

**U.S. Department of Education - EDCAPS  
G5-Technical Review Form (New)**

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 08/18/2017 04:56 PM

## Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: University of Wisconsin - Parkside (U422A170001)

Reader #2: \*\*\*\*\*

	Points Possible	Points Scored
<b>Questions</b>		
<b>Selection Criteria</b>		
<b>Quality of Project Design</b>		
1. Quality of Project Design	35	33
<b>Significance</b>		
1. Significance	25	23
<b>Quality of the Management Plan</b>		
1. Management Plan	25	23
<b>Quality of the Project Evaluation</b>		
1. Evaluation Plan	15	12
<b>Sub Total</b>	100	91
<b>Priority Questions</b>		
<b>Competitive Preference Priority 1</b>		
<b>Supporting High-Need Students</b>		
1. CPP 1	10	9
<b>Sub Total</b>	10	9
<b>Competitive Preference Priority 2</b>		
<b>Using the Resources of the National Parks</b>		
1. CPP 2	5	5
<b>Sub Total</b>	5	5
<b>Total</b>	115	105

# Technical Review Form

Panel #1 - American History and Civics Academies - 1: 84.422A

Reader #2: \*\*\*\*\*

Applicant: University of Wisconsin - Parkside (U422A170001)

## Questions

### Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

1. The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors—

(i) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.

(ii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(iii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.

### Strengths:

Alternative historical narrative and focus on American history/civics topics/groups that are marginalized is an innovative and important approach to “doing” history. (page e21)

Project addresses a number of important points —

- 1) High school social studies teachers often need to increase their content knowledge. Content knowledge is vital to fostering project- and inquiry-based learning.
- 2) Using state standards is important in ensuring that content addresses what the state department of ed. requires for its students. (page e28)
- 3) PLC approach strengthens PD and allows for building capacity (page e31)
- 4) Quotes relevant research (page e21)
- 5) Inclusion of regional and national experts is important as it provides teachers/students with high caliber content.
- 6) Providing dual credit for students gives them a leg up for college
- 7) Grad credits for teachers is a great help since they need PD and credentials on a regular basis. (See comments re: Grad credits under Management Plan).
- 8) Co-learning (students and teachers) is important. Students learn to see teachers as colleagues, historians and life-long learners, rather than as people who just tell them things.

### Weaknesses:

It would be helpful to see a plan for continued PD with experts and between teachers to ensure that PD meets requirements for successful PD (on-going contact rather than just one event) and truly builds capacity.

Summer Plan for students is less detailed than for professional development plan teachers.

Reader's Score: 33

## Selection Criteria - Significance

1. The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project. In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population.

(ii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

### Strengths:

The project targets the same teachers over a period of three years. This increased exposure to content and to pedagogy will enhance their teaching and provide a sense of excitement for their students. (page e26)

Experiential learning has been shown to increase student achievement. It enhances critical thinking skills and provides students with exposure to topics/places/people with which they have had little or no contact. Enhances inquiry-based learning. (page e29).

Providing students with personal devices will help them access information. This is particularly important for students in the priority category.

Preparing teachers for teaching dual credit courses is important. Dual credit is particularly helpful for students who need to save money by graduating from college in fewer semesters/quarters than the norm. (page e41)

Partnering with WDPI (Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction) and school districts will provide support for teachers and help build capacity, as well ensure that curricular design matches the needs of Wisconsin students. (page e56)

### Weaknesses:

It would be helpful to have more in-depth information about what the students are doing, particularly building capacity. (page e44). For example, students share information and experiences with their colleagues/classmates. Students will they work with younger students to explain what they have learned and why it is important.

Time commitment re: students is not as clear as it could be.

It might also be helpful to have teachers sign a pledge to remain with their particular school for several years after finishing the academy or, if they must leave the school, they will agree to provide some type of on-going PD for their colleagues.

It would be useful to have a better idea of what teachers will do in the classroom (examples are fine since each teacher has his/her own style and instruction varies depending on the makeup of each classroom). For example —

- Using what they learn to provide more experiential learning for their students
- Showing how the skills students develop through the academy can be used in other settings
- Detailing how they will build capacity through their peers
- Explain how what their students learn can be used to reach students who have not participated in an academy

Reader's Score: 23

## Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

1. **The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:**

**(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**

**(ii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project.**

**Strengths:**

Experience with previous Federal and other grants is important.

Human resources that are available and allocated are reasonable.

Gantt chart shows timeline is well defined. Meets needs of project. (page e63).

