



## Teacher Leaders Guidelines and Application, September 2015

### Guidelines

The Corpus Christi AFT invites you to participate in the Teachers Leaders program for 2015-2016. Teachers from the area public schools with full-time classroom responsibilities and who are union members will be selected to join a nationwide teacher leaders network. We are seeking teachers who would like to take an active role in influencing policy in the following areas, for example:

Teacher Leadership in School Change—the ways in which teachers develop as leaders

Teacher Preparation and New Teacher Induction—the ways in which teachers are educated, recruited, oriented, evaluated, supported, and retained

Ongoing Professional Growth—the means by which teachers engage in professional growth, learning opportunities, and reflection

Teacher Networks—the ways in which teachers connect to other teachers and organizations for the purpose of expanding their learning community

Role of High Stakes Testing—how students are assessed and how students are prepared for college and career readiness

School Design—how schools are organized and how instruction is delivered

Teacher Evaluation—the need for fair and meaningful accountability

We will provide teachers with opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills to influence policy locally, statewide, and nationally. This will include framing practical policy positions that relate to improved student achievement; conducting research in classrooms and schools;

engaging the public and elected officials in community conversations about education; participating on advisory boards, panels, and task forces; developing policy recommendations based on research conducted; and publishing and disseminating findings and recommendations nationwide.

Teachers selected for the program will:

- Increase knowledge of major challenges facing the teaching profession through readings and discussions with leading policy experts
- Improve leadership skills
- Be recognized by the public and media
- Represent teachers nationwide as spokespersons and become members of an nationwide community
- Participate in conducting research and using it in influencing policy
- Be awarded a \$1500 stipend upon successful completion of program

We are seeking a diverse group of teacher-leaders who are active in their school communities and have track records in working to improve schools.

The application is due no later than 23 September 2015. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cheryl Flint [chas\_fremaux@yahoo.com – 361.774.0709].

All portions of the application must be submitted or the application will be considered incomplete: (1) application; (2) commitments; (3) essay; and (4) two letters of recommendation.

**Please note: All applicants are required to attend an interview session to be held Saturday, 3 October.**

## **Application**

Name

School Name

Address

Zip Code

School Phone

School Email Address

Home Address

Zip Code

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Personal Email Address

## **Experience**

What degree(s) do you hold?

What subjects have you taught and what subjects do you presently teach?

How many years have you been teaching?

What was your preparation for becoming a teacher?

How have you continued your professional development?

Please list any professional organizations of which you are a member:

Please list your areas of interest in education and education policy:

## Commitments

Please initial all the commitments in the boxes provided to confirm understanding of commitments:

I will be available by email on a regular basis.

I will attend the **ALL** full-day Saturday meetings from 8:30 – 3:30 (1 hour lunch) and do not have nor will I make conflicting commitments if admitted to the program:

17 October

7 November

12 December

9 January\*

6 February

5 March

16 April

14 May

\* This date is subject to change, as we will have a video conference with the president of AFT and all other TLP participants.

- I will complete and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings related to education policymaking.
- I will participate in conducting research and other documentation and have all assignments done as per the specified timeline.
- I will submit an article to a local paper.

### **Essay**

Please write a short essay (approximately two typed, double-spaced pages) describing an initiative in which you were an active participant that was designed to produce positive classroom or school change. Be specific about your role.

### **Recommendations**

Please attach two letters of support. Appropriate references would be from your principal, chapter chair, colleague, student, parent, or other individual who can speak to your leadership abilities and school improvement efforts.

### **Applicant's signature**

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**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_