University of Houston STEP Science Teaching Equity Project

University of Houston Regional Science Collaborative

Sample Campus Participation Agreement

Teachers from _____ Elementary School have been selected to participate in the Science Teaching Equity Project (STEP), a professional development provided through the University of Houston Regional Science Collaborative during the 2011-12 academic year. STEP is program of the Curriculum & Instruction Department, College of Education, University of Houston to provide professional development to elementary science teachers. Through this program teachers will receive approximately 120 hours of professional development during the summer of 2011 and the 2011-12 academic year. Participants will also receive science and technology resources for use in their classrooms' and a stipend upon completion of the program. All participants are required to attend a summer science institute to be held of the University of Houston main campus from July 11th-15th. Teachers will also attend afterschool sessions and participate in an on campus peer mentoring program during the 2011-12 academic year. Importantly, this program will not require participants to be away from campus during the school day.

In addition to their participation in STEP professional development, teachers may choose to participate in an evaluation study of STEP. This agreement outlines the study activities that will take place on the _____Elementary School campus. All study activities are designed not to interfere with student learning.

Teachers will be observed for approximately 45-60 minutes while providing science instruction to their regular elementary class. These observations will take place during Fall 2011 and Spring 2012. All observations will be completed by outside observers who will use the Reformed Teaching Observation Protocol (RTOP). All data collected by outside observers will be aggregated during analysis and personal identifiers (teacher's names) will be removed prior to reporting.

Upon approval from _____ Independent School District, existing student data including the results of a pre- and post- multiple choice science content test and a few samples of student work completed during their regular science instruction will be collected by teachers for project evaluation purposes. All student data and work collected by participating teachers will have any and all student identification information removed prior to submission to the University of Houston researchers for analysis. No personal identification information will be collected for any student. Campus level TAKS data will also be analyzed and should be submitted to the University of Houston before June 29th, 2012.

Any questions regarding this study should be directed to the Project Director, Dr. Wallace Dominey, at wdominey@uh.edu or 713-743-4358.

Teacher Name	Teacher Signature	Date

Principal Name	Principal Signature	Date

Please fax a signed copy of this letter by to:

Colleen LaBorde, Project Manager
Science Teaching Equity Project
Fax: 713-743-4990

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Curriculum & Instruction