

Organization: Digital Education Project

Title: Reading Like a Historian: Preparing Students to Understand the Past and Present

Participating organizations: American Institutes for Research, ESSDACK, Hawaii State Department of Education, Illinois Democracy Schools Network, Los Angeles Unified School District, Moore (OK) Public Schools, New York City Department of Education, and Wisconsin Department for Public Instruction.

Project Objectives and Activities:

As part of *Reading Like a Historian: Preparing Students to Understand the Past and Present*, the Digital Education Project (DEP) proposes to develop evidence-based strategies to encourage innovative American history instruction that will benefit students from low-income backgrounds and other underserved populations. The proposed project will produce: (1) literacy-rich Reading Like a Historian curriculum with formative assessments; (2) curriculum-embedded digital literacy instruction; (3) a multi-faceted online professional development program to support teachers in using of these new materials; (4) an independent evaluation of the efficacy of the curriculum and professional development in improving student and teacher learning by the American Institutes for Research (AIR). This project will include 350 teachers across six states who serve approximately 17,500 students. AIR will work with DEP to conduct a rigorous evaluation, which will estimate the effects of the intervention on student outcomes and examine the extent to which teacher outputs of the intervention mediate effects on student outcomes. At the project's conclusion, all materials will be made freely available through the DEP website.

Competitive Preference Priorities: This proposal addresses *Competitive Preference Priority 1—Innovative Activities for Civic Engagement* and *Competitive Preference Priority 2—Promoting Equity in Student Access to Educational Resources and Opportunities*