



January 4, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce the eighteenth AERO Summer Institute, which will be held virtually during the week of June 21-25, 2021. Six of the workshops (Math K-8, Math 6-10, English/ Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and World Language) will focus on developing an accelerated curriculum based on “critical elements”, creating assessment strategies, and identifying appropriate resources to support implementation. For these workshops priority acceptance will be given to school teams in a subject area who are working in schools that have adopted and implemented the AERO Standards Framework and have experience in the “Understanding by Design (UBD)” approach to curriculum development.

One additional workshop will be offered: Academic Leaders. This workshop is intended for Heads of Schools, Principals, and Curriculum Coordinators who are responsible for planning or implementing an American standards-based curriculum. The foci of the workshop will be how to support the implementation of an accelerated curriculum, identify “critical elements”, design assessments and review the role of the academic leader in the current environment.

The AERO Summer Institute is supported by the Office of Overseas School (A/OPR/OS). The purpose of the institute is to provide teachers and administrators in overseas schools with the skills and knowledge needed to develop and implement standards-based K-12 curricula. The work will be based on the validated standards developed by Project AERO (www.projectaero.org) and the Guidance for 2020-21 updated for 2021-22 also available on the Project AERO website.

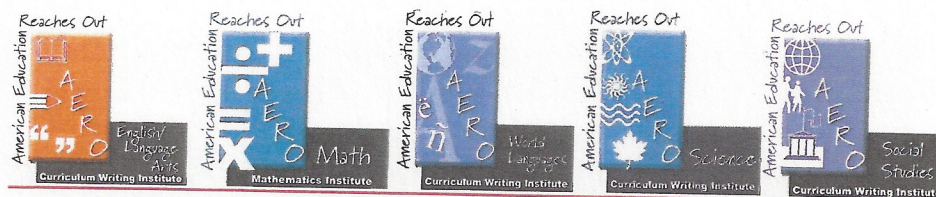
The number of spaces available in each workshop is limited, and we encourage schools to send teams of participants. Please see the attached workshop descriptions for more information. All workshops will be conducted virtually and synchronously from 8 am to 10am Eastern Daylight Time on June 21-June 25. (Participants are expected to participate each and every day from Monday through Friday. Certificates will be awarded only to those completing each day's session. There is no cost to participate in the 2021 AERO Summer Institute.

Please ask each applicant to review the program and to complete a registration form. ***Registration forms must be received by the Office of Overseas Schools by March 1, 2021. Participants will be informed of their selection during mid to late March.*** The AERO Summer Institute has been designed by educational practitioners for other educators. We hope that it meets the needs of your faculties, and schools, and assists you in improving the educational opportunities and curriculum of your school.

Sincerely,

Beatrice H. Cameron
Regional Education Officer
Office of Overseas Schools
U.S Department of State

Enclosures: As stated.



The 2021 AERO Online Summer Institute will bring together educators from around the world to better understand the AERO Standards Framework in the light of the COVID 19 pandemic and to explore the “Critical Elements” in each of the above subject areas. In addition to building an appreciation of these “Critical Elements”, emphasis will be placed on streamlining units, on assessment and on instructional strategies. The Institute will run for two hours each day from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., U.S. East Coast time, Monday, June 21st through Friday, June 25th. ***The primary audience for this institute is educators working in schools that have adopted and implemented the AERO Standards Framework and who have experience in “Understanding by Design”.***

Outcomes:

Participants will leave the institute with a deeper understanding of the AERO Standards with a particular emphasis on accelerating instruction through a focus on the “Critical Elements” in each subject area.

