RET

PRE-PROGRAM SURVEY

I. YOUR CURRENT TEACHING

1. Please provide information on the courses that you taught during the **most recent school term**.

   Do not include classes taught at any other schools. If you taught two or more sections of the same course (e.g., Biology I) to different groups of students, count them as separate courses.

   EXAMPLE:

   Last spring you taught biology to three sections of 25 9th grade students every day for 50 minutes. You also taught an ecology course to one section of 28 10th grade students every day for 50 minutes, and AP biology to one section of 20 11th grade students three days a week for 90 minutes. You would report your course schedule as follows:

Name of the course	Grade level of the *majority* of students	Approximate number of students	Check if AP or Honors	Minutes of instruction per week
a. Biology I	9th	25		250
b. Biology I	9th	25		250
c. Biology I	10th	25		250
d. Ecology	10th	28		250
e. AP Biology	11th	20	x	270

ENTER YOUR COURSE SCHEDULE BELOW.

Name of the course	Grade level of the *majority* of students	Approximate number of students	Check if AP or Honors	Minutes of instruction per week
a.				
b.				
c.				
d.				
e.				
f.				
g.				

Questions 2 through 12 ask you to reflect on your instructional practices in a specified course. This course should meet certain criteria. The following instructions will help you identify this course.

a. In the chart describing your course schedule on the previous page, draw a line through any courses that are AP, Honors level, or accelerated.

b. Draw a line through any courses in which the subject matter is **not** biology or chemistry, if you are a science teacher, and **not** algebra or geometry, if you are a mathematics teacher.

c. Of the remaining courses, select the one that occupied the majority of your teaching time. This is your "target" course. *Write in the name of the target course to indicate your selection. If more than one course remains, select the one that you think you will most likely teach to the largest number of students during the next school term.*

Target course selection _____

2. In this target course, how much emphasis did you give to each of the following goals or objectives? *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	None	Minor	Moderate	Major
a. Integrating the course curriculum with other subjects or fields of study	1	2	3	4
b. Teaching facts, rules, or vocabulary	1	2	3	4
c. Showing the importance of the subject in everyday life	1	2	3	4
d. Increasing students' interest in the subject and in pursuing further study	1	2	3	4
e. Encouraging students to explore alternative explanations or methods for solving problems	1	2	3	4
f. Preparing students for taking standardized tests in the subject	1	2	3	4
g. Fully covering the course curriculum as prescribed by the school/district/state	1	2	3	4
h. In-depth study of selected topics or issues, as opposed to exposure to a broad range of topics	1	2	3	4
i. Understanding the theoretical concepts and ideas underlying scientific or mathematical applications	1	2	3	4

3. Approximately how often did you use each of the following teaching methods in this course? *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	Never	1-2 times a month	1-2 times a week	Almost every class	Every class
a. Lecture or talk to the whole class	1	2	3	4	5
b. Teacher-led whole class discussions	1	2	3	4	5
c. Students responding orally to questions on subject matter covered in class or homework	1	2	3	4	5
d. Student-led whole-group discussions or presentations	1	2	3	4	5
e. Students working together in cooperative groups	1	2	3	4	5
f. Reviewing homework or other assignments	1	2	3	4	5

4. Approximately how often did you have students engage in the following learning activities in this course? *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	Never	1-2 times a month	1-2 times a week	Almost every class	Every class
a. Work on hands-on activities (e.g., doing lab activities or using manipulatives)	1	2	3	4	5
b. Reflect on course material by writing in a notebook or journal	1	2	3	4	5
c. Use calculators or computers for learning, practicing skills, or solving problems	1	2	3	4	5
d. Work individually on written work or assignments in a workbook or textbook	1	2	3	4	5
e. Critique/evaluate their own or other students' class work or homework	1	2	3	4	5
f. Consider a real-world problem relevant to the course and develop a plan to address it	1	2	3	4	5
g. Use primary sources (e.g., academic or professional journals) to investigate current issues or new developments in mathematics, science, or technology	1	2	3	4	5
h. Listen to guest speakers or go on field trips relevant to the material studied in class	1	2	3	4	5
i. Investigate possible career opportunities in mathematics, science, or technology	1	2	3	4	5
j. Design or implement their own scientific investigation or mathematical theory or proof	1	2	3	4	5
k. Use "state-of-the-art" equipment or technologies *(Specify types_____)*	1	2	3	4	5

