

Technical Review Cover Sheet

Panel Details

Fiscal Year 2008 **CFDA/Subprogram** 84.351C **Schedule No** 3 **Tier No.** 1
Panel Name Panel 06 **Panel Monitor Name** Lyons, Carol C. **Panel Monitor Phone No.** 2022054760
Competition Manager Name(s) Kress, Richard I.(2022601408); Binder, Isadora(2022603778); Dukes, Adrienne M.(2022055812)

Applicant Name Shelby County Schools **PR/Award No** U351C080047

Questions

	Points Possible	Points Scored
	1. Overall Comments	
QUESTION 1	0	
	2. Evaluation Criteria	
QUESTION 2	20	18
QUESTION 3	20	20
QUESTION 4	20	20
QUESTION 5	10	10
QUESTION 6	15	10
QUESTION 7	15	12
	TOTAL	90

Technical Review Form

Applicant Name Shelby County Schools **PR/Award No** U351C080047

Overall Comments - Overall Commnets

1. Overall Comments - Summary Statement

Question Status:Not Completed

Reviewer Score:

Evaluation Criteria - Significance (20 Points)

Significance (20 Points)

- 2.
- a) **The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population.**
 - b) **The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation in a variety of settings.**

Weaknesses

It is not clear exactly how the district will provide oversight to the process in order to ensure that the intentions are realized.

Strengths

The project targets high poverty and low-achieving schools in targeted suburban and rural areas in an otherwise high-performing school district which has recently received all As on the state report card. These are the needy areas and they are the ones being targeted by this project.

The applicant provides research supporting the proposition that students in arts-rich schools outperform students in arts-poor schools. The applicant proposes to introduce an Arts/Ed Infusion program to provide leverage to Shelby County School's current Art Curriculum, and take that approach to the next level by creating a premiere comprehensive Professional Development Program and support system for the teachers and administrators in the district. They intend to integrate music and art with language arts and mathematics.

The applicant states that the Arts/Ed Infusion program is designed to be replicated.

The applicant claims that any school that uses a curriculum based on national standards will be able to use and replicate Arts/Ed Infusion.

A train the trainer component which selects 20 of the 100 participants and prepares them to serve as trainers for the colleagues at school. This is the strategy to facilitate capacity building of each school and the sustainability in the program in those schools. Additional support will come from an Arts/Ed Infusion website that will be interactive and provide such things as lesson plans, activities, and provide for feedback and sharing of successes and challenges, etc.

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 18

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Project Design (20 points)

Quality of the Project Design (20 points)

- a) **The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.**
- b) **The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**
3. c) **The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.**

Weaknesses

None noted

Strengths

Goals are stated in this section, and the objectives and outcomes supporting those goals are quantified.

The district has been implementing a system-wide curriculum that is based upon state standards.

The professional development to be offered is seen as a barrier to some of the teacher retention problems found in the targeted schools. The notion is that the teachers in this project will experience personal development and growth as well as pleasant experience.

The goals of the professional development sessions are stated.

They expect to build capacity among the participating faculty members through the intensive staff development, the development of new and innovative curriculum materials, collaboration with visiting artists and art organizations, and the development of new approaches to curriculum and instruction in core areas throughout the arts.

There will be a website to accompany the curriculum to make lesson plans and guides more accessible and downloadable. One program goal is to design an assessment tool that can intensely and accurately evaluate this program to ensure that it is effective.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of Project Services (20 points)

Quality of Project Services (20 points)

4. **a) The quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
- b) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of**

those services.

c) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards.

Weaknesses

None noted

Strengths

Given the schools that are targeted for the project, most of the potential participants are members of the underrepresented groups. This is who the project addresses mainly.

Several examples are provided that show that the professional development planned will be of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration.

Several examples of relevant research is cited to support the idea that this type of program should be effective on this type of student.(Low income)

The program is aligned with state standards and supported by ongoing activities of a similar nature that already exist in the district.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)

Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)

5. **a) The extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**

b) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

c) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

Weaknesses

None noted

Strengths

The applicant says they do not discriminate and go on to say they actually have an outreach effort when that becomes necessary.

