

Memo

To: Dr. Nancy Colflesh
From: Don Erickson
Date: June 20, 2014
Re: Budget Plan for Year-long Plan for Teacher Learning

I am writing to request \$4,259.05 to realize the proposed teacher learning year-long plan I submitted last week. The attached budget and purchasing plan outlines specific materials needed to accomplish the three goals set forth in the year-long proposal for teacher learning. These goals are as follows:

- The school and teachers will actively and efficiently experiment with best practices in the field in an effort to support student achievement.
- The expectations of teachers and administrators will be elevated, attainable, familiar, and understood by all stakeholders.
- All faculty members will be informed of the best practices having previously been taught by fellow colleagues in the building.

The primary impediment to the success of this plan is the current school culture where teachers work in isolation, low expectations are established, and few professional learning opportunities exist. I propose that the online course and book "Transforming School Culture" by Anthony Muhammad will be a terrific approach to launch this year-long plan for teacher learning. The DVD *Walking the Talk: Making School Improvement Happen* can be used as a supplement to this online course. It seems logical to begin with the foremost obstacle standing in the way of the plan's success.

It is imperative that the staff begin discussing and utilizing best practices within the field of education. The books I am requesting will help us reach this goal. For example, the book *Student Success: How to Make it Happen* boasts it will give teachers, "all the tools that are necessary to change the culture of a school, improve teacher performance, and elevate student achievement." All three of these valuable tools are essential. Additionally, the training program *Implementing Professional Development in the Classroom* will be used to reach this important goal. According to the School Improvement Network, while completing this training program, "Administrators, staff developers, and teachers will learn best practices for ensuring that training impacts student learning."

As the year-long plan institutes three specific learning designs (classroom walk-throughs, standards in practice, and critical friends groups), it is necessary to employ the webinar *Powerful Designs for Team Learning* with Lois Brown Easton who coincidentally edited the book *Powerful Designs for Professional Learning*. This webinar and book feature the three learning designs that will be used to realize the goals listed above.

I thank you for your consideration of the attached budget and purchasing plan. Please advise if any questions about this budget plan or the year-long proposal for teacher learning should arise.

Item & Ordering #	Company & Website	Use with Which Group(s)	Rationale for Purchase	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Book – <i>Powerful Designs for Professional Learning</i> Product Code: B380	National Staff Development Council www.learningforward.org	All Faculty Members	There are three specific learning designs that will be implemented in the year-long plan. These learning designs are outlined in this book.	\$80.00	15 participants at \$1,200.00
Book – <i>Teacher Teams that Get Results</i>	Corwin Press www.corwin.com	4 Core Discipline Leaders (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)	These 61 strategies will benefit the discipline leaders as they lead the school into the newly formed professional learning community.	\$44.95	4 core discipline leaders at \$179.80
Online Course w/ Book – <i>Transforming School Culture</i> Product Code: KDS001	Solution Tree www.solution-tree.com	4 Core Discipline Leaders (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)	This online course can be used in an effort to change our school culture from one with little collaboration to one where the faculty is working together. Due to the cost of this course, it will only be offered to the discipline leaders. Subsequently, the information will be passed on to the rest of the faculty members in additional professional learning	\$279.00	4 core discipline leaders at \$1,116.00

			opportunities.		
Training Program - <i>Implementing Professional Development in the Classroom</i>	School Improvement Network www.schoolimprovement.com	4 Core Discipline Leaders (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)	This training program offer includes two DVDs, one implementation guide, and two CD soundtracks. This training “covers current innovations, teaches the value of job-embedded professional learning, shows how to avoid one-shot trainings, and supports the institution of high expectations and accountability.” All of these will assist in reaching our three goals for the year-long plan.	\$320.00	4 core discipline leaders at \$1,280.00
Webinar – <i>Powerful Designs for Team Learning</i>	Learning Forward www.learningforward.org	All Faculty Members	This free webinar aligns perfectly with the <i>Powerful Designs for Professional Learning</i> book. This webinar will be used as a supplement to the work in the book. All faculty members can take advantage of this free online service.	Free	Free
DVD - <i>Walking the</i>	Effective Schools	All Faculty Members	This DVD includes a	\$79.00	Only One Copy

<p><i>Talk: Making School Improvement Happen</i></p>	<p>www.effectiveschools.com</p>		<p>CD of worksheets and exercises to compliment the information on the DVD. This package of DVD and CD will be used as a supplement to the online course <i>Transforming School Culture</i>. The DVD discusses how to create <i>positive</i> change within the school culture, making sure all participants' voices are heard.</p>		<p>Needed at \$79.00</p>
<p>Book – <i>Student Success: How to Make it Happen</i></p>	<p>Effective Schools www.effectiveschools.com</p>	<p>All Faculty Members</p>	<p>This book shows how to move from “conceptual to practical”. This is very important to this plan. As you have noticed, the plan is very ambitious; therefore it is important for all faculty members to understand the practicality of this information rather than just the conceptual. Most importantly, this book will assist with improving teacher</p>	<p>\$26.95</p>	<p>15 participants at \$404.25</p>

			performance and student achievement. Both are goals that we hope to meet with this year-long plan.		
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