feedback for upcoming professional development, again, **not to evaluate**.

Portfolios: (will receive 6 hour credit for renewal – 10-11 and \$10/hour upon completion by 12/11/09)

What portfolios must include:

1. Mini-Unit
2. Sample of differentiated activities
3. Copies of Learning Walk checklist(s)
4. Examples of student products
5. List of formally identified gifted students in classroom
6. Reflective journal

