EQuIP - Educational Quality through Instructional Partnerships

Participating Teachers:

Librarian - Lisa Krauze

Teacher A - Doreen Sahr

Teacher B - Sandra Mangarella

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About EQuIP

This Research into Practice exploratory project will identify the specific components of Guided Inquiry Design units, collaboratively designed and implemented by school librarians and classroom teachers, that lead to higher academic achievement and student mastery of K-12 learning outcomes. This study is funded by a three-year Laura Bush 21st Century Library grant through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

EQuIP Research Mechanics

EQuIP addresses the following research question: How does student completion of a Guided Inquiry Unit, designed and delivered by EQuIP-trained school library-classroom teacher instructional partners, affect student mastery of target curricular learning outcomes?

By answering this question, the proposed study will contribute to theoretical and practical knowledge on highly effective targeted interventions that when implemented by school librarians and classroom teachers, lead to student mastery of academic content, and student development of lifelong inquiry skills. Research outcomes will address a large gap in school library research (i.e. quantifiable impact of school library and classroom partnerships on K-12 student learning) and establish a critical mass of geographically-diverse school library and teacher practitioners trained in Guided Inquiry Design.

The study design for EQuIP employs a mixed-methodology approach where a robust quantitative design is supported by contextual qualitative data. The application of this design has intentionally been selected to address the challenging combination of:

- 1. A lack of quantitatively identified high-impact variables in school library research
- 2. Context-dependent institutional structures, professional practices, and student learning needs found in individual K-12 schools and school library programs.

EQuIP Impact

The goals of this research project are:

- 1. Establish a critical mass of geographically-diverse GID-trained school library practitioners with strong classroom teacher instructional partners
- 2. Share results of data collected and analyzed with emphasis on communication to stakeholders outside of the school library profession (e.g. educational leadership, state education agencies, community leaders, parents), leading to demonstrable improvement in library services for K-12 students.
- 3. Generate a larger dataset that encourages identification of impactful variables, and future research examining the effect of school librarian pedagogical practices on K-12 student academic achievement in quantifiable ways.
- 4. Establish a free database of Guided Inquiry Design units that reflect research findings on best practices for timing of stages, skill development, co-teaching structure, distribution of responsibilities, and pedagogical strategies.

Who We Are

Research Team

Advisory Board

Participate

Find out how to you can sign up»

More Information

Contact me to learn more about this project:

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Institute of Museum and Library Services

The mission of IMLS is to advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development.

Learn more about the IMLS

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Participate

The EQuIP project prioritizes applications received from New Jersey, South Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin. However, any K-12 public school system is welcome to participate.

A Quick Introduction to the EQuIP Grant Project

If you are a fulltime K-12 school librarian in a public school and you are interested in helping measure the school librarian's impact on student learning, then join the EQuIP Grant Project! Here is a brief introductory video explaining EQuIP's research goals and why it is a great opportunity for you and your students:

Who Can Participate?

The EQuIP project has funding for thirty public schools each year of its implementation: ten $K-5^{th}$ grade schools, ten $6^{th}-8^{th}$ grade schools, and ten $9^{th}-12^{th}$ grade schools. $K-8^{th}$ or $K-12^{th}$ schools may choose to apply as either elementary, middle, or high schools depending on the grade level of the participating team. EQuIP prioritizes applications received from South Carolina, New Jersey, Wisconsin, and Texas. However, any K-12 public school is welcome to apply if space becomes available.

Steps for Participation

- 1. Email Dr. Green to express your interest. You'll receive instructions on how to obtain permission from your school system and school administrator to participate in the research process.
- 2. Build your team (you'll need a Teacher A and a Teacher B, explained below).
- 3. Submit signed letters of agreement from your school team (School Librarian, Teacher A, and Teacher B).
- 4. Participate in a brief virtual orientation

How to Select Your Team and Unit

Your team will be an important part of this research project. This <u>video</u> explains how to choose Teacher A, Teacher B, and what to consider when selecting the instructional unit you will co-design and co-teach.

- 1. The School Librarian co-teaches the instructional unit with Teacher A.
- 2. Teacher B independently teaches the same unit.
- 3. Each unit is observed twice during its span of instruction.
- 4. Teacher A and Teacher B students are pre- and post-tested and scores are compared.

- 1. The School Librarian and Teacher A complete the Guided Inquiry Summer Institute with Dr. Leslie Maniotes.
 - 1. Fully online/asynchronous
 - 2. Required for grant participation
 - 3. Fully covered by the grant!
 - Continuing Ed credit provided by the University of South Carolina
- 2. The unit is reconfigured as a guided inquiry unit.

- 1. The School Librarian coteaches the new, guidedinquiry version of the unit with Teacher A.
- 2. The School Librarian coteaches the traditional version of the unit with Teacher B.
- 3. Each unit is observed twice during its span of instruction.
- 4. Students are pre- and post-tested and scores are compared.

Frequently Asked Questions

What data will be collected? Who designs and grades the pre-post tests? Will grant activities cause a disruption in the school day? This brief <u>video</u> answers frequently asked questions on EQuIP.



Introduction



Selecting Teachers



FAQs