

West Allis - West Milwaukee Staff Enhance Their Skills

(June 26, 2008) Though the summer months have arrived and the students in the West Allis - West Milwaukee Schools are off until September 2nd some of the District's teaching staff are busy furthering their education and expanding their horizons through the Sally Ride Academy. The Sally Ride Academy offers quality professional development based on national teacher standards. Teachers are introduced to recent research on how children learn and the application of best practices, and they may have the opportunity to become teacher leaders.

One Hundred-forty of the three hundred-sixty five teachers participating in the 14th annual Sally Ride Summer Academy are employed with the West Allis - West Milwaukee Schools including some staff members who are teaching courses. Sally Ride offers 18 different courses focusing on the areas of Differentiation, Technology with Classroom Applications, Teacher Leadership, Student Support Services, and Content Specific including an accelerated Masters of Education program being offered for the first time. This year's theme is "Differentiated Instruction: Opening the Window of Opportunity for ALL Students". The Academy is held for all public, parochial, and private elementary, middle, and high school teachers. The Sally Ride Academy operates in collaboration with Cardinal Stritch University, CESA 1, Fond du Lac, Grafton, Mukwonago, Waukesha and the West Allis - West Milwaukee School Districts.

Our teachers claim that the Sally Ride Academy is well worth the time and is something that all teachers no matter what experience or grade level benefit from participating in. Kristen Monday an Art Teacher at Hoover School says her classes are a great learning experience. The Sally Ride Academy is one example of how the teachers and staff of the West Allis - West Milwaukee Schools are putting children first.



Kathleen Kuhn
Teacher at Irving Elementary



WAWM Art Teachers