

Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness 2 Program

Grantee Information:

Grantee: **Greater Amsterdam School District**

Abstract:

The Greater Amsterdam School District's Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Grant will improve educators' effectiveness and increase their capacity to improve the academic achievement and college/career readiness of district students. As a high needs district, this increased focus is on the Hispanic population, ELLs, economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities. The following have been established as measurable achievable outcomes:

- By the end of Year 2 (2014-15), 40% of district educators will be involved in one or more leadership activities.
- By the end of Year 2 (2014-15), a district-wide process for data analysis and curriculum instruction revision will be implemented.
- By the end of Year 2 (2014-15), there will be a 5% increase in proficiency on the ELA and math assessments for the identified subgroups.

Greater Amsterdam School District will identify and support highly effective educators and will distribute their talent across content areas and grade levels. Emphasis will be placed on supporting students through the use of data, mentoring, professional development, and consistent, district-wide utilization of evidence-based strategies to support success and achievement.

With the support of the grant, the District will focus its efforts on building a collaborative culture that involves teachers and administrators at all levels focusing on student learning. The addition of teacher leaders at all levels will continue to grow and be supported by training. Leaders will continually monitor evidence of student learning as well as teachers' progress in adjusting instruction by studying data. Career levels have been developed for both teachers and administrators that clearly delineate expectations and supports at each level. The career

Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness 2 Program

ladders will facilitate dialogue between teachers and administrators, allowing them to share expertise with colleagues to improve student achievement.

Activities as part of the grant initiative include:

- Professional development via Cognitive Coaching, DDI, SWD/ELL and STEM initiatives
- Certificate of Advanced Study options via Union Graduate School of Education in Mentoring, SWD & DDI
- Highly effective and effective teachers and administrators will take part in career ladder roles, including coaching/supporting teachers in instructional improvement, data analysis and support for students in identified subgroups.
- Assessment building, development of scoring protocols and district-wide DDI
- Professional Learning Communities established for identified areas for all teachers

Project Contact:

Name: Michele A. Downing

Title: Director Data/Personnel

District: Greater Amsterdam School District

Address: 11 Liberty Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010

Phone: 518-843-3180 x7500

Email address: mdowning@gasd.org