5. On average, approximately what percent of your planning and preparation time for this course did you spend on each of the following activities? *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	0%	1 - 9 %	10 - 19%	20 - 29%	30 - 49%	50% or more
a. Revising current lessons/curriculum units	1	2	3	4	5	6
b. Creating new lessons/curriculum units	1	2	3	4	5	6
c. Contacting community resources, including making arrangements for speakers, tours, etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6
d. Using the Internet to access materials	1	2	3	4	5	6
e. Using the Internet to network with colleagues	1	2	3	4	5	6
f. Consulting with experts or professional scientists/mathematicians	1	2	3	4	5	6
g. Using a reflective teaching journal	1	2	3	4	5	6
h. Learning to use science or mathematics kits	1	2	3	4	5	6
i. Improving computer and/or software skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
j. Writing grants to secure funding for new programs and/or equipment	1	2	3	4	5	6
k. Interacting with other teachers at your school to coordinate lessons/activities	1	2	3	4	5	6
l. Responding to e-mail you receive from students	1	2	3	4	5	6

6. During a typical week, approximately how much time did you spend outside of regular school hours on planning and preparing for teaching this course?

   Number of hours _____

7. Which textbook (or commercially prepared workbook) constituted the primary resource that you used in this course?

   NOTE: If you used NO textbook or workbook in this course, skip to Question 12.)

   Title: _____
   Author:_____
   Publisher:_____
   Publication date/edition: _____

8. Approximately what percentage of this textbook/workbook did you, or do, you **typically** cover in this course? _____%

9. Did/do you use the tests that the publishers included with the textbook/workbook? *(Circle only one.)*
   Rarely or never 1
   Sometimes 2
   Frequently 3

10. Please give your opinion about each of the following statements related to this textbook/workbook. *(Circle one number on each line.)*

This textbook:	**Strongly disagree**	**Disagree**	**Not sure**	**Agree**	**Strongly agree**
a. Is at a reading level that is appropriate for most of the students taking this course	1	2	3	4	5
b. Helps develop problem-solving skills.....	1	2	3	4	5
c. Provides good review questions and problem sets ..	1	2	3	4	5
d. Explains concepts clearly.....	1	2	3	4	5
e. Provides challenging suggestions for projects, further reading, and other assignments	1	2	3	4	5
f. Covers the right range of topics.....	1	2	3	4	5
g. Satisfactorily covers topics in depth	1	2	3	4	5
h. Makes interdisciplinary connections between subject areas	1	2	3	4	5
i. Is considered interesting by most students taking this course	1	2	3	4	5
j. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2	3	4	5

11. If you disagreed with any of the items in Question 10, above, please briefly describe the problems you see with this textbook/workbook.

_____

_____

_____

12. To what extent did you use each of the following types of assessment to determine student progress and achievement in this course? *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	Not at all	Slight extent	Moderate extent	Great extent
a. Pre-tests before beginning a new unit	1	2	3	4
b. Short-answer tests (e.g., multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank)	1	2	3	4
c. Tests requiring open-ended responses (e.g., descriptions, justifications, explanations)	1	2	3	4
d. Student portfolios	1	2	3	4
e. Class participation/group discussion	1	2	3	4
f. Student presentations/projects	1	2	3	4
g. Hands-on performance measurements	1	2	3	4
h. Written explanations of thought processes (e.g., journals, essays)	1	2	3	4

II. YOUR ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS ABOUT TEACHING

13. Please indicate how confident you feel about the following aspects of your teaching. If you are a science teacher, answer for how you feel about teaching science. If you are a mathematics teacher, answer for how you feel about teaching mathematics. *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	Not at all	Slightly confident	Moderately confident	Very confident
a. Your knowledge about the application of the subject to everyday life	1	2	3	4
b. Your ability to advise students about job opportunities in the subject area	1	2	3	4
c. Your ability to advise students about opportunities to receive further training/experience in the subject area	1	2	3	4
d. Your ability to use inquiry-based instructional practices	1	2	3	4
e. Your ability to determine the depth, breadth, and pace of coverage of material in your teaching	1	2	3	4
f. Your ability to develop appropriate and authentic assessment tools	1	2	3	4
g. Your ability to supervise research projects of your students	1	2	3	4
h. Your ability to mentor beginning teachers	1	2	3	4
i. Your ability to make presentations at teacher inservices or professional meetings	1	2	3	4
j. Your ability to incorporate technology (computers, the Internet, laser discs, etc.) into your teaching	1	2	3	4

