

## Distance Learning Through the Oregon DATA Project

No matter where they are in the state, educators can participate in the next round of training offered by the Oregon Direct Access to Achievement (DATA) Project. The Strand 4 training, "Essential Skills in Reading: Impact on Teaching and Learning" is being offered for about 90 people onsite at Clackamas ESD, with seven sites and about 50 people joining the two-day training remotely. A third day of training for team leaders is also available remotely.

"Offering the training remotely makes a lot of sense," says Mickey Garrison, ODE data strategist and training director for the project. "Registration for Strand 4 training has been full for months, and this way everyone can participate. And although this is the first time we've offered a remote option, the DATA Project has historically made trainings available in all parts of the state."

The three days of training, Feb. 1-3, will be available via teleconferencing and WebEx, thanks to the diligent efforts of the Clackamas ESD's technology staff, led by Stuart Long. Facilitators who participated in Strand 4 training last fall will help guide the activity at the remote sites.

"Having the option in our remote county of participating in this crucial professional development is exciting," says Alice Hunsaker, Superintendent of Lake County ESD. "The proportionately higher travel expenses and actual time out of the classroom are prohibitive for those of us in isolated areas of the state." At least a dozen educators from Lake County will participate in the training.

"Participants from northeastern Oregon who would otherwise have spent several hours and hundreds of dollars to attend the training will be able to fully participate from a local site at a fraction of the cost. It's an excellent example of fiscal responsibility and sensitivity to potential participants," says Eric Volger, Director of School Improvement Services for Umatilla-Morrow ESD.

Participating ESDs are: High Desert, Lake, Lane, Malheur, Southern Oregon, Umatilla-Morrow, and Wallowa.



## Call for Nominations for Social Science Instructional Materials Evaluation Committee

The Department of Education is looking for nominations of teachers, curriculum specialists, and others who have interest and experience in Social Sciences.

Evaluations are scheduled for August 1-7, 2011 and involve a 7-day or less commitment with travel reimbursement and a paid stipend. The group will be evaluating Social Science materials for the approved list to be voted on by the State Board of Education in October 2011.

If you are interested, please complete the following:

Nomination Form <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WYXBHS2> (to be completed by your superintendent or principal)

Nominee Information Form <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WDGH5DJ> (to be completed by you once you have been recommended by your superintendent or principal)

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