

Proposal Abstract

The Onondaga-Cortland-Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services (OCM BOCES) through its School Library System (SLS) is requesting \$50,000.00 grant to implement an area wide professional development program, along with technology acquisitions for the Alton B. Parker Elementary School (Grades PK - 6). This focus school is located at 89 Madison St., Cortland, NY. Non and public schools that will participate are St. Mary's Elementary School (Grades PK - 8), located at 61 N. Main St., Cortland, NY and; the Onondaga Nation School (Grades PK - 8), Nedrow, NY.

The objective of this project is to support the focus School's Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) by creating grade level consistent essential information fluency skills aligned to CCLS; access to technology devices; and providing professional development to Librarians so they become the instructional technology leader who will then be able to increase collaborative co-teaching opportunities with classroom/content area teachers. The results of this program is to "...develop, retain, effective teachers" (Board of Regents Reform Agenda, March 2012, page 12) that provide effective instruction that supports "a cycle of inquiry and learning enhanced by digital fluency integrated to the common core learning standards (CCLS)." (Board of Regents, page 6) and ([Empire State Information Fluency Continuum \(ESIFC\) - Benchmark Skills Grades K - 12 Assessments/Common Core Alignment](#), Developed by the New York City School Library System, 2010)

Utilizing OCM BOCES's SLS to effectively implement this project facilitates the Board of Regents Reform Agenda's vision to "leverage regional approaches and technology" (page 12). The funding will support a new .5 FTE who will be a qualified Instructional Technology Librarian. Their responsibility is to instruct, coach, and mentor the focus school and nonpublic school librarian(s). Then these school librarians, in conjunction with this .5 FTE, will deliver professional development and grade appropriate lesson plans that "implement instructional shifts demanded by the Core" (Board of Regents, page 7). They will also deliver professional development opportunities that assist teachers with certification requirements, provide additional administrative support, and facilitate co-teaching strategies. The result of tying digital fluency and CCLS lesson planning through ESIFC methodologies is to increase each participating school's SLMPE goals, assist the focus school to reach its SCEP goals and, most importantly positively impacting student learning.

OCM BOCES's SLS is perfectly suited to "facilitate equitable access to information resources for all students and instructional faculty members. SLS's mission is to support, provide resources, and professional development to teachers, administrators and educational leaders." (taken from the web site <http://sls.ocmboces.org>, para. 1, July 2015) It services OCM BOCES's 23 component districts and provides library technical and instructional support to nine Central New York Diocese Schools and Manlius Pebble Hill School (PreK - 12), a nonprofit private school located in DeWitt, NY.