**Weaknesses:**

It is a bit of a concern that so much of each year's budget goes to the college/graduate credits. (page e162). Preparing grad credits is primarily paperwork which could be done by one of the coordinators. Their stipends could be increased by a percentage to cover the time they spend processing the credits. Professors and other staff are already being paid for their time, so it does not seem necessary for the price of credits to be so high. A suggestion would be for the University to call the money for the credits an in-kind contribution. This would allow the University to claim the money on their taxes (presumably) and reduce the total grant amount significantly. The University can also gain if they make a concerted PR effort to publicize the grant and feature the teachers/students in a variety of media approaches. (page e162)

**Reader's Score: 23**

**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation**

1. **The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:**

**(i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.**

**(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

**Strengths:**

There is a mix of qualitative and quantitative assessment, which allows for greater accuracy and detail in results. Having both types of assessments provides a more well-rounded view of the program results.

Rubrics are provided for parts of the work so that teachers have details on what is expected of them in their work. Rubrics allow one to gauge how well one is doing, how much one is understanding in terms of material provided and output required.

**Weaknesses:**

Concern that selected evaluator may not have enough background in K-12 educational psychometrics.

Self-evaluations are not particularly helpful unless they are in-depth, and even so they can be overly subjective. Pre/posts can be useful, but again, only if they focus on prior knowledge and if the learning effect of the prior knowledge is taken into account.

**Reader's Score: 12**

**Priority Questions**

**Competitive Preference Priority 1 - Supporting High-Need Students**

- 1. Projects that are designed to improve academic outcomes for high-need students (as defined in the Notice Inviting Applications).**

**Strengths:**

The project is designed for supporting high needs students. The applicant understands that this population needs to be engaged in the material, needs to feel affinity with the topics and needs more guidance and support than the general population. By providing exposure to topics that are both relevant and of interest to the students the program helps these students see that their personal experiences have value.

**Weaknesses:**

It would help to have more details about the selection process so that readers can see how high needs students will be given preference and to show that the process does indeed both address and recruit those students who are most in need of this type of program.

**Reader's Score: 9**

**Competitive Preference Priority 2 - Using the Resources of the National Parks**

- 1. Applicants that propose to develop innovative and comprehensive programs using the resources of the National Parks, including, to the extent practicable, through coordination or alignment of activities with the National Park Service National Centennial Parks initiative.**

**Strengths:**

The program takes students to National Parks and Monuments that will enhance students; understanding of their own and other cultures that are too often ignored or considered marginal. It also shows students that places of importance to them are also considered important by others, which is why they are preserved by the National Park service.

**Weaknesses:**

None noted.

**Reader's Score: 5**

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**Status:** Submitted  
**Last Updated:** 08/18/2017 04:56 PM

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 08/17/2017 03:28 PM

## Technical Review Coversheet

**Applicant:** University of Wisconsin - Parkside (U422A170001)

**Reader #1:** \*\*\*\*\*

	Points Possible	Points Scored
<b>Questions</b>		
<b>Selection Criteria</b>		
<b>Quality of Project Design</b>		
1. Quality of Project Design	35	33
<b>Significance</b>		
1. Significance	25	23
<b>Quality of the Management Plan</b>		
1. Management Plan	25	23
<b>Quality of the Project Evaluation</b>		
1. Evaluation Plan	15	13
<b>Sub Total</b>	100	92
<b>Priority Questions</b>		
<b>Competitive Preference Priority 1</b>		
<b>Supporting High-Need Students</b>		
1. CPP 1	10	9
<b>Sub Total</b>	10	9
<b>Competitive Preference Priority 2</b>		
<b>Using the Resources of the National Parks</b>		
1. CPP 2	5	5
<b>Sub Total</b>	5	5
<b>Total</b>	115	106

# Technical Review Form

Panel #1 - American History and Civics Academies - 1: 84.422A

Reader #1: \*\*\*\*\*

Applicant: University of Wisconsin - Parkside (U422A170001)

## Questions

### Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

1. The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors—

(i) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.

(ii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(iii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.

### Strengths:

One of the strengths of the plan of design for Uncovering an Alternative Historical Narrative; Diverse Contributions to American History and Civics, is that it is innovative and a new very important approach to professional development. Offering 50 teachers and 100 high needs students per year an opportunity to explore alternative historical narratives of Native American, African American and Hispanic over a four week period each summer and gives power to voices often marginalized in the classroom due to lack of teacher knowledge and background experience. An excellent strategy is the offer of college credits and extensive travel to historical sites that complement the two weeks of study of one of the cultures' on UWP campus. The proposal offers a unique experience to an underserved population of students to learn about the importance of these cultural contributions to the history of America.

