

News Release

Everett Public Schools

April 30, 2009

For more information:

Mary Waggoner, 425-385-4049

Dennis Small, OSPI Director, Educational Technology 360-725-6384

Seven teachers each receive \$9,000 to integrate technology into classrooms

Through the enhanced peer coaching program from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instructions seven Everett Public Schools teachers have been awarded \$9,000 each for professional development to become peer coaches. The program is designed to develop each educator's mentoring skills while they learn the most effective ways to use technology in their teaching.

The \$9,000, covers a 10-session training program and related costs, such as substitute teachers and new technology for their classrooms.

When finished with the program, the teachers will return to their schools as peer coaches who can share powerful new instructional techniques using technology to engage and motivate students.

Eligibility for the grants was based on district location and demographics as well as whether schools in the district have been identified for improvement or have not met Adequate Yearly Progress (the accountability portion of the federal No Child Left Behind act) or have a substantial need for assistance with the using and buying of technology.

"Through the program, peer coaches join a supportive, evolving community of learners and practitioners," said Dennis Small, OSPI Educational Technology Director. "They connect as equals in a dialogue that covers shared experience, reflection, new understanding, and the adoption of tools for a new kind of learning environment - a powerful way to try, refine and implement — as social learners."

Those teachers who received grants are:

Melissa Webster, Cascade High School
Jacqueline Zarnick and Vicky North, Emerson Elementary School
Julian Barnes, Jackson Elementary School
Tracy Stavang, James Monroe Elementary School
Deborah Woltring, Lowell Elementary School
Paula Furick, View Ridge Elementary School
Anne Matthey, Woodside Elementary School

---end---