

**Improve Educator  
and Student Learning.**

## **Join NSDC's Academy Class of 2012.**



*"The NSDC Academy experience helped me gain a better understanding about my own learning. It provided me time for reflection, which I craved and built in for myself after I left our Academy sessions. It forced me to think about my own thinking and challenge myself to ensure my actions and beliefs were in alignment. It also solidified my belief that once you've learned something, you need to use it, or you won't remember it."*

**Lisa Mank Reddel**  
Principal, Cherry Creek Schools,  
Englewood, CO,  
Academy Class of 2008

*"Our entire organization is thinking differently about professional learning. It is more of a vital part of our organization than ever before. Our administrative team understands the importance of things like follow-up and evaluating impact... so do a lot of the teachers... slowly, we are building an understanding of professional development as much more than Institute Days."*

**Jeanne Spiller**  
Staff Development Coordinator,  
Kildeer Countryside School District 96,  
Buffalo Grove, IL, Academy Class of 2008

**The NSDC Academy** is an extended professional learning experience that exemplifies the transformational learning recommended by NSDC's Standards for Staff Development.

Academy members work collaboratively to solve significant professional learning problems related to improving leadership, teaching, and student learning. They construct knowledge and develop skills necessary to transform their learning, their work, and their organizations.

- Share **2 1/2 years of learning** (July 2010 through December 2012)
- Experience face-to-face, team-based learning during **12 Academy learning days**
- Participate in periodic **90-minute telephone conferences** during the Academy experience



800-727-7288 • [www.nsd.org](http://www.nsd.org)

**Application deadline: Feb. 24, 2010**

Download a brochure and application from [www.nsd.org/opportunities/academy.cfm](http://www.nsd.org/opportunities/academy.cfm)

**NSDC's Purpose:**

Every educator engages in effective professional learning every day so every student achieves.

*“My problem statement was a very real reflection of where science scores and science education are in this country as a whole. Through my NSDC experience I was able to break my local district problem down into causal factors and contributors. I was able to construct a plan to address the learning problem through quite a bit of study, research and dialogue. The outcome so far is an increase in student science scores.”*

**Tamara Kirshtein**  
 Director, Organizational & Professional Learning,  
 Atlanta Public Schools,  
 Atlanta, GA,  
 Academy Class of 2008

## HOW CAN YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ACADEMY?

To become a member of the Academy, applicants commit to solving a significant problem related to student learning through a team- and problem-based learning process, have the endorsement and financial support of their superintendent or CEO of the organization in which they are employed, and agree to engage fully in the Academy learning experiences.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

#### Submit an application package that includes:

- Application form signed as indicated
- Letter of support from superintendent or appropriate administrator addressing the following:
  - Commitment to support the applicant's participation in the academy
  - Financial support for tuition and travel to participate in the academy learning experiences
  - Commitment to support the applicant in solving one or more significant problems related to student learning.
- Letter from applicant that includes:
  - Description of the sponsoring school/organization.
  - Description of the applicant's role in the organization.
  - Reasons for applying to participate in the Academy.
  - Identification of the problem the applicant wants to solve.
  - Statement of commitment to fulfill Academy expectations/commitments.

Tuition for the program is \$3,500, which includes all of the learning days detailed on page 1 and registration for the 2010 and 2011 NSDC Annual Conferences. In addition, tuition covers membership in NSDC for three years. Scholarships may be available to those who qualify. To learn about scholarships, please visit [www.nsdcs.org/getinvolved/foundation.cfm](http://www.nsdcs.org/getinvolved/foundation.cfm).

#### Team-based community learning days will be held during:

- July 14-16, 2010
- July 20-22, 2011
- December 3-5, 2010 and Annual Conference
- December 2-4, 2011 and Annual Conference

### Graduation will be celebrated in December 2012.



**DEADLINE FOR THE NSDC ACADEMY APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 24, 2010.**

Applications will be considered in order of receipt. After the deadline, applications will be accepted on a space available basis. Send application materials to:

NSDC Academy  
 10931 W. 71st Place  
 Arvada, CO 80004-1337

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Joellen Killion,  
 NSDC Deputy Executive Director  
 10931 W. 71st Place  
 Arvada, CO 80004-1337  
 303-432-0958 • Fax 303-432-0959  
[joellen.killion@nsdc.org](mailto:joellen.killion@nsdc.org)

## NOMINATION/APPLICATION FORM – NSDC ACADEMY

APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL SYSTEM/ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SUPERVISOR SUPPORT  
 SUPERVISOR'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I will support this nominee's participation in the NSDC Academy for the two-and-one-half year commitment. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Supervisor Signature)

I agree to meet the Academy expectations listed in the brochure: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Participant Signature)

Tuition is \$3,500 for the two-and-one-half year program. Individuals will be billed upon acceptance in the Academy and tuition is due within 30 days of billing unless other arrangements are made with NSDC's Deputy Executive Director. Full refunds will be made up to 30 days prior to the first session. No refunds are available after that time.

**Deadline for the NSDC Academy applications is February 24, 2010.**