Place based experiences provide an excellent strategy to affect the historical knowledge of participants through extended National Park Historical sites (chart p.8) The list of on site experts and relevant sites is impressive and maximizes the collaboration of NPS relevant sites such as National Monument, New Mexico and the Dred Scott Courthouse in Missouri (charts p.7-9).

The Issuing of iPads for student/teacher use is an innovative strategy to meet technological needs that may be lacking in the targeted high-needs high-poverty population.

### Weaknesses:

The New History approach cited in up to date knowledge from research (p.45) states without extensive evidence offered that these "historical narratives of groups that have experienced and participated in the making of history, but whose narratives have been mediated, appropriated, or erased by the nation state and the dominant hegemonic culture which justifies its power, for its own strategic purposes" and "erased, or silenced alternative discourses in a process of cultural displacement of marginalized people from their own lived memories and collective histories." This is a strong accusation almost political in nature. High needs schools with minority populations may or may not have designed courses addressing cultural history and celebrations of holidays. Students have access to courses in school focused on minority cultural influences and do not wait until college to study minority contributions to American History.

Student and teacher travel transportation (plane, train, bus) and housing logistics were unclear or not addressed in the narrative of design. Many of the Historical sites and National Parks are located in possibly remote areas with limited

housing for so many participants at one time. (p. 7-9)

The student summer program design is not as detailed as the teacher professional development portion of design.

Lack of follow-up continuing professional development during the following year is a weakness in continuity for teachers.

**Reader's Score: 33**

### **Selection Criteria - Significance**

**1. The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project. In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:**

**(i) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population.**

**(ii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.**

#### **Strengths:**

The significance of the proposed project is in the projected outcome that addresses the critical lack of qualified faculty for dual enrollment college/high school curriculum opportunities in high minority, high poverty schools. The availability of UWP dual college credit for both students and teachers who are encouraged to return for three consecutive summers can result in up to 18 units of college credit and high school elective credits. Teachers participating all three summers will earn required higher education hours necessary to teach in a concurrent enrollment program. "Teaching a concurrent enrollment course in American history or civics will offer students the opportunity to take college-level courses that will broaden and deepen their knowledge and ideally motivate them to become more engaged citizens in our American democracy" (p23). Thus the 150 teachers qualifying over three years can offer significant opportunity to an underserved population of 9000 students (p.42)

Another outstanding significance is the exposure of students to an alternative narrative of groups often ignored or given little credit for contributing to American history. This is a major significance to student education and development of a sense of efficacy among minority groups who may become civically unengaged and uninvolved with their community without cultural historical knowledge and assurance of worth

#### **Weaknesses:**

Students who were invited back for three consecutive years would not be enrolled in high school if they were initially accepted as juniors or seniors. The significance cited possibility of earning many dual college credits would be difficult if not impossible to achieve since they would have graduated high school after three years (p.22). The student narrative proposal leaves ambiguity due to lack of clarity.

Because of transitory nature of some high needs schools, teachers qualified to teach dual credited classes may relocate thus losing the potential impact of their education. Also, if the same teachers returned each summer to earn 18 available credits, only 50 teachers, not 150 teachers would return to classrooms with certification to teach dual enrollment. This reality seems to contradict the statement on p.42 of number of trained teachers returning to schools.

**Reader's Score: 23**

### **Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan**

**1. The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary**

considers the following factors:

- (i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**
- (ii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project.**

**Strengths:**

A strong contributing factor for achieving the objectives of the management plan is that UWP has extensive experience working with federal and nonfederal grants and contracts and for clear history of accounting for funds over three years. The roles of those responsible for executing each component of the plan from Program director to Diversity Inclusion Specialist are clearly defined in the chart p.42-43. The budget for each phase of the Academies (including travel) is included in the Budget Narrative (e167) at the end of the document, including projected travel expenses. The organizational charts provide an excellent outline of responsibility delegation and accountability.

**Weaknesses:**

There is no identification of the personnel involved or their backgrounds and qualifications to assume the responsibilities and maintain timelines, recruitment and follow-up. It is not clear who is in charge-The Project Director is not named. The budget reflects large payments set aside to cover college credits issued by UWP (e162) but difficult to determine what the real costs to the University will really be if professors are already tenured and salaried. The management plan lacks clarity in this area.

