



PROJECT EXCELL!

Roseanne Lopez
Coordinator
(520) 696-5174
FAX (520) 696-5066

701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, AZ 85705 • (520) 696-5000 • TDD (520) 696-5055

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Project EXCELL! Phase II Briefing

November 14, 2008, Issue #24

Project EXCELL!, Amphitheater's implementation of the United States Department of Education (USDOE) Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant, is a wonderful opportunity for our teachers, students and the district as a whole. The grant also presents healthy challenges for us. We are in Phase II of our project with the start of the 2008/2009 school year. Eleven of our schools have qualified for participation.

Documentation Submittal Deadline is November 20th!

Documentation Submittal

All documentation will be turned in at the individual school offices. A sign off sheet will be in place at each school. The deadline to turn in the envelope is the close of business on November 20th for your office. Remember, Project EXCELL! pays out rather quickly after the submittal of documentation. We must stick to a tight time schedule in order for checks to be issued quickly. Thank you in advance for submitting on time.

See page 49 of the Implementation Manual for the order in which to submit your documentation. Please do not place paperwork in any plastic overlay, etc. Use the clip to secure all the documentation in the proper order and then place it in the blue envelope.

Promised Pay Date

The pay out date for Project EXCELL! is January 16, 2009.

Components for the January Pay Out

The January pay out components are as follows:

\$1250 (Potential for a 6 point plan in Professional Development)

\$1250 (Potential for a 6 point plan in Leadership)

\$1250 (Potential for a Classroom Assessment exhibiting all 21 quality indicators)

\$1250 (Potential for My School, school-wide AIMS results based on a growth model)

\$5000 POTENTIAL TOTAL AWARD

My Classroom Assessment Component

As you finish this documentation submittal, it is not too early to think about next semester. For the next pay out you will complete another full assessment. Data from the results this semester may be used as preassessment data for next semester. Start early! You can choose to keep the same assessment (if it makes sense for your content area and level) OR you can choose to change the assessment to better match your curriculum focus next semester.

Quality Indicators for the Classroom Assessment Component

“Quality Indicators” are listed as bulleted items under each section of the Classroom Assessment Form. The readers will analyze the assessment and look for these indicators.

Classroom Assessment Component of Project EXCELL!

1-10 Total Indicators Met= No award pay out

11-13 Total Indicators Met= 20% pay out

14-17 Total Indicators Met= 60% pay out

18-21 Total Indicators Met= 100% pay out

AIMS Analysis for this Pay Out

AIMS results for each school site were analyzed by our data team. A value-added growth model, similar to the one used with the NWEA MAP data last year, was used for grades 3-8. The scale-score was used for each student in the analysis. Expected growth targets were set for each grade level and group of students (e.g., SES, SPED, ELL, and MOBILE) based on our own district data. The difference between the expected growth target and the actual growth was calculated for each student. This is the residual score. All residuals were compiled for each grade level and for the school. The results of that compilation generate pay out levels. The pay out levels are: 0, 20%, 60% and 100%.

The percentages are used to calculate the amount of the pay out; they are not related to the percentage of student achievement.

Example: This pay out= \$1250 potential award for “My School” for AIMS
 School X received a 60% pay out= \$750

The high school analysis was based on AIMS passing rates. A three year baseline of AIMS results for Amphi High School was used for this analysis. To set the passing rate, the total number of "passers" for each grade and subject area was divided by the total number of testers for the past three years. This gave the percentage of AHS students passing. The standard deviation for each subject and grade was used to determine the cut points for the four award levels. All of the grades levels and subject area passing rate results were averaged for a single pay out level (e.g., 0, 20%, 60%. Or 100%) for "My School".