



Dear Charter School Leader,

CHANGE!

This year, change has been the “it” word. Pennsylvania legislators approved the charter school laws more than 10 years ago because they recognized the need for change in the state’s public education system. But change for change itself isn’t what charter schools are about. Change that improves student outcomes through innovative and unique approaches are the foundation for charter school success.

HELP US BRING ABOUT CHANGE!

The Pennsylvania Coalition of Charter Schools, of which your school is a member, recognized that charter schools needed a support system to help insure that the change offered by charter schools was one that brought better education to students in Pennsylvania. The result of this need is the Pennsylvania Charter School Foundation, a new non-profit designed specifically to provide the essential contacts and training to improve the skills of charter school teachers and leaders through its main project: the Center for Charter School Enhancement. But the effort to develop this exciting new Center needs your help.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE ALL CHARTER SCHOOLS!

The Center is looking to pilot a cadre of quality teachers and other front line educators who will serve among the core presenters at the 2009 PA Charter Schools Conference this spring. The Center needs you to help us identify these exemplary educators. Nominated individuals will be invited to participate in a training workshop that will help them design an interactive, project-based presentation that will give participants tools and takeaways to enhance student success. Each member of the cadre will receive a \$150 stipend for their participation in the training workshop. The workshops will become the main component of featured tracks at the annual conference, increasing the value of the conference to your staff exponentially. This opportunity will recognize your top teachers -- and your school! Educators chosen as part of the Teacher Training Cadre will attend the Conference at no cost, and their school leader will attend at half price.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE YOUR CHARTER SCHOOL!

Not only will this cadre of educators be recognized by charter schools throughout the state, these standouts will reflect highly on your school’s commitment to quality education. These educators will be trained in state of the art workshop skills and current technologies. They will then be able to bring back to your school the presentation and technology skills that they have learned and teach your staff ways to improve teaching that will impact student performance.

IT’S YOUR TURN TO NOMINATE A MASTER EDUCATOR AT YOUR SCHOOL.

Finding the best charter school educators in the state depends on their school leaders. Please, take a moment to read a short Teacher Training Cadre program description. Enclosed is a nomination form for you to fill out and an application form for the teacher/educator to complete. You may send in your form separately or send in both together. Deadline for applications is January 23, 2009. Please direct your questions about the program to the Pennsylvania Charter School Foundation at Foundation@pachartercoalition.com

Sincerely yours,

William Tomasco, Executive Director

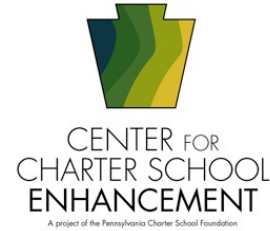
Shira Woolf Cohen, Project Developer

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Center for Charter School Enhancement

Teacher Training Cadre

PROGRAM DETAILS



DESCRIPTION:

The Center for Charter School Enhancement Teacher Training Cadre is a select group of exemplary charter school education professionals who have demonstrated exceptional skills in their subject/curriculum area. The Teacher Training Cadre will serve as the core of presenters at the annual PA Charter Schools Conference and will be given opportunities for workshop presentations at other charter school, PCCS, and Foundation events. Schools may nominate one or more educational professionals to the Cadre.

POTENTIAL CADRE MEMBERS:

- Grade level teachers
- Subject specific teachers
- Specialists (special education coordinators, reading and math specialists, guidance counselors, ELL coordinator, service learning coordinator, curriculum supervisor, etc)
- School support professionals (nurses, occupational therapists, psychologists, etc) or service professionals (human resources, transportation, etc)

TEACHER TRAINING CADRE SELECTION:

The educational professionals who will be chosen for the Teacher Training Cadre must be nominated either by a building principal, department head or other school leader who has personally observed the professional in the school setting and can confirm that he/she has impacted student improvement and/or school culture. Nominees will complete an application form and submit it to the PA Charter School Foundation. Nominees will participate in a short interview process that will not require travel. Once chosen for the Teacher Training Cadre, members will be required to participate in a training workshop that will identify a presentation topic and develop the methodology for delivery of a workshop at the Conference.

