

NASA CENTRAL OPERATION OF RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS (CORE)

NASA Cooperative Agreement NCC5-554
Lorain County Joint Vocational School
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Central Operation of Resources for Educators (CORE), operated through a cooperative agreement with Lorain County Joint Vocational School, serves as the worldwide distribution center for NASA-produced multimedia materials. CORE provides worldwide distribution of NASA multimedia educational products. CORE also support the state-based NASA Educator Resource Center Network (ERCN) with materials and training to assist the Educator Resource Center (ERC) staff in better serving educators within their region.

CORE regularly communicates with the ERCN concerning required monthly reporting, internal professional development opportunities, and the availability of new products and materials. The ERCN includes more than 60 state-based sites located at universities, museums, and science centers. CORE also demonstrates applications of (STEM) and related content areas by providing curriculum support materials and opportunities for educators and students.

PROJECT RELEVANCE TO NASA

The NASA Central Operation of Resources for Educators (CORE) aligns with efforts with the NASA Education Strategic Coordination Framework Outcome 2 (Attract and retain students in STEM disciplines through a progression of educational opportunities for students, teachers, and faculty) and Outcome 3 (Build strategic partnerships and linkages between STEM formal and informal education providers that promote STEM literacy and awareness of NASA's mission). CORE also distributes materials developed by the NASA Mission Directorates (Aeronautics Research, Exploration Systems Mission Directorate, Science, and Space Operations).

PROJECT BENEFITS TO SOCIETY

The high quality materials, services, economic and social impacts that this program will produce will be of significant value to the people of the United States of America and will aid in inspiring our young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Tangible benefits include increased educational opportunities for all students including underserved educators and students through educator training and distribution of aerospace educational materials. CORE works to:

- Capture the interests of students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and motivate them to pursue careers in STEM disciplines.
- Enhance the teaching skills of formal and informal educators in STEM content areas.
- Demonstrate applications of (STEM) and related content areas by providing curriculum support materials and opportunities for educators and students.

PROJECT GOALS

CORE directly supports NASA Education Strategic Coordination Framework, specifically NASA Education Outcome 2 (Attract and retain students in STEM disciplines through a progression of educational opportunities for students, teachers, and faculty) through the following:

- Reproduce and distribute NASA's aerospace audiovisual and multimedia educational materials to K-16 educators nationally and internationally.
- Identify appropriate NASA educational publications with audiovisual and multimedia products to enhance K-16 educators' use of Earth Science, Space Science and other aerospace media.
- Provide personal assistance to K-16 educators with information, resources, technical support and referrals for NASA programs and services as it relates to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in aerospace products.
- Partner and collaborate with the NASA family to assure that a broader number of educators in minority and underrepresented schools have access to NASA audiovisual and multimedia aerospace products and NASA programs.
- Facilitate collaboration with universities, industry, professional educational organizations, Department of Education, National Science Foundation, and the NASA family to assure that a broader number of educators have access to NASA audiovisual and multimedia aerospace products.
- Demonstrate the use of NASA educational materials and technology to pre-service, formal and informal educators through training workshops provided via distance learning, on-site and off-site sessions.

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CORE accomplishments in FY07 include:

Serving 15,078 educators with 83,329 curriculum support products. This includes:

- 53,232 Educational Publications such as Educator Guides, Posters, Lithograph Pictures, etc.
- 1,810 Video Tapes with Educator Guides
- 1,351 Video Tapes
- 44 Slide Sets with Scripts
- 4,398 Educational CD-ROMs
- 6,090 Educational DVDs
- 76 Electronic Resources (Individualized assistance in navigating electronic resources)
- 16,328 Non-Technical NASA Information Publications

A total of 65 educator training workshops and 19 presentations were conducted, with a combined audience 15,253 participating.

CORE provided support to the Agency's educational engagement activities surrounding STS-118, first flight of an Educator Astronaut.

Additional samples of CORE activities and accomplishments include:

- CORE participated in the Ohio Mathematics and Science Coalition (OMSC) meetings
- CORE staff attended the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE) conference teaming with NASA Explorer School staff.
- CORE provided a catalog, supplement, and CD-ROM of NASA Educational Materials to a House Science Committee staff member who requested a list of tangible NASA resources that are available to schools and teachers nationwide.
- CORE participated in a Free and Inexpensive Science Resources training at Morehead University in Kentucky.
- CORE and Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) are worked together to provide the opportunity for students to learn more about astronauts orbiting the earth on the ISS.
- CORE supported the Educator Resource Center at the NASA IV&V Facility in West Virginia which held a series of workshops for educators.
- CORE supported the NASA Stennis Educator Resource Center to provide information and training for the staff at Jackson State University.
- CORE attended the Minority Family Conference held in Hudson, Ohio where was provided to participants on the Four Easy Ways to Receive NASA Educational Materials, NASA DVD's which are now available from CORE, and the NASA CORE Brochure.
- CORE presented at the Third Annual Ohio Space Grant Consortium Pre-Service Scholarship Workshop was held at the Ohio Aerospace Institute in Cleveland, Ohio.
- CORE has collaborated with the NASA Stennis Educator Resource Center to support their workshop which focused on the new generation of free remote sensing software.
- CORE partnered with the Lorain County Joint Vocational School in Oberlin, Ohio who brought together Special Needs educators from all Lorain County Schools for a special in-service training.
- CORE partnered with the First Community Interfaith Institute of Ohio to host a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Festival and Workshop.
- CORE has been working to support the activities of the NASA Educator Resource Center Network by providing materials such as the Four Easy Ways flyer, CORE brochure, CORE catalog on CD-ROM and various other NASA materials which work to enhance the offerings at these training sessions.