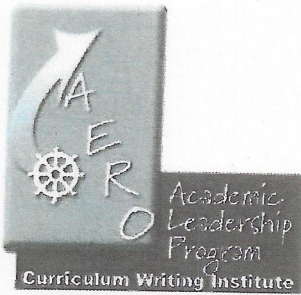
Institute participants will:

1. Review the AERO standards framework noting the alignment with other relevant frameworks (e.g., NGSS for science, ACTFL for world languages).
 - Examine the “Critical Elements” of instruction at each grade level and investigate how conceptual understandings, knowledge and skills of the critical areas build across grade levels
 - Discuss strategies for assessing student proficiencies in these critical areas
 - Analyze practices of the discipline and explore how to build these into daily instruction and assessment.
 - Discuss strategies for engaging students in deeper learning
2. Identify and recommend resources that support and enhance instruction and assessment of critical areas in the units that have been developed.
 - Review existing AERO resources aligned to critical areas
 - Identify and add new resources aligned to critical areas

Note: Preference will be given to schools that send teams to the Summer Institute

Please send, email or fax the completed registration form by March 1, 2021, to:

Porsche Elam
 US Department of State
 Office of Overseas Schools
 SA-1, Room H328
 Washington, DC 20522-0103
 Email: ElamPG@state.gov
 Fax: (202) 261-8224



AERO Summer Institute--Online
Academic Leadership Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 21 – 25, 2021

The audience for this institute is academic leaders (e.g. heads of school, principals, curriculum coordinators, instructional coaches, and department heads) in schools that are planning to, or are in the process of adopting or reviewing a standards-based curriculum. Participants will collaborate with academic leadership peers in examining processes and structures in schools with a standard-based learning system. The week will focus on leadership in a standards-based school.

The work will be based on the standards developed by Project AERO. These can be viewed at www.projectaero.org

Day 1: Why a Standards-Based Learning System?, Curriculum Frameworks, "Backward Planning"

- History of the Standards Across Subject Areas
- Learning Progressions
- AERO Frameworks
- Unit Design
- Standards-Based Learning Systems - Overview

Day 2: Assessment:

- Assessment for Learning
- Making Data-Informed Decisions
- Accelerating Learning and Critical Elements
- Language Arts, Social Studies

Day 3: Professional Development, Instruction, Growth, Coaching for Student Learning

- PD with Student Learning at the Center
- Supervision, Professional Growth
- Strategies for Online and Hybrid Models
- Mathematics, Science

Day 4: Impact on Student Learning

- How Do We Measure Impact on Student Learning
- PLCs
- World Languages

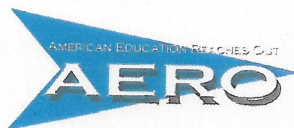
Day 5: Developing and Communicating a Vision with Stakeholders

- How Do We Articulate Our Vision of Learning in an SBLS?
- How Do We Manage Change?
- Standards for Instructional Leaders

Participants will leave the Institute with a developed plan for moving forward within the context of their school's needs. This Institute will be limited to 24 participants. Registration will be on a space-available basis. Schools are encouraged to send a team of academic leaders

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Online AERO Summer Institute
Monday, June 21 through Friday June 25, 2021

Each workshop will consist of five Zoom sessions,
starting at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 10:00 a.m., US East Coast time.
You can also expect some 'homework' on each day.

APPLICATION FORM: PRINT LEGIBLY and COMPLETE IN FULL

School: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Fax #: _____ Telephone #: _____

This application is for the following workshop (choose one):

___ Mathematics (K-5)

___ English/ Language Arts (K-12)

___ World Language (K-12)

___ Mathematics (6-10)

___ Science (K-8)

___ Social Studies (K-12)

___ Academic Leaders

Each applicant must complete a form. Please review the invitation letter for participation requirements/expectations. (Note: Preference will be given to school teams that are participating in the same subject area workshop.)

Name: _____

Current teaching assignment: _____

Personal e-mail address: _____ (to facilitate communication if the school is closed)

Are you working in a school that uses the AERO Framework? Yes___ No___

Signed (Applicant): _____ **Date:** _____

NB: Signing this application affirms your commitment to attend all five Zoom sessions. Certificates will only be given to those who complete the entire week.

Signed (School Director): _____ **Date:** _____

The application must arrive by March 1, 2020. Please E-mail or FAX the completed form to:

Porsche Elam, U.S. Department of State
Office of Overseas Schools, SA-1, Room H328
Washington, DC 20522-0103
E-mail: ElamPG@state.gov
Fax: ++ (202) 261-8224