



JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1867

197 Martin Road, Jamestown, New York 14701

June 20, 2010

To the National Education Foundation Administrators:

The purpose of this correspondence is to reflect upon the first year of operation of a CyberLearning Academy within the Jamestown Public School District. As the District's primary synchronous and asynchronous educator and CyberLearning Academy Director, I am pleased to report that we have been extremely impressed with every aspect of our relationship with the NEF.

As the Academy Director, I must comment on the timely, consistent and cooperative responses by the NEF staff regarding the easy to use Learning Management System, Technical Support and willingness to address the needs of our teachers and students. In addition, I cannot overstate my satisfaction with your willingness to coordinate our most utilized courses to New York State Standards and to develop specialized Teacher Guides for these courses. These efforts were crucial to the successful implementation and use of online courses by teachers and students.

From an academic perspective, the wide variety of courses available through CyberLearning is very impressive. In the past year, we enrolled over one thousand students and focused on SAT Review, numerous Business Courses, and some Math and Science Courses. Next year, I look forward to utilizing more courses and promoting them for Course Supplements/Enhancements, Skill Practice, Topic Review, AIS, After School Tutoring, Adult Education and Home Use (by students and parents). I am also impressed with your efforts to add more course offerings requested by our teachers including the recently acquired Math Homework Helper and promotion of the various Humanities Courses.

As our school district begins to address the fallout from the current fiscal crisis, the significance of CyberLearning Courses as integral part of our curriculum cannot be underestimated. This month, Dr. John B. King, Jr., New York State Education Department Senior Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Education, stated that local districts must take the initiative to design, develop and implement a wide range of synchronous, asynchronous and blended courses utilizing available technology to engage students and provide enhanced learning options as districts are forced to eliminate classes. CyberLearning will assist us in this endeavor. Districts throughout the United States can benefit from many aspects of the CyberLearning Initiative. Thank you for your commitment to our children.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Walters
Academy Director
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