

# Professional Development Activity Request

You must attach a Authorized Leave Form (available from your school) to this document  
Please make a copy of the completed form for your records (all other forms are available on the [PD website](#))

Dese Interface  
Science Conference

Activity Request submitted  
by:

Valerie Hough

## Activity aligns with:

District CSIP Goal: #1 Increase student achievement and performance

Building SIP Goal: #1 & 2 Increase academic achievement and engagement

## Activity Focus Area(s):

Area 1: collaborate with peers to develop engaging, data-driven lessons

Area 2: develop lessons that integrate technology in new and interesting ways

Area 3: develop data-driven assessments and determine ways to implement these

Funding Source(s): mark each  
source you are requesting funds  
from with an "X" .

Approval Signature (Both the PD rep and principal must sign)

Building  
Department  
Bldg Principal  
Special Projects  
(Dist. PD funds)

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## Professional Development Activity Description

List name of activity and briefly describe:

MO Dese Interface STEM Conference - This is the state-wide conference for science and math teachers. Teachers collaborate and share creative ideas for lessons and data/research driven assessments to improve student engagement and achievement. The conference is from 2/18-2/20, so there will need to be a substitute for these 3 days; however, I will need to arrive at the conference the night of 2/17 to get checked into my room since the conference is several hours away and begins early in the morning. This conference is highly beneficial because it allows teachers from all over the state to gather and share lessons, ideas, and teaching/assessment methods with other teachers who would not normally get the opportunity to meet, and in the past I have come away with some amazing and engaging lessons. Note- they have not published a "conference room rate" yet, so the hotel cost MAY be less than what I put here; I used the current rate schedule, so the hotel amount is an estimate. Attendance of this conference is actually part of my approved PDP for the year.

From the conference site: Interface 2026 will offer ...sessions covering a variety of up-to-date ideas and information about mathematics, science, technology, and engineering instruction and assessment. ...encourages educators to share their teaching ideas, creating collaborative space to network and exchange best practices within the STEM Education realm. ...sessions covering a variety of up-to-date ideas and information about mathematics, science, technology, and engineering instruction and assessment.. ...sessions that will be hands-on, project-based sessions to allow for more extensive learning and exploration. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides specific guidelines requiring on-going, systemic professional learning offerings and the Interface conference offers opportunities to fulfill these requirements. ... Educators will share and discover innovative teaching strategies, delve into the evolving landscape of STEM education and highly effective practices. ...connect with a community dedicated to enhancing mathematics, science, and STEM instruction across Missouri.

Location of activity: Tan-Tar-A Conference Center,  
Osage Beach, MO

Date of activity: Feb 17-20, 2026

Participants Names: Valerie Hough

A separate form needs to be filled out for each participant.

Activity Cost Calculation:

Grand Total \$1,250.00

Substitute Cost:	# of subs	#of days	Sub Pay	Total	
	1	3	\$130	\$390.00	
Staff Compensation:	# of subs	#of days	Pay		
			\$25	\$0.00	
Purchased Services:			mileage		
			Registration*	\$300.00	<u>Travel Request/Reimbursement Form</u>
			Lodging**	\$560.00	<u>Travel Request/Reimbursement Form</u>
			Consultant Fee		<u>Consultant Form</u>
Materials/Supplies:			Materials		<u>Request for Materials Form</u>

\* Please include copy of registration Travel Request/Reimbursement Form

\*\*You will need to make your own hotel reservations.

You will need to fill out all forms associated with each line item.

Criteria for High-Quality Professional Development

(Mark each description below with an "X" that applies to the requested activity)

Part I: High-quality professional development:

- actively engages teachers, over time.
- is directly linked to improved student learning so that all children may meet the Show-Me Standards at the proficient level.
- is directly linked to district and building school improvement plans.
- is developed with extensive participation of teachers, parents, principals, and other administrators. [\*Parent participation may be at the CSIP level]
- provides time and other resources for learning, practice, and follow-up.
- is supported by district and building leadership.
- provides teachers with the opportunity to give the district feedback on the effectiveness of participation in this professional development activity.

Part II: Some types of activities that might be considered high-quality professional development if they meet the above requirements are:

- study groups.
- grade-level collaboration and work.
- content-area collaboration and work.
- specialization-area collaboration and work.
- action research and sharing of findings.
- modeling.
- peer coaching.
- vertical teaming.
- other:

Part III: Topics for high-quality professional development may include:

- content knowledge related to standards and classroom instruction.
- instructional strategies related to content being taught in the classroom.
- improving classroom management skills.

- a combination of content knowledge and content-specific teaching skills.
- the integration of academic and vocational education.
- research-based instructional strategies.
- strategies to assist teachers in providing instruction to children with limited English proficiency to improve their language and academic skills.
- strategies to assist teachers in creating and using classroom assessments.
- instruction in the use of data to inform classroom practice.
- instruction in methods of teaching children with special needs.
- instruction in linking secondary and post-secondary education.
- involving families and other stakeholders in improving the learning of all students.
- strategies for integrating technology into instruction.
- research and strategies for the education and care of preschool children.
- research and strategies for closing achievement gaps between diverse groups of students.
- other:

**Provide a plan for sharing information or skills learned from this activity.**

I will share digital or physical copies of any lessons gained/created with coworkers upon return, and will share any data, ideas, etc with coworkers through department meetings, emails, or presentations.

**Activity Permissions (PD Committee use only)**

approved  
not approved

building funds  
special projects

Building Name: Van Horn

Date:

10/02/25

