

Learning Technology Grant (2012-2015) Project Abstract

The proposed consortium project will focus on strengthening the English Language Arts skills of special education and ELL students enrolled in two public school districts and two non-public schools in Nassau County targeting grades 4-6, directly impacting 45 teachers and potentially 5,000 students in eleven schools. Both public school districts that comprise the consortium have been cited by the New York State Education Department as in need of improvement, specifically in the area of English/Language Arts, with one district, Roosevelt placed under the direct guidance of the New York State Education Department based on persistently poor performance of their students.

The project will provide technology equipment that has been found to significantly improve student engagement and achievement including sound enhancement systems and document cameras. Nassau BOCES will provide three full days of professional development each year for participating teachers to help them understand and use the technology as well as show them methods to implement the technology to support their students' attainment of the Common Core Standards in ELA, with experts in special education, ESL, technology, and the use of data to inform instruction providing teacher support. Further, Nassau BOCES Model Schools staff will provide coaching and modeling to public school teachers over the course of each project year. Each year will culminate with teachers engaging a peer review process, presenting model lessons that were developed over the course of each year in collaboration with Model Schools coaches.