February 3, 2014

Dear Prospective Curriculum Writer:

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is seeking grades 6-12 science educators (practicing or retired) who are interested in writing model science curriculum. The curriculum will focus on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Framework for K-12 Science Education. The curriculum will be based on the conceptual progression model in Appendix K of NGSS. This work will coincide with the ISBE Mathematics Curriculum Model Units, an integrated K-12 mathematics curriculum developed by a team of educators this past year (http://www.isbe.net/common_core/htmls/math-models.htm).

The ISBE science curriculum writing team will meet in a central Illinois location during the dates and times listed below. It is requested that all applicants be available for all of these sessions. Additional work sessions will be scheduled during the summer months as well as the 2014-2015 school year with the input of the writing team members.

2013-2014 School Year:
Friday, 3/14/2014, 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 3/15-3/16/2014, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday, 4/11/2014, 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 4/12-4/13/2014, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday, 5/02/2014, 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 5/03-5/04/2014, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Summer Sessions:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 6/16-6/19/2014 from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 6/23-6/26/2014 from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Individuals who are selected to write curriculum will receive substitute teacher pay reimbursable to districts for the Friday sessions (if needed), hotel accommodations for Friday and Saturday nights, per diem for meals and mileage reimbursement. During the school year sessions, a stipend of $350.00 per day (Saturday and Sunday) will be paid to participants. During the summer sessions, participants will receive hotel, mileage reimbursement, per diem and $350/day stipend.

Writing team members will participate in the development of NGSS-aligned science units with lessons on selected topics for grades 6-12. Our goal is to establish two teams (one for grades 6-8 and one for grades 9-12) comprised of sixteen writers per team. Of the sixteen writers, six members per team will be specialists focusing on career and technical education, engineering, ESL/bilingual education, higher education, special education and technology integration.

If you are interested in participating in this exciting initiative, please complete the Writing Team Application and return it via email (all required files must be attached and saved under your first and last name) to Tara Bell, Principal Consultant at tbell@isbe.net by Friday, February 21, 2014. You may also contact Tara with questions prior to your application at (217) 524-4832.

Sincerely,

Dora Welker
Division Administrator
College and Career Readiness