



FIRE ACADEMY

(Feeding Innovation through Reimaging Education)

Participants in FIRE Academy commit to action research focused on innovation that will result in a positive outcome for students. A two to four year commitment is required and participants agree to work both before/after school, in both physical and virtual environments, and share results with colleagues throughout the district.

Participants also agree to serve as leaders at the school and district level to mentor colleagues, engage in research, publish their findings and maintain a virtual status through Twitter, Facebook and the FIRE Academy blog.

FIRE Academy participants select a school or district level problem and develop a solution based action plan to address this problem of practice. The academy provides a creative environment in which teacher leaders can brainstorm, develop ideas for implementation, gain critical meaningful feedback, enjoy a maker space, and engage in a culture of opportunity.

The central question driving the work will be “How will this benefit our students?” or “How will this positively impact the lives of the children we serve?”

A FIRE Academy retreat will be the first experience shared by the participants in the group. This retreat will force us to use skills we may not have ever before, and engage us in ways we haven’t had the opportunity to. The two day retreat will take place in late August.

FIRE Academy participants will receive release time in years one and two to complete work, provide leadership through coaching, mentoring, partnership with others, and meet with academy members.

Each FIRE Academy participant will receive a stipend (between \$2,000.00 and \$4,000.00) annually. The compensation is commensurate with the level of commitment and work the participant has completed.

The next step is for interested applicants to develop a video and send to me detailing what they would do to reimagine education and why they believe that they would benefit from participating in FIRE Academy. Deadline for submission is July 15, 2015.

