

VIRGINIA SCHOOL UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2009-10

Rationale: This plan is based on findings from the 2009 Needs Assessment.

GOAL

The Virginia School University Partnership will provide continuous, connected professional development for administrators and teachers to facilitate the integration of 21st Century skills and promote achievement on performance-based assessments toward the goal of higher student achievement and preparation of students for life in the global society.

Objective 1

Focus on 21st Century Skills-As a result of interaction with national experts regarding 21st century learning, data management, and case study analysis, administrators and teachers will integrate 21st Century knowledge and skills into school division/school practices.

Strategies to Accomplish Objective:

- a. **Summer Leadership Conference-** VSUP will collaborate with Albemarle County Schools, the UVA Curry School of Ed, and SchoolNet to offer the EduStat Summer Leadership Conference on July 19-22, 2009 for the purpose of providing:
 - i) Leadership training with national consultants for administrators and school teams to increase knowledge of 21st century skills, expand knowledge of data management and application, and case study analysis
 - ii) Collaboration with colleagues and consultants for discussion and planning for implementation
- b. **Cohort Groups and Ongoing Communication-** VSUP will coordinate cohort groups for ongoing training and networking of ideas for integrating 21st Century skills, and utilizing the themes and concepts from Jay McTighe's book Schooling by Design and Tony Wagner's book The Global Achievement Gap.
 - i) Regional VSUP cohort groups, comprised of summer leadership conference participants and other interested members will be organized for meetings to facilitate implementation of 21st century practices
 - ii) Internet blogs/discussion boards will be developed and available for ongoing communication among school leaders regarding 21st century skills implementation. (When possible, experts will participate.)
 - iii) VSUP will coordinate follow-up workshops with consultant Jay McTighe to offer additional training to administrators and teachers to reinforce key concepts and expand knowledge of 21st century skills. Tentative dates are November 16, 2009 and February 8, 2010.
 - iv.) A follow-up 21st Century Summer Leadership conference will be planned for July 2010.

Objective 2

Focus on Middle Level Literacy-As a result of participation in workshops and discussion groups, administrators and teachers will implement research-based practices to improve reading and writing skills of middle level students

Strategies to Accomplish Objective

- i) VSUP will survey consortium middle school principals regarding specific needs for teacher training in adolescent literacy and their interest in teachers attending workshops on this topic
- ii) Based on the key topics identified in the surveys, VSUP will provide training lead by a national expert in the field of adolescent literacy and if possible utilizing Virginia Department of Education's resources.
- iii) Regional cohort groups will be formed with periodic meetings for follow-up discussion and problem solving.
- iv) VSUP will employ a key leader in adolescent literacy and play the individual a stipend to develop and maintain a blog as a part of the follow-up for those attending the adolescent literacy training.

Objective 3

Focus on ELL- As a result of participation in workshops and discussion groups, administrators and teachers will apply knowledge and skills in meeting the needs of English Language Learners.

Strategies to Accomplish Objective

- i) One or more workshops will be conducted for teachers and administrators with key experts in the field of English Language Learners serving as trainers
- ii) Follow-up contact and support will be provided regarding ELL through the VSUP website

Objective 4

Focus on Writing Quality Test Item- Administrators and teachers will expand knowledge and skills through collaboration and training in reviewing and writing quality test items in Math 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; US History 1, and Grade 3 Reading

Strategies to Accomplish Objective

- i) VSUP will coordinate the Test Item Bank Workgroups for subject areas of focus
- ii) Training with Joan Spence (test item writing) and collaboration time for workgroups will be provided
- iii) One or more workshops with state/national expert will be planned focused on 21st Century Math instruction
- iv) Additional collaboration for workgroups will be provided through email and partnering of members

Objective 5

Focus on Other Identified Needs Administrators and teachers will expand knowledge in other best practices.

Strategies to Accomplish Objective

- i) VSUP consortium groups will identify other areas for teacher and administrator training.
- ii) Follow-up workshops in such areas as Teachers as Leaders and Response to Intervention may be offered.

Evaluation of Objectives: Objectives will be measured by workshop attendance, surveys from workshops, cohorts and workgroups, and data from participating school divisions.