14. To what extent do you feel each of the following statements describes the kind of teacher you are?

	Not at all	Slight extent	Moderate extent	Great extent
a. I am motivated to expand on the instructional techniques that I use	1	2	3	4
b. I am motivated to change the way I use hands-on materials and manipulatives in my teaching	1	2	3	4
c. I am motivated to use more technology in my teaching	1	2	3	4
d. I consider myself a "subject matter expert" in my main teaching field	1	2	3	4
e. I consider preparing students for the kinds of expectations they will encounter in a work setting as an important part of my job	1	2	3	4
f. I believe I can truly make a difference in the lives of my students in terms of their choices for further education and their careers	1	2	3	4

15. What do you consider to be your greatest strengths as a teacher? Please be as specific as you can. Think about both areas of content mastery and instructional strategies when answering this question.

_____

_____

_____

16. What areas of your teaching do you think need improvement? Think about both areas of content mastery and instructional strategies when answering this question.

_____

_____

_____

III. YOUR BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

17. Including this school year, how many years have you been employed as a teacher? *(Include years spent teaching both full and part time, and in both public and private schools.)*

a. In total ..... _____

b. As a math teacher ..... _____

c. As a science teacher .... _____

d. In a high school ..... _____

e. At this school ..... _____

18. Do you have a teaching certificate in the state and/or city in which you are currently teaching?

Yes 1
No..... 2 *(Skip to Question 21.)*

19. On the line below, please write in the field(s) in which you have a teaching certificate.

_____

20. What type of teaching certificate do you hold? *(Circle only one.)*

a. Regular or standard state certificate, or advanced professional certificate 1
b. Provisional or other type of certificate given to persons who are still participating in what the state calls an "alternative certification program" 2
c. Probationary certificate (the initial certificate issued after satisfying all requirements except the completion of a probationary period)..... 3
d. Temporary certificate (requires some additional college coursework and/or student teaching before regular certification can be obtained) 4
e. Emergency certificate or waiver (issued to persons with insufficient teacher preparation who must complete a regular certification program in order to continue teaching) 5

21. During the last 12 months, have you participated in any professional development activities that focused on the following topics? If yes, how many hours did you spend on the activity?

	Participated?		**Approximate number of hours**			
	Yes	**No**	**8 or less**	**9-16**	**17-32**	**33 or more**
a. In-depth study of your main subject area (i.e., science or mathematics).....	1	2	1	2	3	4
b. Methods of teaching your main subject area	1	2	1	2	3	4
c. Applications of technology to education	1	2	1	2	3	4
d. Other related areas *(specify)*_____	1	2	1	2	3	4

22. During the last 12 months, have you been involved in any of the following activities related to your teaching? *(Circle one number on each line.)*

	Yes	**No**
a. Served as department chair	1	2
b. Developed or piloted new curricula.....	1	2
c. Held a leadership position in a state or national professional organization.....	1	2
d. Formally mentored beginning teacher(s)	1	2
e. Supervised student teacher(s)	1	2
f. Conducted inservices or workshops for teachers.....	1	2
g. Made observational visits to other schools	1	2
h. Made presentations to non-teaching groups (e.g., school board, parents, community groups)	1	2
i. Conducted individual or collaborative research on a topic of interest to you.....	1	2
j. Represented the school or district on an instructional reform project	1	2
k. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2

23. Not counting the program that is named on the questionnaire label, have you participated in any professional development activities either in a laboratory, research, or industrial setting in the last 5 years? If so, please describe this experience by providing the following information in the table below.
    - The name of the program, and sponsoring agency;
    - The type of setting in which you worked (i.e., government, industry, laboratory, or university);
    - The date of your participation, and the duration of the program; and
    - The type of work that you did.

