

## **General Information**

*The District Awards for Teacher Excellence (D.A.T.E.) Grant is a TEA-funded grant that will be available to as many as 25 Wolfe City elementary and middle school faculty members. The grant will be conducted during the 2010-2011 year and will be awarded at the end of the school year.*

*It is the belief of the D.A.T.E. committee that teachers who use their knowledge of subject matter, teaching and learning, **and technology** to facilitate experiences that advance student learning, creativity and innovation in both face-to-face and virtual environments **will improve** student achievement.*

## **Pretest/Posttest Requirements**

Because teacher excellence is measured, ultimately, by student achievement, TEA requires use of quantitative data to measure student success before grant monies may be awarded. Participating teachers are required to conduct pretests at the onset of a unit of study that will be included in his/her portfolio. Using this data to drive instruction, teachers will then implement teaching strategies that integrate technology, both in teaching and, where possible, student products or interactions. At the end of the unit, teachers will conduct a posttest. Posttest data must show improvement from pretest scores with an end result class average of 85% mastery. This pretest/posttest data is a mandatory part of the portfolio due quarterly.

## **Application / Essay Requirement**

Our district has \$29,234 in D.A.T.E. grant monies available. Because the minimum grant award is \$1000, we are unable to offer this grant to all teachers on the elementary and middle school campuses. Therefore, teachers wishing to participate will be required to submit an application in the form of an essay. Only one application opportunity will be offered. Up to twenty five teachers will be selected for participation. Completed essays will be submitted to campus secretaries.

## **Calendar of Events**

**March 24, 2010** -- D.A.T.E. Grant criteria and essay/application process is announced and discussed during our faculty meeting. Essay requirements and scoring rubric will be reviewed, followed by a question and answer period.

**April 5, 2010** – Essays due. Turn essays in to the campus secretaries, who will separate cover sheets, number the essays to maintain anonymity, and collect them for scoring by campus principals.

**May 7, 2010** – Participating teachers will be announced for the 2010-2011 school year.

## ***D.A.T.E. Grant Essay Requirements***

Cover sheet with name and grade level—**not attached** to essay  
Maximum 1 page typed, double spaced, 12pt font

Essays must include:

- ★ Why you would like to be included in this grant
- ★ Specific goals for technology integration into classroom lessons – your vision of how you will integrate technology into your lessons; through what methods, technology-integrated student products ideas; specific subject areas where you see technology easily integrated into your day
- ★ Specific programs and applications you foresee using for your integration, as well as programs you would like to see your students use in products they create.
- ★ Areas of professional development and training for which you would like to have access.

### ***Rubric***

#### **Technology Integration Goals**

Specific, well thought out goals for tech integration—4 points

General ideas about integration goals, and a variety of ideas presented—3 points

General ideas about tech integration and some general ideas presented—2 points

Vague ideas about tech integration and vague ideas presented—1 point

#### **Use of Available Technology-based Programs**

Specific programs, specific student projects—4 points

Specific programs, general ideas for student products—3 points

General ideas about programs, general ideas for student products—2 points

Vague understanding about programs available, general ideas for student products—1 point

#### **Professional Development**

A clearly stated plan of professional development and training sought—4 points

A generally stated plan of professional development and training sought—3 points

A stated plan of professional development, no specific trainings or programs listed—2 points

No stated plan for professional development or trainings needed—1 point

**Wolfe City ISD**  
2010-2011 District Awards for Teacher Excellence (D.A.T.E.) Program  
**Receipt and Understanding of Campus Plans**

**Part I Classroom Teachers**

**Grant Requirements**

Teachers will submit one portfolio each 9 weeks. This portfolio will contain the following:

- Reports of pretest and posttest data, including a copy of the test itself
- Documentation of two (2) sources of varied technologies used during the first quarter, followed by three (3) sources of varied technologies used during the second through fourth quarters.
- Documentation of a student-produced, technology-based product and/or a digital record reflecting student use of technology
- Creation and/or maintenance a classroom webpage for the duration of the 2010-2011 school year. Teachers who do not currently have a webpage will be required to create one. Each teacher is then required to update and maintain her/his webpage quarterly. Teachers will document this criterion by submitting a copy of their updated webpage each quarter, along with their portfolio.

One observation of a technology-based activity by a peer should be included in 2 portfolios during the year, one during the fall semester and one in the spring semester, for a total of 2 observations within the 2010-2011 year.

Part I funds will be earned in quarterly increments as portfolio requirements are met. Award amounts will be as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> portfolio -- \$350
- 2<sup>nd</sup> portfolio -- \$400
- 3<sup>rd</sup> portfolio -- \$400
- 4<sup>th</sup> portfolio -- \$500

A maximum of \$1650 may be awarded from Part I funds.

I have been informed and understand that my potential award amount equals \$1650. I understand Part I requirements. I understand that I am responsible for turning in documentation quarterly in a timely fashion and that my award amount will be determined based upon my fulfilling these requirements. I must meet quarterly requirements each of the 9 week periods in order to receive the maximum grant award. Award payments are counted as salary. I have been informed that taxes, withholdings, benefits, and retirement deductions will be deducted from my award payment.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have received Wolfe City ISD's performance award plan for the 2010-2011 D.A.T.E. grant. I understand the program criteria and acknowledge what is required of me to earn an award under the program guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