The key personnel for Arts/Ed Infusion will be new hires. Some prospects have been identified and they appear to be highly-qualified.

The key personnel who are being considered appear to be highly-qualified both training and experience. They are specialists in their fields.

The consultants are mainly University of Memphis staff members who are highly educated and experienced in the roles they are slated to play.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)

Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)

- 6. The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project by considering the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**

Weaknesses

The applicant does not provide any information on how the leadership team would function such as how often they will meet, how they will plan for collaboration and watching the budget, etc. This could be especially important since there would be several new hires in key positions (Page10).

Strengths

The applicant identifies the key members of the team that will lead this project effort, and they all appear to have strong backgrounds that justify their positions on the team.

The applicant provides a timeline of activities for year one.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 Points)

Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 Points)

7. **a) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.**
- b) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.**

Weaknesses

The applicant does not explain how the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.

Strengths

The applicant identifies questionnaires and other evaluation instruments by name. They appear to be appropriate for the tasks involved.

The applicant identifies performance measures for the program as a key deliverable.

A summary of the evaluation plan-based on the evaluation questions-is presented in chart format. Data sources and the resultant procedure/method are included.

The external evaluator would be the Center for Research in Educational Policy at the University of Memphis. CREP is very experienced in evaluating this type of project and offers a lead evaluator who is very experienced

They plan on using a Project Monitoring Database to house information related to project tasks and activities. The PMD will store information pertaining to the number and types of professional development activities, participants at each, development of curricular modules and dissemination activities..

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 12

Technical Review Cover Sheet

Panel Details

Fiscal Year 2008 **CFDA/Subprogram** 84.351C **Schedule No** 3 **Tier No.** 1

Panel Name Panel 06

Applicant Name Shelby County Schools **PR/Award No** U351C080047

Questions

	Points Possible	Points Scored
	1. Overall Comments	
QUESTION 1	0	
	2. Evaluation Criteria	
QUESTION 2	20	18
QUESTION 3	20	20
QUESTION 4	20	18
QUESTION 5	10	10
QUESTION 6	15	13
QUESTION 7	15	13
	TOTAL	92

Technical Review Form

Applicant Name Shelby County Schools **PR/Award No** U351C080047

Reviewer Name

Overall Comments - Overall Comments

1. Overall Comments - Summary Statement

Question Status:Not Completed

Reviewer Score:

Evaluation Criteria - Significance (20 Points)

Significance (20 Points)

2. a) **The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population.**
- b) **The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation in a variety of settings.**

Weaknesses

The applicant should have used the findings of an arts educator needs assessment to strengthen the project.

Strengths

The applicant is serving 10 high poverty schools. The applicant plans to select 20 educators to serve as trainers. The applicant plans to create a website to support replicability. The website will contain lesson plans and other resources. The applicant plans to have quarterly professional development and a five day institute in July.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 18

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Project Design (20 points)

Quality of the Project Design (20 points)

3. a) **The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.**
- b) **The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**
- c) **The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive**

effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.

Weaknesses

None.

Strengths

The applicant has clearly specified and measurable objectives. The applicant provides research to support project. The applicant has described how this project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of Project Services (20 points)

Quality of Project Services (20 points)

- a) **The quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
4. b) **The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services.**
- c) **The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards.**

Weaknesses

The applicant may want to consider extending the summer institute to provide

more time to devote to arts infused standards based instruction.

Strengths

The applicant states that almost all project participants are from underrepresented groups. The applicant plans to have an advisory team. The applicant plans to provide 10 days of professional development. The applicant plans to have printed materials in languages that meet the needs of participants. The project is aligned with state standards.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 18

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)

Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)

5. **a) The extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
- b) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**
- c) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.**

Weaknesses

None.

Strengths

The applicant holds career fairs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The applicant has attached resumes for key personnel. The personnel have appropriate training and experience.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)

Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)

6. **The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project by considering the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**

Weaknesses

The applicant should consider establishing community partnerships. The applicant should describe the role that these partners would play and attach letters of support. Collaboration with arts organizations, youth organizations and churches would strengthen the project.

