

Yonkers SMART Start Initiative

July 17, 2024 - March 31, 2025

Goal: To introduce one hundred 1st and 2nd grade teachers to inquiry-based approaches to STEM, and to support school-based teams in designing and implementing rich, technology-infused projects. The project work will integrate digital tools and equipment in alignment to select Year 4 topic areas of focus, such as: computer science, digital fabrication, augmented and virtual reality, digital design, sound and light engineering and design, filmmaking, and continuing with 3D printers and robotics. Concurrent work with leaders will support the sustainability of the initiative over time.

Project Activities

1. Summer Institute
 - a. Introductory Summer Institute focused on inquiry-based approaches to STEM. Five-day Institute, 4 hours/day, delivered twice
2. Project Planning and Reflection
 - b. Project feedback. Facilitators will provide ongoing feedback following the Summer Institutes on project design plans to the equivalent of 5 billing days.
 - c. Teachers will engage in a culminating reflection session to report on the design process and the implementation of projects and observations on student learning, and ways of moving the work forward into subsequent school years.

Budget

Activity	Units	Unit Price	Total Cost
SMART Start Institute for 100 Teachers, Cohort 4A	5 Institute Days, 4 hour sessions	\$6,000/session	\$30,000
SMART Start Institute for 100 Teachers, Cohort 4B	5 Institute Days, 4 hour sessions	\$6,000/session	\$30,000
Project Design Feedback	5 Billing Days of Project Feedback	\$1,500/day	\$7,500
			\$67,500

Assumptions

- Relevant technology to Year 4 goals will be in place
- Technology will be maintained and supported
- Teachers will be recruited by others and committed to attend
- Documentation/Reporting will be taken care of by others