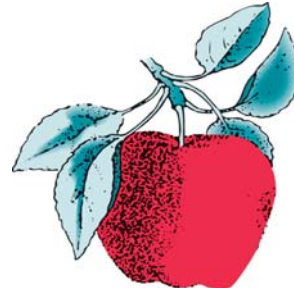




Greater Capital Region Teacher Center



Formative Assessment and Data Use: *Transforming Instructional Practice*

“Good teaching, effective school leadership, and thoughtful policy making must be informed by accurate, actionable, and interconnected data. Thus, we will accelerate the work of building a comprehensive P-20 data system that helps to link student performance data to educator effectiveness, provides electronic transcripts for all students, connects P-12 education with higher education, and integrates non-educational databases (like information on the workforce and health). As we build this system we must ensure that teachers and schools are able to incorporate formative assessment data into the system to facilitate collaborative analysis of student performance to drive improved instruction.

**STATEMENT BY EDUCATION COMMISSIONER DAVID STEINER
AN AGENDA FOR EDUCATION REFORM IN NYS 12/14/09**

The Capital Region BOCES and the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center, are pleased to present an important professional development opportunity for teachers to learn and develop essential student assessment skills using formative assessment and data analysis. Too often the mere act of disaggregating and completing a trend analysis with state assessment data is represented as analyzing student achievement. R. J. Stiggins stated that “if we are finally to connect assessment to school improvement in meaningful ways, we must come to see assessment through new eyes.” *Assessment Crisis: The absence of assessment FOR learning (2002).*

This Institute will provide a foundation in the use of data and formative assessment which occurs when teachers communicate information to students in ways that enable them to learn better, or when students can engage in a similar, self-reflective process. Standardized tests are summative and can provide certain types of data but are not designed to provide the immediate, contextualized feedback useful for helping teacher and student during the learning process. If the primary purpose of assessment is to support high-quality learning, then formative assessment ought to be understood as the most important assessment practice. Research on successful teacher enhancement and instructional improvements show that the use of formative assessment and data can transform instructional practice. Using student achievement data and other assessment techniques to inform and improve instruction, teachers and principals can positively impact student learning.

Participating teachers in this Institute will learn to analyze data to improve instructional practice, create a culture of data-driven decision-making, and design and differentiate instruction to address the needs of all students.

Through instructional modeling and hands-on activities, this 6-day training offers teachers an exceptional opportunity to effectively utilize their classroom data and to integrate multiple sources of data to impact curriculum and student learning. Topics will include:

- Valid uses and misuses of state assessment data
- Accessing and using online data analysis tools
- Best practices in data analysis and interpretation of results
- Implementing high-quality formative assessments
- Developing and utilizing instructionally-informative rubrics
- Improving student achievement through effective feedback
- Best practices in 21st Century assessment

Dates:

Session One: February 9 at The Teacher Center

Session Two: February 26 at BOCES

Session Three: March 22 at BOCES

Session Four: April 16 at BOCES

Session Five: May 21 at The Teacher Center

Session Six: June 15 at BOCES

Time: 8:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. for all training days listed above

Session locations: **Capital Region BOCES**, 900 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Colonie
Greater Capital Region Teacher Center, University at Albany East Campus,
5 University Place, Rensselaer

Fee: \$650 for a team of two. The cost includes 6 days of training, materials and resources. Meals will be on your own. Minimum enrollment 20 and maximum 40.

Deadline to register February 1, 2010.

Instructors: **Heather Adams** – Capital Region BOCES, Staff Development Coordinator
Kathleen Maxwell—Capital Region BOCES, Educational Research & Evaluation Analyst

Questions: Heather Adams: hadams@gw.neric.org or 464-3995
Kathleen Maxwell: kmaxwell@gw.neric.org or 464-3988

Registration is available online

at <http://www.bocesinstructionalresources.org/IRS/registration.htm> and click on the Online Registration- WebReg link to the right of this page to view our course offerings in an online catalog. You will need to use this link to register.

Questions about registration: Lisa Mink, Capital Region BOCES lmink@gw.neric.org (518) 464-3979