    Note: If you have not participated in any such activities, go on to Question 24.

Name of program and sponsoring agency	Type of setting	Dates and duration of program	Type of work

24. During the last 5 years, have you been employed in a laboratory, research, or industrial setting that was relevant to your work as a science or mathematics teacher? If yes, please describe this work experience in the space below.

    Yes..... 1
    No 2

    _____

    _____

    _____

25. Please describe your postsecondary education by completing the chart below.

Degree(s) held?	Year	Institution	Major	Minor
Bachelor's **Y** **N**	____			
Master's **Y** **N**	____			
Doctorate **Y** **N**	____			
Other **Y** **N** *(specify)*_____	____			

26. Are you currently working toward an advanced degree? If yes, please indicate the degree you are pursuing, the institution, and the area in which you are specializing.

    Yes ..... 1 No.....2

    Degree: _____ Institution: _____ Specialization: _____

27. Please estimate the number of credit hours, if any, you have earned beyond your highest degree.

    Approximate number of credit hours _____

28. In order to get a **general sense** of your educational background, please place a check next to the titles of courses you have taken for credit as part of your postsecondary education. Do not be concerned about whether the titles match the classes you took, or if you do not have total recall of this information.

MATHEMATICS COURSES

A. ____ Abstract Algebra
B. ____ Algebra for Teachers
C. ____ Analytic Geometry
D. ____ Applied Math
E. ____ Business Math
F. ____ Calculus
F1. ____Number of calculus courses
G. ____ Computer Math
H. ____ Data Analysis/Statistics
I. ____ Data Processing Math
J. ____ Differential Equations
K. ____ Discrete Math
L. ____ Finite Math
M. ____ History/Foundations of Math
N. ____ Math Appreciation/Math in Society
O. ____ Mathematical Modeling
P. ____ Number Theory
Q. ____ Probability
R. ____ Stochastic Processes
S. ____ Technical/Vocational Math
T. ____ Topology
U. ____ Trigonometry

SCIENCE COURSES

A. ____ Anatomy
B. ____ Astronomy
C. ____ Atmospheric Science and Meteorology
D. ____ Biochemistry and Biophysics
E. ____ Biology
F. ____ Biometrics/ Biostatistics
G. ____ Biotechnology
H. ____ Botany
I. ____ Cell/Molecular Biology
J. ____ Chemistry (General)
K. ____ Ecology
L. ____ Environmental Science
M. ____ Genetics
N. ____ Inorganic Chemistry
O. ____ Geology/Earth Science
P. ____ Marine Biology/Oceanography
Q. ____ Microbiology/Bacteriology
R. ____ Neuroscience
S. ____ Organic Chemistry
T. ____ Physical Science
U. ____ Physics
V. ____ Physiology
W. ____ Psychology
X. ____ Radiation Biology
Y. ____ Toxicology
Z. ____ Virology
AA. ____ Zoology

EDUCATION COURSES

A. ____ Computers/Technology in the Classroom
B. ____ Curriculum and Curriculum Theory
C. ____ Education Administration
D. ____ Education/Instruction Media Design
E. ____ Educational Assessment, Testing and Measurement
F. ____ Educational Psychology
G. ____ Educational Statistics
H. ____ Evaluation and Research in Education
I. ____ Instruction, Methods, and Materials
J. ____ Mathematics Education
K. ____ School Psychology
L. ____ Science Teacher Education
M. ____ Social/Historical/Philosophical Foundations of Education
N. ____ Teacher Education: Intermediate or Secondary School

IV. TEACHER CHARACTERISTICS

29. What is your gender?

    Male 1
    Female..... 2

30. Which best describes you?

    American Indian or Alaska Native..... 1
    Asian or Pacific Islander 2
    Black, non-Hispanic..... 3
    Hispanic 4
    White, non-Hispanic 5

31. In case we need to contact you concerning this questionnaire, please provide the following information:

    Name:_____

    School name: _____

    Mail address: _____

    _____

    _____

    E-mail address:_____

    Fax number: _____

	School	Home
Telephone:	_____	_____
Best time to call:	Time: _____	Time: _____
	Day: _____	Day: _____

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.