

Proposal ABSTRACT

Utica City School District's proposal, *Adapting Project TIPS for Donovan Middle School*, has been designed to provide a total of 51 major content teachers and Library Media Specialists with intensive, systematic professional development focused on integrating *TIPS'* exemplary technologies into the curricula of Science, Math, ELA and Social Studies at Donovan Middle School (Restructuring (advanced) phase in the Comprehensive category; grades 6-8), Kennedy Middle School (grades 6-8), and nonpublic partner, Notre Dame Jr. Sr. High School (7-8). By adopting and adapting this \$7M+ Technology Innovation Challenge Grant's Professional Development model and Internet applications and adapting it to address the schools' curricula and library media needs, the 51 teachers will achieve four CRITICAL teacher objectives:

- (1) Curriculum **restructuring** to focus on social problems in the existing curricula;
- (2) Internet **Technologies**—learning how to use the new *TIPS* PBL, online content versions of the *Public Policy Analyst*;
- (3) Integrating **Computer Applications**—learning how to integrate *TIPS* new technologies; and
- (4) Learning through teacher-developed Web Quests and PowerPoint aligned to Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

These produce the **four student objectives**: *Students will...*

1. Show significant gains on the state-mandated content exams;
2. Produce public policy work product solutions (as performance indicators) to real-world social problems using the Project *TIPS Public Policy Analyst* Internet application and Internet research;
3. Annually improve on problem solving skills
4. Annually improve from pre to post on the Project *TIPS'* Technology Skills and Usage Survey.

The project will provide three to five days of onsite training, follow-up technical assistance from the directors of this nationally recognized technology integration project, and independent time for each teacher to develop technology products aligned to Common Core State Standards. *TIPS* has advanced the scores of thousands of Bronx secondary students since 2000, and will therefore be highly likely to be successful with the similar racially diverse and academically and economically challenged students in this project.

There will be a special emphasis on having content teachers work with the Library Media Specialists (LMS) from both schools, as the LMS become involved with teachers in collaborative projects using *TIPS'* technologies in their media center or supporting teachers in their classrooms. An evaluation design used by Project *TIPS* will be implemented.