

Project title

Education Outreach for Intermodal Transportation – Moving minds at the speed of time

Investigators

Dr. Lemond Irvin, Curriculum and Workforce Development Project Manager for MSU's Research and Curriculum Unit

Start date

July 2012

Completion date

December 2013

NCITEC funds

\$50,091

Matching funds

\$51,138

Project description

Education Outreach for Intermodal Transportation – Moving minds at the speed of time will educate secondary teachers about intermodal transportation and how it complements Mississippi's Career and Technical Education Logistics curricula, as well as prepare them to be ambassadors of intermodal transportation in the K-12 education environment. The Research and Curriculum Unit (RCU) at Mississippi State University is developing a logistics curriculum for The Mississippi Department of Education. The State of Mississippi currently lacks a presence in logistics and intermodal transportation for secondary students. Two school districts, Jackson Public Schools and Desoto County Schools, have been identified as pilot sites to begin instruction in this transportation pathway. Teacher training and development, along with the design and production of resource materials, will be the primary objectives of the project. Opportunities for teachers to utilize industry resources as well as use materials developed through the grant will be necessary for the pilot sites to be successful. A statewide curriculum will be implemented to prepare secondary teachers to teach the concepts of logistics and intermodal transportation. Students will be introduced to statewide transportation issues, different modes of transportation, federal and state requirements, and many other transportation- and logistics-related strategies. As the pilot ends, the training, resources, and knowledge gained in the pilot will be scaled up to all schools in Mississippi. The primary purpose is to introduce high school students to logistics and intermodal transportation and to develop a sustainable pipeline to work in this field. Secondary teachers will have opportunities to tour partnering intermodal transportation business/industry sites, such as United Parcel Service, AAA Cooper Transportation, American Eurocopter, Williams-Sonoma, and Wal-Mart Distribution Centers throughout the year. Participating teachers will prepare lesson plans for implementation of intermodal-transportation experiences into the Logistics curricula. The RCU will also design and produce marketing and training materials, such as brochures and curriculum guides, for the teachers to take back to the classroom. These materials will be excellent resources for the teachers to use in educating their students about intermodal transportation.