Dear Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum Directors, and Lead Teachers:

In 2013, the Idaho State Department of Education created the Idaho Coaching Network to support Idaho educators. This program provides an opportunity for educators to gain further experience and expertise with the Idaho Content Standards for English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy and the development of standards-aligned lessons, units, and assessments. In the Idaho Coaching Network, educators are supported by regional Coaches. Each Coach has been committed to providing expertise, professional development, and ongoing support in order to assist districts, schools, and teachers as they meet and exceed the Idaho Content Standards for ELA/Literacy. This group of over 1,000 teacher leaders comes from more than 100 districts across the state and has worked with their Coaches to write and teach unit plans aligned to the Standards, engage in deep exploration of important topics related to the standards and Key Shifts, and offer professional development in their schools or districts. These Teacher Leaders have developed abilities to deliver quality, sustainable professional development through the extensive study of Idaho literacy topics and best instructional practices.

We are pleased to announce that we anticipate having the resources to bring on our next cohort of Teacher Leaders for the 2018-2019 school year, welcoming Returning Teachers in our previous cohorts.

We tried to keep things as simple as possible here but we know there is a great deal of information provided. Be sure to use the hyperlinks embedded throughout this document to find more information about the specifics of this statewide network.

Information about the Networks purpose and goals can be found here in the Idaho Coaching Network Purpose and Goals link.

District and Regional Benefits:

- In-district development and implementation of lessons, units, and assessments aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for ELA/Literacy;
- Professional development in the Idaho Content Standards for ELA/Literacy and the EQuIP Rubric;
- Capacity building through the training and mentoring of Teacher Leaders;
• Targeted workshops for both district administrators and Teacher Leaders;
• Credit opportunities and stipends for Teacher Leaders from the State Department of Education.

Teacher Leader Commitments (Cohort 6):
• Participate in a total of 15 full-day workshops and an online course throughout 2018-2019:
  o Participate in a 3-day workshop in Summer 2018;
  o Complete all assignments in an online course in order to transfer learning to lessons and units;
  o Develop and submit a unit for review and to share with others (August 2018 - January 2019) that integrates the Idaho Content Standards for ELA/Literacy. Teach the unit, reflect, revise, and collect a range of student work samples;
  o Participate in eight full-day workshops during the 2018-2019 school year, starting in September;
  o Participate in a 4-day professional development workshop during Summer 2019.
• Review three units for other Teacher Leaders in the Idaho Coaching Network with the EQuIP Rubric;
• Transfer active learning strategies to both classroom practice and unit planning;
• Receive coaching support/classroom visits from your region’s coach;
• Facilitate professional development through active learning in your school and/or district and take on or deepen a leadership role;
• Keep and submit a Web of Impact;
• Complete pre- and post-surveys on teacher self-efficacy and provide feedback on courses, workshops, and facilitation as a means of reflection.

NOTE: Teacher Leaders will receive six (6) graduate-level credits from Boise State University/University of Idaho OR a $1,000 stipend from the SDE and five (5) continuing education credits from Boise State University/University of Idaho. Teacher Leaders who opt for the latter option (stipend and PD credits) will also have the opportunity to pay for additional continuing education credits if they so choose. Districts will be reimbursed for all eight (8) days at the rate of $70/day.

Returning Teacher Leader Commitments
• Attend professional development trainings:
  • Two (2) days in the summer of 2018
• Orientation Time for Returning Teacher Leaders
• Orientation Time with new Cohort 6 Teacher Leaders
  • Seven (7) Days throughout the 2018-2019 school year
• Engage in networking opportunities with Teacher Leaders from other cohorts.
• Deliver three (3) professional development offerings in your school or district.
  o Write post-PD reflections and new goals for each PD.
• Learn and grow by participating in a collaborative book study.
• Participate in work on an Idaho Literacy Standards-related inquiry project.
• Submit a professional deliverable for educator consumption to share statewide on the Idaho Coaching Network’s website.
• Keep and submit a Web of Impact.
• Provide feedback on workshops, Coaches, and the yearly Core-Aligned Teaching Self-Efficacy (CAT-SES) survey.

NOTE: Returning Teacher Leaders will have the opportunity to receive six (6) graduate-level credits from Boise State University/University of Idaho OR a $1,000 stipend from the SDE and three (3) continuing education credits from Boise State University/University of Idaho. Returning Teachers who opt for the latter option (stipend and PD credits) will also have the opportunity to pay for additional continuing education credits if they so choose. Districts will be reimbursed for all seven (7) days at the rate of $70/day.

District Commitments:
Each district is encouraged to nominate teachers for participation in this SDE-sponsored program. There is limited space available, so early applications are encouraged. Because Teacher Leaders in the Idaho Coaching Network are committing additional weeks to increasing their knowledge and district capacity in Idaho Content Standards for ELA/Literacy, unit development, and research-based instructional strategies, we ask that each district consider supporting this regional implementation in the following ways:
• Provide support (e.g. announcements, recruitment, class space, copies) for Teacher Leader(s) to facilitate professional development of district teachers during Spring Semester 2019;
• Consider supplementing or matching the stipend that the SDE provides your teachers;
• Identify at least one supporting administrator (see below).

Supporting Administrator:
As a supportive administrator, you will have the opportunity to receive training in key elements to look for when reviewing lessons, units, and assessments, or when conducting walkthroughs in classrooms. You will also receive support in working with your Teacher Leaders to offer professional development that best meets the needs of your school and/or district.
Supporting Administrator Commitments:

- **Meet with Coaches:** This is an opportunity to meet at least once with your Coaches through workshops and face-to-face meetings as they seek ways to serve you as you support your teachers.
- **Workshops for Admin:** Attend a minimum of 3 workshops throughout the year. Some of these are ½ day workshops.
  - **Orientation:** Overview to our program and new highlights for the new year.
  - **Open Workshop (PD Arcs or other topic):** This administrator workshop is tailored to the needs of the region.
  - **Spring Conference:** This is your opportunity to learn from your teachers’ growth over the year and to see them positioned as teacher leaders.
- **Provide Opportunity for Idaho Coaching Network Teacher Leaders to Provide Professional Development (PD):** Each of your Cohort 6 Teacher Leaders is required to provide at least one professional development session for his/her colleagues. Returning Teachers are required to provide at least three sessions for his/her colleagues.

Help us identify educators(s) within your school or district who already have or would like additional experience with the Idaho Content Standards for ELA/Literacy, are motivated to develop their own teaching craft, and are respected as leaders by their peers. We welcome applications from teachers of all grade levels and all content areas, as well as administrators, curriculum directors, instructional coaches, and other such educators. Please share the attached participant applications with any educators you would like to nominate. Nominations are due by May 11, 2018.

Contact Katie Graupman, Annie McMahon, Lisa Nance ELALitCoach1@sde.idaho.gov, Scott Cook scook@sde.idaho.gov, or Diann Roberts droberts@sde.idaho.gov with any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,

Scott Cook (Director of Academics)
Diann Roberts (English Language Arts/Literacy Coordinator)
Katie Graupman, Annie McMahon, Lisa Nance (Idaho Coaching Network Coach)