

NASA Explorer Schools
Sample Responses to the Application Question 4

Question 4: List each team member's name and describe his/her role on the team. Explain the rationale for the team composition in relation to the objectives of the NASA Explorer Schools program. . (20 points possible)

Sample response 1:

Team Lead: 4th grade classroom teacher from School A:. Jane was selected from a pool of applicants because of her dedication to students, the School A community, leadership abilities and her understanding of technology. Her role in the staff development and school improvement efforts is to work with teachers in the lower grades to help them prepare for high stakes testing of fourth graders.

Team Member 2 Assistant Principal:

Team Member 3 Classroom Educator: Jane2 was selected as a team member based on her strengths in the area of math and science. She serves a member of the school improvement team and provides guidance, mentoring and professional development to other faculty members. As a teacher, she uses technology and explores new uses in the classroom.

Team Member 4 Classroom Educator: John is an eight grade science teacher at School B and has x years of teaching experience. As part of the school improvement he implemented a math night. The success of this program is due to his leadership and ability to rally students to participate. He organizes and judges the annual science fair competition and is head of the math and science department.

Team Member 5 Classroom Educator: Jane3 has been a part of the School community all of her life. Her family generations tie to the beginning of the incorporation of the city. She is an active community member and has attended schools in the area. She presently is a classroom teacher at School B and serves on the school improvement plan committee as both a faculty and community representative. Her strengths are technology, implementing creative teaching applications and serving the children and their families in the School community.

Alternate Team Administrator: Jane4 is a technology coordinator for the State Resource Center for Educators and provides technology training to teachers, statewide E-rate training and serves as an educational consultant. She is a former resident of the city and an active supporter of the School District. She serves as community member on the school improvement team at both

Alternate Classroom Educator: Jane5 is an eight-grade computer applications teacher at School B. She is a key to ensuring that technology is implemented with the school improvement plan. Jane has ten years of teaching experience and serves on the school improvement team. She provides technology training to faculty members and is a sponsor of the student's computer club.

Sample response 2:

The School X Team is comprised of a dedicated group of professionals that strive to make School X an environment that fosters learning by all. The team is comprised of individuals who are able to work cooperatively and actively participate in both sharing ideas and listening to

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others in order to respond to the needs of the school. This group also believes that life long learning is essential to the teaching process.

Jane teaches 6th grade at School X. Jane is the Math lead teacher, utilizing the CMP (Connected Mathematics Project) for 6th grade. She brings an international view to our team through her overseas teaching experiences. Her enthusiastic personality is an asset to the team and her organizational leadership skills will help her coordinate the team activities.

Jane2 is the school's Science Coordinator. Her experiences as a K-6 Science Specialist (12+ years), along with her consultant work in gender equity issues in Math and Science education, prove her commitment to the importance of Math, Science and Technology for students and families. She brings a history of working with partnerships to enhance learning opportunities for students and staff. Jane2 will empower the team and the entire school community to embrace the implementation of the action plan with our NASA partnership.

Jane3 teaches 6th grade. Jane3 is one of the school's lead teachers and has been trained extensively in the Writer's Workshop program. Her experiences as a Title 1 and classroom teacher, her creative talents, and her openness to new ideas and teaching strategies, bring a wealth of expertise to the team. Jane3's class was recently featured in a local news story about Mars activities that were happening in the classroom.

Jane4, as a new member of the School X staff and the third member of the sixth grade team, has embraced the science focus from her first day at the school. Her background in community and parental involvement in the schools will be important for involving families in our plan. Jane4's willingness to expand her knowledge of science through participation in professional development activities displays her enthusiasm for learning.

John is committed to expanding the use of technology throughout the school. As the computer specialist, he directly impacts the learning of computer skills for the entire K-6 population. He is the Web Master for our school's web site. He offers staff training to increase teacher competency and confidence in using technology at School X. John is a Hmong American, as is over 50% of our school population, so he brings his bilingual and cultural expertise to our team.