

2007- 2008 CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

VIRGINIA STATE READING ASSOCIATION TEACHER RESEARCH GRANTS



Teacher research is a way that educators may examine instructional practices in order to improve teaching and learning conditions for students. VSRA provides funding for K-12 teachers interested in planning, implementing, and sharing the results of their literacy-based research. Such work can lead to long-term, meaningful change.

Grants of up to \$1000.00 each will be awarded at the 41st Annual VSRA Conference in Richmond, Virginia. The grant program is open to full or part-time elementary and secondary teachers. Reading specialists and literacy coaches are also encouraged to apply. Applicants must be current VSRA members. Each applicant should submit a proposal that describes a research plan. A panel of teacher researchers will judge proposals. Recipients must attend the 2008 VSRA conference to receive their awards. They also will participate in a session designed to highlight their work at the 2009 conference. All recipients will receive a recent book of their choice on teacher research.

Proposals must be postmarked by December 15, 2007. Recipients will be notified by early February, 2008. For information, please contact:

Dr. Susie Leahy
Chair, VSRA Teacher Research Grants
Education Department
28 Westhampton Way
University of Richmond, VA 23173
Email: sleahy@richmond.edu
(804) 287-6678

VSRA TEACHER RESEARCHER GRANTS

Guidelines for Submitting a Proposal

I. COVER PAGE

Each application should include a cover sheet that has the name, address, phone number, email address, school, grade and/or subject taught for each teacher researcher involved in the project. No identifying information such as the names of schools or teachers should be on the proposal to provide for blind review.

II. PROPOSAL

The proposal should be composed of four main sections: rationale, method, timeline and budget. The body of the proposal should be no longer than three typewritten pages, double-spaced. Attachments such as references, data collections tools, and the budget should be included as Appendices. **Five copies** of your proposal must be submitted. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope to receive verification that your grant was received.

A. Title

B. Rationale

The proposal should include a rationale that addresses the following:

- What are the research questions?
- Why are these questions personally important to you?
- Why are these questions important to the field?

Note: Questions should be written in an open-ended format rather than yes/no questions.

C. Methods

The proposal should include a description of how you will design, implement, evaluate and share your findings. Provide descriptions of the following points:

- All participants and their roles
- How you will conduct the study
- Materials
- Data to be collected
- Analysis of data
- Sharing findings

D. Timeline

The proposal should include a timeline indicating when each aspect of your project will be accomplished.

E. Appendices

- Each submission should include a letter of support indicating permission for the research to be conducted in the school division and for the findings to be disseminated by VSRA. The letter should be written by the appropriate school official on the system's or school's letterhead.
- References
- Data collection tools
- Budget [Be specific]

Submission Deadline: All proposals must be postmarked on or before **December 15, 2007**.

