

Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness 3 Program

Grantee Information:

Grantee: **South Glens Falls Central School District**

Abstract:

South Glens Falls Central School District was awarded approximately \$397,000 through a State Education Grant entitled *Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness 3 (STLE 3)*. The funds will be used to support one of the primary goals of the district and Board of Education, to implement the New York State Race to the Top Goals. These include APPR teacher and principal evaluations, Common Core Learning Standards, new assessments, and data systems.

In addition, the district believes it is crucial to provide teachers and administrators appropriate support to in turn provide students with quality curriculum in every classroom for every student. This initiative will continue to empower our teachers and principals to implement curricular changes by assuming leadership roles in the district.

The district's main objectives:

- Ensure that quality curriculum aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards is written at each grade level and for each subject.
- Ensure that formative and summative assessments are created and aligned to measure the standards.

With the support of this grant, the district will be able to place over 60 teachers and principals various leadership roles in the district. They will focus their efforts on writing strong common curriculum and providing professional development to teachers at every level to support them in achieving the district's goals.

A career ladder will be set up as follows and include these responsibilities:

Teacher Ladder - In South Glens Falls, we have a few ways to empower to teachers to be leaders in our field. Our Novice Teachers are called Common Core Learning Leaders. These

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teachers write common curriculum, assist with materials for lessons, and share this with their grade level. With the grant, we will be able to double the amount of time devoted to this work in the summer and extend this to more teachers in our district. We currently have nine subject-specific Professional Teachers which we call Instructional Teacher Leaders (ITLs) in grades 6-12. This grant will allow us to add more 6-12th grade ITLs and an ITL for each grade K-5. These seventeen individuals will focus on all Race to the Top Areas. They will hold monthly meetings with their peers and facilitate discussions on APPR, curriculum writing, common assessments, and data analysis. Currently, we have no positions for the Teacher Leader level. A Literacy Coach and a Math Coach will be created in the 2014-15 school year. These positions will provide professional development to all teachers to ensure that we are all creating the best aligned lessons for our students.

Principal Ladder –Currently, we do not have positions in place for this in our district. Three positions will be created to establish a career ladder for principals. The Novice Principal will focus on mentoring all new administrators in the district. The Professional Principal will take the role of instructional leader one step further and will focus on vertical alignment of the Common Core Learning Standards. The Principal Leader will share the responsibilities of the other two positions and lead the administrators in the Teacher APPR process. All positions will help build a toolkit for parents and will assist the assistant superintendent with community programs that relate to our overall goals.

Project Contact:

Name: Kristine Orr

Title: Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

District: South Glens Falls Central School District

Address: 6 Bluebird Road, South Glens Falls, NY 12803

Phone: 518.793.9617 ext. 2

Email address: orrk@sgfallssd.org