

Priority Participation Schools

Two fifth grade teachers from each of the listed schools will be given preferred status. Pairs of teachers or individual teachers from schools not listed are eligible for the remaining slots.

2012

Alta Vista Elementary	Berkley Elementary
Chain of Lakes Elementary	Combee Elementary
Crystal Lake Elementary	Dr. N E Roberts Elementary
Garner Elementary	Highlands Grove Elementary
Hillcrest Elementary	Kingsford Elementary
Lake Alfred Elementary	Lake Shipp Elementary
Laurel Elementary	Lincoln Avenue Academy
Loughman Oaks Elementary	Medulla Elementary
Oscar Pope Elementary	Ridgeview Global Studies Academy
Snively Elementary	Spessard L. Holland Elementary
Wahneta Elementary	Winston Elementary



Teacher Comments

Benefits of TAH: I feel that participating in TAH has given a depth of knowledge in history, new teaching strategies and an abundance of resources that will only serve to make me a better teacher. I enjoyed every aspect of the grant: from the professional developments where I learned so much, the field trip in which I saw history come alive in Charleston and getting to learn from other teachers in my district. I would encourage any teacher passionate about social studies or learning to participate in this grant!

Thanks so much,
Sarah McCarthy
Crystal Lake Middle School

This cohort has given me a renewed enthusiasm for the teaching of history. The resources are priceless in their value added to my knowledge of history and the ability to weave history throughout the 5th grade curriculum.

Laura Melton
Scott Lake Elementary

I would definitely recommend the Teaching American History grant to other professionals. The materials, experiences & wealth of knowledge that I have gained are truly priceless. My students have definitely responded to the activities that I have designed as a result of my experiences!

Marissa Amaral
Auburndale Central Elementary

Participating in the TAH grant was an excellent experience! The resources provided are things that I can actually use in my classroom and the knowledge I gained from the Boston trip is invaluable. While there is work involved in participating in this grant, it is completely worth it!

Lauren Laycock
Kathleen Elementary

The resources gained and new knowledge learned were exciting and easy to implement into my classroom. The TAH grant refueled both my own and my students' excitement and passion for history.

Lindsey McDowell
Boswell Elementary

Only through Teaching American History grants can the educator benefit from the "up front and personal" experience! Not only are teachers taught by experts, but the icing on the cake are the trips to the actual historical sites. Can't beat it!

Anonymous

Being with other people who share a love of History has reminded me why I love my job! I feel like I have been re-energized! The information and resources provided through the TAH experience are easily implemented in the classroom

Lydia Taylor
Carlton Palmore Elementary

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Polk County Public Schools

“Our Heritage: Our Future” Teaching American History Grant



Our Mission:

To ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences that result in high achievement for our students.

“Our Heritage: Our Future” Offers Professional Development and Travel

Polk County received its third Teaching American History grant in June 2009 .



This project is designed to provide quality professional development in history content and teaching strategies, high interest materials to link history and reading, and historical travel for fifth grade teachers. Two teachers from 18 schools will be selected each year. Fourteen schools have been selected each year from the matrix and teachers from other schools may apply for the remaining openings. Please see school schedule on the other side.



School Year Activities

December 13 — applications due

January 31 — welcome meeting

Spring semester — 6 Moodle online content modules (due every 2 weeks)

April — Readers Theater and Primary Source Reader training

Fall semester — 6 Moodle online content modules (due every 2 weeks)

September — meeting to share summer projects (teaching trunks or virtual field trips)

November — seminar day with Dr. Sean Adams, University of Florida. Implementation day to infuse strategies in curriculum maps.

Substitutes will be provided for 2 days in the spring and 2 in the fall.

Teachers selected are expected to participate in all activities for the entire year because of the requirements of the grant.



Summer Institute

This is a 9 day activity over 2 weeks in June.

Week One:

National Council for History Education 3-day colloquium — The Colonial and Revolutionary Period (A historian, a master classroom history teacher, and a history education specialist present content and model classroom applications for this era in history.)

Dr. Sean Adams — 1-day seminar presenting topics related to the Spanish colonial settlement in Florida and English colonies in the south as well as colonial life in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Week Two:

5 days of educational field studies in St. Augustine, Florida and Charleston, South Carolina.

- Charter bus transportation, hotel accommodations, admissions, and per diem is provided for Week 2.
- Onsite seminars and tours will be arranged by the Charleston Museum, Dr. Adams, and the National Park Service
- The required follow-up activity requires that each pair of teachers produce a teaching trunk or a virtual field trip to be shared with other teachers. (See other groups' projects on the website, keyword: TAH)
- Upon completion of the project, each teacher will receive a \$400 stipend and in-service points.

