

ABSTRACT

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Building Capacity: University/School District Partnerships for Dual Credit Faculty Development

This presentation provides an overview of an innovative program developed in the 2010-11 year at Texas A&M University – Kingsville designed to increase the capacity of area school districts to have qualified faculty available to teach dual credit courses within their districts. There exists a severe shortage of teachers who are qualified to teach dual credit courses due to the requirement that they must meet a minimum of (18) hours of graduate coursework within their subject area. This shortage has reduced the ability of many districts to offer dual credit opportunities to their students. In order to address this issue, the university is applying for state approval of a new Masters in Education program that incorporates (18) hours in the major discipline and (18-21) hours in education. Area teachers wishing to teach dual credit courses may be nominated by their superintendent and receive deferred tuition throughout their masters program. Upon graduation, teachers will be appointed as dual credit instructors in their local districts and named as adjuncts for the university. University stipends normally paid to dual credit teachers will be waived for (7) courses to reimburse the University for deferred tuition costs. Discussion in this session will focus on the advantages that will accrue for students, districts and the university in this capacity building program.