



Implementation Dates:
November 2018 - May 2019

Date of Release:
October 12, 2018

Respond By:
November 2, 2018

Project overview:

Team Vision: *Process that connects K-12 curriculum to community resources relevant to college, career, and life*

Description: This team seeks community members to assist RPS 205 in developing real-world, relevant learning experiences to enhance the curriculum. This pilot is specifically seeking community partners to share perspective in how Rockford makes a living in both past and present, and how the community is working to improve Rockford. The goal of the pilot is to create integrated learning experiences connecting math and literacy skills, benefiting roughly 1,800 3rd grade students.

By supporting this ITP™ you will be aiding in the guarantee that regardless of a student's or a school's resources, each student within the identified grade level will have a quality integrated learning experience connecting curriculum with community, college, career, and/or life. Example: *Design a learning experience based on how streets are geographically laid out in Rockford.*

What: The school district has teams of teachers working on the next phase of curriculum design. Community members are invited to join an ad-hoc team to support teachers in designing community-based experiences that connect to the following learning outcomes:

- **Integrated Literacy:** Students will use inquiry to explain how Rockford developed as a community by establishing goods and services; how people adapted to changes in the community; what people are currently doing together that an individual could not accomplish alone in order to improve the community.
- **Integrated Literacy:** Students will write opinion pieces that convey ideas about improving the community of Rockford.
- **Math:** (*Projects to involve measuring distance and time, estimation with whole numbers and fractional parts, visual ways to multiply and divide sets of items with and without remainders, recording data, creating simple graphs, breaking apart complex shapes to find simple shapes, and multiple step problem solving*):
 - Students will develop an understanding of multiplication and division and strategies for multiplication and division within 100.
 - Students will develop an understanding of fractions, especially unit fractions (fractions with numerator 1).
 - Students will develop an understanding of the structure of rectangular arrays and of area; this makes the connection between area and multiplication.
 - Students will describe and analyze two-dimensional shapes.

Who:

- Community members who can speak to the interconnectedness between education, commercial enterprise, and civic engagement.
- Community members with diverse historic, current, and forward-looking perspective
- 3rd grade teachers
- Grade-level: 3rd grade

Where: Meetings will be held at Rockford Public Schools Administration Building

When: Orientation will be held in November and the team will meet approximately (4) times between December and February (3-5pm)

Why: [According to the Vanderbilt Center for Teaching](#), the following personal, social, vocational, and institutional outcomes have been linked to the integration of community engagement into curriculum:

- Improved student ability to apply learning to the real world.
- Positive impact on academic outcomes including demonstrated complexity of understanding, problem analysis, problem-solving, critical thinking, and cognitive development.
- Greater student sense of personal efficacy, personal identify, spiritual growth, and moral development.
- Greater student interpersonal development, and improved leadership and communication skills.
- Reduced stereotypes and greater inter-cultural understanding.
- Improved social responsibility and citizenship skills.
- Greater involvement in community service after graduation.
- Connections with professionals and community members for learning and career opportunities.
- Stronger relationships with faculty.
- Greater satisfaction with college.
- Improved graduation rates.

Services needed from the community:

Participating individuals will be expected to:

- Attend an orientation (calendar invitations will be sent following the close of this ITP™)
- Attend scheduled meetings with teacher teams and Alignment Rockford team
- Participate in post-experience (survey)

What to expect from Alignment Rockford/Rockford Public Schools:

- Offer orientation which provides overview and framework of the pilot, host and mentor expectations, and a Q&A session
- Provide team with research-based framework and tools to create an engaging experience for students
- Follow-up and support throughout the planning process
- Results-reporting on the outcomes of the work of the team

Register for this Invitation to Participate™ (ITP™):

Full Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

1. Please describe your area of expertise/industry: _____

2. Do you or your organization already provide a relevant/real-world experience for students? Y N

3. Please identify any other way in which you/your organization might help with this initiative (provide videography of virtual field trips, assist in annual review of experiences, serve other grades?):