**Reader's Score: 23**

**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation**

- 1. The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:**
  - (i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.**
  - (ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

**Strengths:**

The immediate methods of evaluation for teachers are very clearly related to the assessment of how the teacher will use the characteristics of the New History approach including primary sources, local references, current applications, collaborative learning, and personal narratives. The Faculty Director will assess the teacher module presentation and determine if the product will deepen learning of history for their students.

By administering a posttest at the conclusion of the Academies, there is a strong and immediate assessment as to whether the goals of the Academies were met. Formative evaluation are administered frequently during the Academy providing immediate feedback to measure if the participants have achieved the anticipated outcomes. These include activity journals, focus group discussions and written reflections.

Another unique and important evaluation measurement is the issuance of dual college credit to the attendees at the end of the summer. Academic college American History standards must be met and there is strong motivation by participants to meet the challenge and earn credits.

**Weaknesses:**

There is a concern that the selected evaluator may not have enough background in K-12 educational psychometrics.

The pre and posttests have not been developed yet and is a weakness of the measurement instruments used to assess outcome goals. The program director will create the tests and there is little information as to his or her qualifications to develop this measurement. There is a concern that selected evaluator may not have enough background in K-12 educational psychometrics. There is a great deal of necessary collaboration between faculty, historical site educational facilities coordinators, the project director that needs to be collected and developed for this testing mechanism to reflect relevant information.

**Reader's Score: 13**

**Priority Questions**

**Competitive Preference Priority 1 - Supporting High-Need Students**

**1. Projects that are designed to improve academic outcomes for high-need students (as defined in the Notice Inviting Applications).**

**Strengths:**

An excellent and very strong strategy to ensure that the underserved minority students and their teachers are included in the Academies is to focus recruitment at the high poverty and minority schools located in the Racine and Kenosha Wisconsin Unified School District. This selective concentration will guarantee diversity compared to the other districts and schools in Wisconsin. (p.5)

The concentration on the alternate narratives of groups that have experienced and made history is an excellent and innovative approach to increase the culturally relevant teaching practices of teachers in the targeted districts and increase cultural awareness and sensitivity among minority students.

**Weaknesses:**

A weakness is that the students chosen for the academy will not necessarily be representative of the marginalized voices just because they attend schools in Racine and Kenosha school districts. There is little mention of how these students will be encouraged to apply-teacher or principal recommendation or student application process (Criteria for Selection of Students, p.25).

The student program design including the agenda, travel logistics and academic expectations are not as clear as those developed for teachers and can be noted as a weakness in determining improved outcomes.

**Reader's Score: 9**

**Competitive Preference Priority 2 - Using the Resources of the National Parks**

**1. Applicants that propose to develop innovative and comprehensive programs using the resources of the National Parks, including, to the extent practicable, through coordination or**

**alignment of activities with the National Park Service National Centennial Parks initiative.**

**Strengths:**

The “Uncovering and Alternative Historical Narrative ...” project includes a very effective and innovative approach to introducing the sites most relevant to the diverse contributions studied as part of the Academy curriculum. The NPS and the University will partner to make the narratives of the three cultures relevant. It is an exciting connection between past and present and the activities at the University and at the historical sites and museums are closely coordinated. The resources are of importance to Hispanic, African American and Native American histories.

**Weaknesses:**

None.

**Reader's Score: 5**

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**Status:** Submitted  
**Last Updated:** 08/17/2017 03:28 PM

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 08/14/2017 10:41 PM

## Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: University of Wisconsin - Parkside (U422A170001)

Reader #3: \*\*\*\*\*

	Points Possible	Points Scored
<b>Questions</b>		
<b>Selection Criteria</b>		
<b>Quality of Project Design</b>		
1. Quality of Project Design	35	32
<b>Significance</b>		
1. Significance	25	24
<b>Quality of the Management Plan</b>		
1. Management Plan	25	24
<b>Quality of the Project Evaluation</b>		
1. Evaluation Plan	15	11
<b>Sub Total</b>	100	91
<b>Priority Questions</b>		
<b>Competitive Preference Priority 1</b>		
<b>Supporting High-Need Students</b>		
1. CPP 1	10	9
<b>Sub Total</b>	10	9
<b>Competitive Preference Priority 2</b>		
<b>Using the Resources of the National Parks</b>		
1. CPP 2	5	5
<b>Sub Total</b>	5	5
<b>Total</b>	115	105

# Technical Review Form

Panel #1 - American History and Civics Academies - 1: 84.422A

Reader #3: \*\*\*\*\*

Applicant: University of Wisconsin - Parkside (U422A170001)

## Questions

### Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

1. The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors—

(i) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.

