

Abstracts--2009 FLAP SEA Grantees

T293C090006 Nebraska

Vickie Scow vickie.scow@nebraska.gov

Chinese

The Nebraska Department of Education's Chinese Acquisition Project will provide access to highly-qualified Chinese language educators, increase the importance of connections to Chinese culture and linguistics and develop continuous professional development in order to enhance student achievement. Using standards-based best practices the project proposes to expand established high school programs in Omaha and Lincoln Public Schools starting in the elementary grades. The project will continue through middle and high school years and progress through postsecondary. Access to real-life, interpersonal connections will be provided through digital technology. Pilot schools represent both urban and rural districts and involve high poverty, low-income families. Student assessments will include Linguafolio, NOELLA, and STAMP. Additional options for Linguafolio might include the ACTFL OPI, the online OPIc, and the Writing Proficiency Test (WPT).

T293C090002 Virginia

Tammy McGraw tammy.mcgraw@doe.virginia.gov

Cathy Cheely cathy.cheely@virtualvirginia.org

Arabic and Chinese

The Virginia Department of Education's Arabic and Chinese Development Program will utilize the curriculum expertise and resources of Virtual Virginia, an online instructional program, to assemble teams of subject matter experts to develop comprehensive course materials for Arabic I, II, III and AP Chinese Language and Culture. Course materials will be developed for online instruction and designed to make them adaptable for face-to-face instruction. Virtual Virginia is currently implementing instruction in Chinese I, II and III. Working in partnership with each school division in the Commonwealth, every high school student will have the opportunity to study and become proficient in the Arabic or Chinese sequence of courses. The project will establish a consortium of Arabic language teachers and a consortium of Chinese language teachers throughout the state to promote instruction and provide training in best practices.

T293C090007 West Virginia

Robert Crawford rcrawford@access.k12.wv.us

Japanese and Chinese

The West Virginia Department of Education's Language LEAPER program will be developed as a content-related and media-based FLES program that addresses the National Foreign Language Standards in addition to cross-curricular West Virginia content standards. The project will build upon and adapt existing curriculum documents that have been developed by other state curriculum projects. Once a curriculum framework for the project has been developed for grades K-5, media-based units and lessons will be designed to be delivered over a 90 minute weekly instructional sequence that is divided into three 30 minute sessions. At the center of each session is a contextualized and culture-embedded media episode presented exclusively in the target language that introduces the content-related topic of study. Each episode is supported by best-practice and age-appropriate instructional activities that afford students the opportunity to actively engage in meaningful interpretive, interpersonal and presentational communicative tasks. A central strength of the program is that balanced assessments will provide benchmarking and proficiency outcome data. The Center for Applied Linguistics will provide technical assistance in adapting SOPA, TOM-SOPA and ELLOPA in order to gather summative student proficiency data.