

**2012-2015 Learning Technology Grant  
Syracuse City School District We-Learn for  
Corcoran, Institute of Technology at Syracuse Central, Sidney Johnson Vocational  
Center and Faith Heritage – Abstract**

The purpose of the SCSD We-Learn Project at Corcoran High School, Institute of Technology at Syracuse Central (ITC), Sidney Johnson Vocational Center (JVC) and Faith Heritage is to offer students increased access to rigorous coursework and programming to achieve the NYS Standards and Common Core State Standards, and to provide sustained professional development to increase the skills of teachers and Library Media Specialists in the use of instructional technology to meet the goals of the NYS Board of Regents' Reform Agenda. Targeted schools will offer two (2) unique distance learning courses targeting up to 110 students per year. Distance learning will allow students in all city high schools, JVC and Faith Heritage an opportunity to enroll in a class their home school does not offer. It will also connect students from all schools in collaborative learning and sharing of multiple perspectives. The goals of this project are: (1) to improve academic performance in achieving mastery of NYS and Common Core Learning Standards to meet the goals of the NYS Board of Regents' Reform Agenda; (2) to increase access to accelerated and Career and Technical Education (CTE) elective courses and enrichment programming district-wide, which will increase students' college and career readiness through the use of distance learning technology; and (3) to increase and enhance the use of instructional technology and collaboration among classrooms and library media centers to meet the goals of the NYS Board of Regents' Reform Agenda. A District Learning System will be purchased as well as laptops, computer software and webcams in order for students to participate in distance learning coursework. SCSD We-Learn project teachers and Library Media Specialists will engage in ongoing professional development in the design and instruction of distance learning courses, use of the Moodle learning management system, Common Core State Standards, the Collaborative Coaching and Learning (CCL) model, effective technology integration, and the development of curricula for distance learning courses. SCSD We-Learn Project will improve student achievement and prepare students for college and career through effective integration of instructional technology and increased access to rigorous and enriching courses and programs. The key to improving student achievement is a qualified teacher. The ongoing, sustained high-quality professional development provided with grant funds will apply to both teaching across distance and traditional classroom instruction. Both distance and traditional students will benefit from the increased pedagogical and technology integration expertise of their teachers and Library Media Specialists as a result of this professional development. Use of the distance learning equipment will allow students from multiple schools to engage in scholarly discussions and benefit from multiple perspectives and experiences. Participating students will have increased access to rigorous coursework and enrichment programming that will better prepare them for college and career.