(ii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(iii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.

### Strengths:

The three themes articulated for each year of the grant appear to be fully operational and cohesive, with a diverse range of scholars and National Parks Service affiliated sites identified for each of the three years.

Technology needs are accounted for, with iPads purchased and their usage plan outlined in detail on page 12.

The core of the instructional program is a 10 day summer institute for each of the three years, and the plan is outlined with a day-by-day schedule that supports each year's central theme and focus.

The project emphasizes voices that are often hidden in conventional historical narratives, including those of African-Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanic Americans.

### Weaknesses:

The plan for the student summer academies appeared less clear and detailed than the teacher professional development. Given the lack of clarity, it seems possible that the student institutes could be less robust and innovative, with more reliance on traditional means of instruction such as Powerpoint presentations and less use of site visits and walking tours or other forms of "place based learning". However, in reading through the budget narrative, it became evident that the students would be included in most of the teacher institute field study to Chicago and elsewhere, which needs to be better noted and articulated in the program narrative.

Reader's Score: 32

### Selection Criteria - Significance

1. The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project. In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

**(i) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population.**

**(ii) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.**

**Strengths:**

Teachers will complete 6 graduate credits at no cost to themselves or their districts at the conclusion of each year's project. This will improve their capacity to recertify their license, and will allow some of them to become approved as dual-enrollment instructors of high school courses for college credit. In both cases, the graduate credit component will have a lasting benefit for both school districts in their ability to retain and advance a high-quality teaching force.

Participants will explore sites "off the beaten path" that provide great depth of understanding of our nation's history and its current citizenry. Teachers who complete this project will be better equipped to build curriculum that reflects the diverse populations of students in their classrooms. Even a strong teacher of American history would learn new information and approaches from this institute.

**Weaknesses:**

- The plan for students earning college credits is less clear, including the duration of the time that they would be involved in the project.

**Reader's Score: 24**

**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan**

**1. The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:**

**(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**

**(ii) The adequacy of mechanisms for ensuring high-quality products and services from the proposed project.**

**Strengths:**

Mechanisms for an objective process to select student and teacher participants are outlined on pages 24 and 25.

Buy-in from both partner school districts is evident, with detailed letters of support from both districts included in the application.

As outlined on page 43, UW-Parkside has proven grant management capacity and fiscal oversight.

Individuals in key roles of project oversight and development are identified in the application and their resumes indicate appropriate training and experience.

The detailed budget proposal indicates careful thought about logistics concerning student lodging, meals, and needs of both teachers and students participating in an intensive, on-site teacher institute.

**Weaknesses:**

It is not crystal clear in the project narrative who the project director and other key figures of the project's administration will be. Resumes are included, but they are not matched to jobs or job descriptions.

**Reader's Score: 24**

**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation**

1. The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

**Strengths:**

As outlined on page 47, multiple measures including focus groups, teacher work product, and pre/post questionnaires will be utilized to measure efficacy of the project.

**Weaknesses:**

The specific pre and post tests to be used for measurement are not identified. The selected evaluator does not seem to have an academic background in educational measurement.

**Reader's Score: 11**

**Priority Questions**

**Competitive Preference Priority 1 - Supporting High-Need Students**

1. Projects that are designed to improve academic outcomes for high-need students (as defined in the Notice Inviting Applications).

**Strengths:**

Pages 5 and 6 of the grant narrative provide detailed information about the diverse, high poverty populations that attend the two target school districts in Racine and Kenosha. The entire project is designed to resonate with the ethnic populations served by these two school districts.

**Weaknesses:**

The actual students selected would not necessarily all be high-needs students.

**Reader's Score: 9**

**Competitive Preference Priority 2 - Using the Resources of the National Parks**

- 1. Applicants that propose to develop innovative and comprehensive programs using the resources of the National Parks, including, to the extent practicable, through coordination or alignment of activities with the National Park Service National Centennial Parks initiative.**

**Strengths:**

Pages 8 and 9 of the application outline the scholars who will be part of the project and the site visits included in the project, with a number of National Parks Service affiliates and locations clearly enumerated and fit into a cohesive plan for each year of the project.

**Weaknesses:**

Not applicable.

**Reader's Score:     5**

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**Status:**           Submitted

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