

## Overview

# Master Teacher Academy

## Far West GREAT Center

*"A goal is a dream with a plan"*

This sustained professional development initiative provides training to Master Teachers in an action research process of developing, implementing, and evaluating personal Active Learning Plans to improve teaching in their classrooms. The participants are guided step-by-step through a process of self-evaluation, planning, action, reflection, and professional dialogue.

Participating teachers will:

- Identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas of teaching practice that they would like to improve
- Develop specific Active Learning Plans to try out in their classrooms
- Implement their plans with learners
- Assess the results on their learners and their professional practice
- Share thoughts and reflections with colleagues

### **At the January 9, 2010 Master Teacher Academy session:**

1. Reflect on your practice and identify an instructional approach, strategy, or technique that you would like to try in your classroom to meet the needs of your students.
2. Develop a **SMART Action Learning Plan** to implement between January 9 and the next Master Teacher Academy session on Feb 20, 2010.
3. Make sure that your plan is "**SMART**"  
**S**pecific - **M**easurable - **A**daptable - **R**ealistic - with a **T**imeframe and target dates

### **Between each Master Teacher Academy session:**

4. Carry out the steps of your SMART Action Learning Plan with your students.
5. Systematically record your observations, reflections, and thoughts.
6. Use the Master Teacher Report Template to prepare a written **Master Teacher Report** on your experiences implementing your SMART Action Learning Plans.

**At the February 20, 2010 Master Teacher Academy session:**

7. Discuss with your Academy colleagues your Master Teacher Report identifying the accomplishments and challenges you experienced implementing your January 9 SMART Action Learning Plan.

8. Participate in additional self-evaluation activities and develop another **SMART Action Learning Plan** to implement between February 20 and March 6, 2010.

**At the March 6, 2010 Master Teacher Academy session:**

9. Discuss with your Academy colleagues your Master Teacher Report identifying the accomplishments and challenges you experienced implementing your February 20 SMART Action Learning Plan.

10. Participate in additional self-evaluation activities and develop another **SMART Action Learning Plan** to implement between March 6 and April 17, 2010.

**At the April 17, 2010 Master Teacher Academy sessions**

11. Discuss with your Academy colleagues your Master Teacher Report identifying the accomplishments and challenges you experienced implementing your March 6 SMART Action Learning Plan.

12. Submit all 3 of your Master Teacher Reports to the Far West GREAT Center.

Resources

Nikolic, V., & Cabaj, H. (2000). *Am I teaching well? self-evaluation strategies for effective teachers*. Toronto, Ontario Canada: Pippin Publishing Corporation.

Rose, C., & Nicholl, M.J. (1998). *Accelerated learning for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. New York, N.Y. Dell Publishing.

