

GRADES 9-12 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Key Dates & Information:

RFP Release Date: May, 2014

Proposal Due Date: May 31, before 5:00 p.m. central time

Award Notification: June, 2014

Project Start Date: August 2015 (School opening August 2016)

Program Description:

Duluth Public Schools Academy (MN District: 4020-07), also known as Duluth Edison Charter Schools (DECS), located in Duluth, Minnesota, is a K-8 school dedicated to the achievement of academic and personal excellence for every child. After seventeen years with a solid K-8 program the plan is to expand the charter to add grades 9-12 using a blended learning model in the 2016-2017 school year. When fully enrolled, student numbers will be in the 650-700 range. Currently the enrollment is 1300 in grades k-8.

Our instruction is data driven with a focus on the core subjects of math and reading. Students set math and reading goals and work to enhance these skills. House teams work as professional learning communities in a culture of continuous improvement. Specialist subjects of music appreciation, band, choir, physical education, Spanish, and visual arts are core components of our program. We incorporate technology into instruction at all grade levels with a particular focus (a one device to two students ratio) in our junior academy (grades 6-8).

Duluth Edison Charter Schools is looking for an engaging, rigorous, adaptive curriculum to be the core of the high school experience. Character education is incorporated into the community life of our buildings. Age appropriate behavior instruction is provided in classrooms and home base. We have a monthly core value focus that includes assemblies celebrating the core value and recognizing students who exhibit core values. Community service projects like food drives, toy drives, and partnerships with nursing homes and other local agencies, also provide opportunities for our students to practice the core values.

Review Criteria:

Proposed Curriculum must:

- address all MN State Standards for language arts, math, science, social studies, foreign language and other Minnesota required graduation courses.
- include AP options
- directly engage students in higher level thinking skills.
- address the three major tenets of teaching; active learning, student diversity and assessment.
- include professional development and customer support.

- be feasible by the start of 2015-2016 (implementation year)

Proposal Submission:

Proposals, including signed cover sheet, must be submitted electronically to Tim Golden at timgolden007@yahoo.com before May 31 at 5:00 p.m. central time. Those who submitted proposals will be contacted within by June 31 in regards to the status of their proposal.

Program Contacts:

For information about the proposal submission process:

Bonnie Jorgenson – Head of Schools-bonnie.jorgenson@duluthedison.com

Tim Golden – Chair, High School Task Force-timgolden007@yahoo.com

Jen Fuchs – Curriculum Advisor-jbraukmann@gmail.com