

Instructional Services Report to Superintendents – November 4, 2009

Rhonda Sheeley, Director of Instructional Services
Keystone AEA
1400 Second Street NW
Elkader, IA 52043-9564
800-632-5918 (Ext. 303)
rsheeley@aea1.k12.ia.us

Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT Federal Grant for the AEA 1 Consortium)

Next 3 Years

Past Practice: Keystone AEA involved all schools in the use of the online tutoring program for mathematics at the 4th through 6th grades. There were also 6 low income schools identified whose teachers were in a professional development cohort to learn best teaching practices in the math classroom. The consortium also supported a high school cohort of teachers who were involved for 3 years in an Every Student Counts professional development program that included use of technology. Cognitive Tutor licenses were purchased for selected buildings and classroom Navigators were also purchased for selected middle schools in Dubuque.

The dollar amount is reduced from the original allocation 6 years ago in AEA 1 of \$264,000 to **\$64,000** for the next 2 years and approximately \$40,000 in the final year.

It was suggested by the DE that:

- AEA consortiums continue to focus on the curricular area that they had used the first 6 years
- AEA consortiums consider extending and continuing the PD and support for projects that had been successful and were research supported.

What will the Keystone EETT consortium offer to schools?

1. Dubuque Community School District Plan:

Dubuque is using its E2T2 dollars to continue to support Cognitive Tutor implementation at the high school level. Cognitive Tutor is a standards-based, strong research-based mathematics curriculum, with strong links to the Iowa Core Curriculum. Dubuque Senior High School is currently using Cognitive Tutor Algebra, Geometry and Algebra II. Hempstead High School is using Cognitive Tutor Geometry. Dubuque is currently using 260 licenses at both schools and plans on buying a pool of licenses through a contract with Carnegie Learning.

There are 9 teachers currently teaching Cognitive Tutor classes and the grant supported professional development for this curriculum will be a combination of summer workshop days, lesson study days and collateral after school time during the academic year. Summer sessions for all teachers will train/update teachers on the software and textbook integration, work on cooperative learning and communication. During the year teachers will participate in two lesson study cycles: plan a lesson together, observe each other teach the lesson and reflect on the lesson. The collateral time of 2 hours, three times during the year will focus on concerns, teaching tips and looking at student achievement data.

2. AEA 1 Rural Districts Plan:

The consortium will continue and expand the Middle School Every Student Counts with classroom technology to strengthen the student understanding and support the Characteristics of Effective Instruction from the Iowa Core. We will base the activities of this cohort on the successful experiences of the first ESC middle school cohort.

Currently Keystone has 7 districts in our AEA being trained in Every Student Counts (ESC) Middle School - (South Winneshiek, Decorah, Turkey Valley, Oelwein, Postville, Central, and North Fayette). The school year '09-'10 is their second year of training. The consortium plans are to use E2T2 to support these schools through the rest of this year and through next and final year. Some of the funding will help each teacher purchase technology that will enhance the ESC delivery and strengthen the Iowa Core in mathematics.

The plan also includes beginning a new three-year ESC Middle School cohort. Through EETT the new schools will be supported for the first two years with the understanding that the schools will support their teams in the third and final year. Some of the funding will be used to help these teachers purchase technology that will enhance the ESC delivery and strengthen the Iowa Core in mathematics.

Some of the technologies we will be encouraging are: an interactive white board, graphing calculators, a document camera, an LCD projector, or a tablet PC.

There will be an application process for the second co-hort with preference given to the schools with the highest poverty levels as dictated by the grant guidelines.

When: Grant submission November 2009

Who: Grant is being written by the AEA 1 math consultants, Sue Runyon and Sara Blair with consultation from area math teachers.