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOP:

Professionals selected to be in the Center's Teacher Training Cadre will be required to participate in a day-long train-the-trainer workshop that will help identify a possible workshop topic for the Conference and provide general skills necessary to deliver the topic in an interactive, project-based manner. Participants will be eligible for Act 48 credits for the day-long workshop as well as a financial stipend of \$150 and, if necessary, a travel/lodging stipend.

After the workshop, Cadre members will be required to maintain contact with the workshop coordinator as they further develop their workshop topic. Cadre members will then be asked to present their workshop to other educators through an online webinar format. All Teacher Training Cadre members will be invited to participate in all webinars, but will only be required to attend the day-long workshop and participate in follow up communications. The day-long train-the-trainer workshop will take place on a Saturday in February.

BENEFITS OF BEING A TEACHER TRAINING CADRE MEMBER:

- Recognition of peers as an exemplary teacher/educational professional
- Development of presentation and technology skills that may be transferred to classroom and other training settings
- Free registration at the annual PA Charter Schools Conference
- \$150 Stipends for participating in the day-long train-the-trainer workshop
- Act 48 hours
- Potential additional income as a Teacher Training Cadre consultant to charter schools

BE AN AGENT OF CHANGE

For more information about the Center for Charter School Enhancement's Teacher Training Cadre contact: Foundation@pachartercoalition.com

Center for Charter School Enhancement

Teacher Training Cadre

NOMINATION FORM (to be filled out by school/department leader)

School name: _____

Address (number, street, city, state, zip) _____

School Phone/FAX Number: _____

Nominated educator's email address: _____

Name of educator: _____

Position of educator: _____

Grade(s) taught: _____ Subject area (s): _____

Total years as teacher/educator: _____ Years as teacher/educator at this charter school: _____

Qualities that make this professional a potential Teaching Cadre member:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> innovative | <input type="checkbox"/> widely respected by peers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> technology oriented | <input type="checkbox"/> interacts well with all constituents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> understands curriculum development | <input type="checkbox"/> dedicated to charter schools in general |
| <input type="checkbox"/> creates new ways to deliver materials | <input type="checkbox"/> works with students before/after school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lifelong learner, furthers education personally | <input type="checkbox"/> is active in community outside school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> communicates well with students | <input type="checkbox"/> is creative and energetic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> understands state standards | <input type="checkbox"/> is professionally supportive of other staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> experience leading professional development | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

I understand that I am nominating an educational professional who I believe represents the vision for charter schools and the future of quality education for all students. I agree to support this nominee if selected by allowing him/her time to present their workshop as part of a school staff development day and to provide opportunities for him/her to share workshops with other schools on an agreed upon basis. I further agree to release this professional to participate in the PA Charter Schools Conference on April 26-28, 2009.

Nominator (please print)

Nominator (signature)

Title

Please return by mail, email or fax to PCSF by January 23, 2009:
999 West Chester Pike, Suite B-6, West Chester, PA 19382
Fax: 484-356-0190
Foundation@pachartercoalition.com



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CHARTER SCHOOL
ENHANCEMENT
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Center for Charter School Enhancement

Teacher Training Cadre

EDUCATOR APPLICATION (to be filled out by teacher/educator nominee)

Educator name: _____

School name: _____

Address (number, street, city, state, zip) _____

School Phone/FAX Number: _____

My school email address: _____

Best phone number where you can be reached? _____

Current Position: _____

Grade(s) taught/served: _____ Subject area(s): _____

Total years as teacher/educator: _____ Years as teacher/educator in charter school(s): _____
(if you are an educational professional not in the classroom, identify the grade levels of your school, your professional subject area, the number of years you have practiced this profession, and the number of years you have been practicing in charter schools).

Please write a paragraph explaining why you would be interested in joining the Center's Teacher Training Cadre?

Please write a paragraph that describes a specific topic/experience/activity that you would be willing to share with others through a workshop format.

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