Strengths

The applicant has a detailed management plan with timelines and persons responsible.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 13

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 Points)

Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 Points)

7. **a) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.**
- b) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.**

Weaknesses

The applicant should include project goals and objectives in the evaluation plan.

Strengths

The applicant plans to use an external evaluator. The applicant plans to use pre and post questionnaires and observations of instructors. The applicant has four evaluation questions. It has identified data sources. The applicant will prepare an annual report.

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 13

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Applicant Name Shelby County Schools **PR/Award No** U351C080047
Reviewer Name

Questions

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QUESTION 1	0	
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QUESTION 2	20	20
QUESTION 3	20	15
QUESTION 4	20	15
QUESTION 5	10	10
QUESTION 6	15	10
QUESTION 7	15	10
	TOTAL	80

Technical Review Form

Applicant Name Shelby County Schools **PR/Award No** U351C080047
Reviewer Name

Overall Comments - Overall Commnets

1. Overall Comments - Summary Statement

Question Status:Not Completed

Reviewer Score:

Evaluation Criteria - Significance (20 Points)

Significance (20 Points)

2. a) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population.
- b) The potential replicability of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation in a variety of settings.

Weaknesses

None are noted.

Strengths

An arts infused and interactive web site is a strategy that offers the potential for replicating the project. (pg. 5)

Teachers will receive standards-based and research based courses. It is anticipated that the result will be an improvement in teacher retention. This is likely to build capacity. (pg. 7)

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 20

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Project Design (20 points)

3. Quality of the Project Design (20 points)

- a) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved

by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.

b) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.

c) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.

Weaknesses

The key personnel will be new hires. No evidence is presented that all or some of them will be retained when financial assistance ends. This has the possibility to limit the programs's extension beyond financial assistance.

Strengths

The program plans to integrate the arts with language and math. This indicates it is part of a comprehensive plan to improve teaching and learning. (pg. 3)

The program aims to create a premiere professional development program and support system for teachers and administrators. This should yield results that extend the program beyond financial assistance. (pg. 3)

The project's goals and objectives are clearly specified and measurable. (pgs. 5-6)

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 15

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of Project Services (20 points)

Quality of Project Services (20 points)

4. **a) The quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color,**

national origin, gender, age, or disability.

b) The extent to which the training or professional development services to be provided by the proposed project are of sufficient quality, intensity, and duration to lead to improvements in practice among the recipients of those services.

c) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards.

Weaknesses

Even though research was cited that links high student achievement with fine arts participation, no link was provided that describes how this project will be linked to high student achievement.

Strengths

The project has an advisory team that will oversee many important aspects of the program. (pg. 10)

The project has a plan for serving underrepresented groups. (GEPA)

Question Status: Completed

Reviewer Score: 15

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)

Quality of Project Personnel (10 points)

5. **a) The extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
- b) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**

c) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of project consultants or subcontractors.

Weaknesses

None are noted.

Strengths

Holding career fairs at HBCU's indicates that applications from underrepresented groups re encouraged. (pg. 13)

Certification in Administration and Supervision, Song Fest Judge, and special education are samples of the personnel's and consultants' relevant qualifications and experiences. (resumes)

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)

Quality of the Management Plan (15 points)

6. **The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project by considering the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**

Weaknesses

Specific milestones and objectives are not included in the timeline.

Strengths

A timeline is included in the proposal. (pgs. 16-20)

The responsibilities of the key personnel are specified. (pgs. 16-20)

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

Evaluation Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 Points)

Quality of the Project Evaluation (15 Points)

7. **a) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.**
- b) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.**

Weaknesses

The specific goals and objectives that are to be evaluated should be included in the evaluation plan.

Strengths

An independent evaluator will be used. (pg. 21)

Qualitative and quantitative data will be used. (pg. 21)

Question Status:Completed

Reviewer Score: 10

