



NJDOE News

For More Information Contact the Public Information Office:
Richard Vespucci
Jon Zlock
609-292-1126

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14 Educators Receive I.D.E.A.S. Awards

The New Jersey Department of Education has awarded mini-grants to 14 educators for their proposals to implement the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The program, called *Workplace Readiness I.D.E.A.S. (Incentive for Demonstrating Excellence in Academic Standards)* is designed to encourage teachers and counselors to spur the development of instructional models to enhance student achievement of the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

The Core Curriculum Content Standards, adopted by the State Board of Education in 1996, aim to ensure that all New Jersey students develop both academic competencies and those needed for succeeding in the world of work. The current standards address areas such as career planning, use of information and technology, critical thinking, self management and safety.

"Through this annual awards program, we have been able to identify locally developed programs that can serve as models for the entire state," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera. "As a result, we are creating opportunities for more students to participate in effective programs that will help them learn career-oriented skills and knowledge."

The *I.D.E.A.S.* program offers a maximum \$4,000 mini-grant for each proposal selected that best meets the program's objectives. Applicants submitted brief applications describing their curricular concepts, the relevance to the integration of the workplace readiness standards into one or more academic content standards, their potential for replication by others, and any proposed expenditures.

All applications were evaluated and ranked in a two-phase process. The first phase involved review by the local Workforce Investment Board. Following this review, each application was forwarded to the sponsoring committee for review by representatives from the Department of Education's Office of Vocational-Technical, Career and Adult Programs.

The winners of the awards are:

Sandra Antoine, Paramus Public Schools;
Lizabeth Buoro, Cape May County Special Services School District;
James Colaizzi, New Brunswick Public Schools;
Susan D'Alessandro, Stafford Township Public Schools;
Lisa Graham, Salem County Vocational Schools;
Karlheinz Haas, Southern Regional High School;
Richard Ney, Manchester Regional High School (Haledon);
Tom Sansevero, Monmouth County Vocational School;
Claire Simpson, Moorestown Upper Elementary School;
Jeffrey Scheetz, Dumont Public Schools;
William Taylor and **Diane Kitts**, Kiva High School (Tinton Falls);
Juanita Unhoch, Morris County Vocational School; and
Bob Zentmeyer, Eagle Academy (Egg Harbor Township).

For more information, contact the Department of Education's Office of Vocational-Technical, Career and Adult Programs, 877-652-2733.