Professional Development Description

Name of Entity: Dynamic Learning Group

Contact Information: Tara Ferriter-Smith tara@dynamiclearninggroup.com 406-459-4466

Summary of Services provided:

The Dynamic Learning Group (DLG) consulting team has substantial knowledge of scientifically-based reading research and instructional practices leading to increases in K-3 literacy development. DLG instructional consultants specialize in providing individualized high-quality professional development, support, and technical assistance for district and school leadership teams, classroom teachers, special educators, interventionists, coaches, and paraprofessionals.

The DLG teams unique approach includes on-going job-embedded consultation, coaching, and professional development that includes specific feedback which educators and leaders have reported to be extremely useful. Job embedded coaching includes support and facilitation of meetings and trainings, multiple approaches for classroom coaching, on-line web-based support, as well book and journal studies that lead educators down the road to the development of the knowledge and skills needed for engaging students in twenty first century learning. DLG consultants will provide coaching and learning opportunities which include but are not limited to the following topics:

- Effective instructional strategies for teaching the five components of reading; Phonological Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, and Comprehension,
- Effective instructional techniques for engaging students in the acquisition of Colorado English Language Arts standards for speaking, listening, reading, and writing,
- Use of assessment to inform instruction; screening, diagnostic, progress monitoring, and outcome measures,
- Development of a system-wide multi-tiered system of support that includes appropriate strategies for students with tier 2 and tier 3 needs,
- Support for school leaders to prioritize needs to effectively develop structures that motivate teachers and students,
- Development of best practices for teaching literacy including data analysis practices, whole and small group instruction, differentiation of instruction for struggling and advanced learners, and
- Development of positive behavior supports that include classroom management techniques, explicit and systematic instruction, and student engagement techniques.

The DLG team has led many districts and schools through significant improvements in reading achievement and educator effectiveness. Instructional consultants know and understand most of the current CDE approved assessments and literacy programs and are able to provide guidance for best ways to utilize these resources so that educators can begin closing achievement gaps across all disaggregated student groups in a timely manner.

DLG consultants have all been educators and have a deep understanding of the demands placed on schools, they are skillful at cultivating relationships with teachers to ensure that learning is not only occurring but is also enjoyable in a warm and welcoming community. The DLG team is ready and eager to begin working with new schools and understands that each school brings a different set of strengths and challenges. Each consultant is proficient at recognizing strengths and capitalizing on them as well as helping leadership teams begin identifying challenges and the development of action steps for overcoming those challenges quickly and effectively.