

Dear Principals,

**C<sup>2</sup> is looking for new teacher teams to participate in a free professional learning opportunity next year. Please contact me if you would like your school to join C<sup>2</sup>**

The C<sup>2</sup> (Content in Context) Math-Science Partnership grant is funded by the Oregon Department of Education and provides teachers in Lane County with connections to STEM professionals (engineers, scientists, technicians, analysts) and other community partners to help provide interconnected STEM content, learning environments, and authentic projects for students. Please see our website for more details: <http://www.stem.lane.edu/>

Past teacher development projects such as educating Math and Science Together (eMAST) have demonstrated that teacher confidence in teaching both subjects increases more when teacher professional development (TPD) particularly emphasizes connections between math, language arts and sciences when compared to discipline-specific TPD. **Increasing teacher confidence in connecting math and language arts with science and engineering will prove critical in meeting Oregon's newly-adopted Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).**

C<sup>2</sup> is entering its third year of funding and is seeking teacher teams to form a 3rd cohort. We would like to work with grade level teams from elementary schools that are interested in designing STEM curriculum that will be disseminated to other teachers throughout Lane County and the state. Schools that participate would be able to send one grade level team (i.e. all Kinder teachers from one school, all 1st grade teachers from another school, etc.). Schools in districts that have already been participating in C<sup>2</sup> will be given priority (4J, Bethel, Creswell, Crow-Applegate-Lorane, Springfield). Once we have given these districts time to seek out teams, we will invite other districts.

**Professional Development will focus on:**

- Project Based Learning (PBL) Curriculum Design
- NGSS, Scientific and Engineering Practices
- NGSS, Grade Level Content Specific Standards
- NGSS + Math CCSS Connections
- NGSS + ELA CCSS Connections

- Graduate Level Credit available through WOU

**Participating teacher teams will need to commit to the following grant requirements:**

- Attend all grant scheduled events
- Develop STEM Project-Based Unit with Lesson Plans
- Implement STEM PBL Unit
- Keep and Score Student Work Samples
- Participate in Instructional Rounds (Observations & Feedback)
- Revise STEM Unit/Lessons
- Participate in Student STEM Showcase

**Grant Schedule for August 2014-June 2015:**

- 3 days in August → *probably 8/13, 8/14, 8/15* (Professional Development/Teacher Field Studies)
- 7 sub days throughout school year (Teacher Field Studies/Curriculum Devt./Instructional Rounds)
- ½ day for Student STEM Showcase (May or June)
- 2 days in **June 2015**, when school is out (Lesson Revision/Student Work Scoring)
- *STEM Summer Camp (July 2015) → Optional*

**Outcomes:**

- K-5 STEM PBL Units and Kits Available for Checkout to ALL Lane County Schools
- Technology Embedded Lessons

- School-Community STEM Partnerships
- NGSS Implementation Connected to CCSS Math and ELA