May 18, 2009

Dear Superintendents, Principals, and Teachers,

There is an exciting event coming to Kansas City this Fall, and I want you and your students to participate! The national traveling exhibit, **Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians** will be in Kansas City and will be presented at the A.R. Dykes Library, University of Kansas Medical Center from **October 3 – November 11, 2009**. According to the National Library of Medicine, “The traveling exhibition features two computer kiosks that showcase the multimedia features of the original exhibition [at the National Library of Medicine], including short films about women physicians past and present, educational activities, and career resources.” ([http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/travelingexhibitions/ctfom.htmlresources](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/travelingexhibitions/ctfom.htmlresources)).

In conjunction with this inspiring exhibit, the academic medical and science libraries in Kansas City are cooperating to develop experiential classes for middle and high school students. These 2-hr. workshops are designed to provide the following experiences for your students through interactive learning "stations":

- Investigate the available electronic resources in medicine and science offered through the various university libraries
- Take blood pressures/heart rates to gain a better understanding of how life styles/heredity affect our personal readings
- Practice extracting DNA from fruit or wheat germ
- Create slides of bacteria to view under powerful microscopes and witness strange pathology specimens
- Learn about the newest research & development in bionics, prosthetics, & neural-controlled movement
- Interview current students in medicine, nursing, and allied health
- Explore burgeoning careers and future needs in health care

Integrating this exhibition and classes into your science, history, social studies, and life-planning courses would be an exciting focus for your Fall Curriculum! Both the national and local websites ([http://library.kumc.edu/womeninmedicine](http://library.kumc.edu/womeninmedicine)) will offer links to lesson plans, activities, and resources that support Kansas and Missouri learning outcomes.

The Dykes Library has made available their 120-seat Testing Center and Classroom, next to the exhibit area, for conducting these once-per-week workshops. Admission is **free** to both the exhibit and the class, but **reservations will be necessary for the classes on a first-come, first-served basis**. Attendance at the Changing the Face of Medicine Exhibit (see enclosures for library hours) without additional classes does not require a reservation, but contacting the library is highly recommended to obtain parking instructions and more personal attention for your group.
Enclosed is a poster to display for your school community, the national brochure, and some save-the-date cards. I’ve condensed the necessary information for teachers on a single sheet, which I hope you will copy and place in their communication boxes. You can obtain additional details of all the events surrounding the Changing the Face of Medicine Exhibit, or register for a class, by calling or e-mailing Lynn George.

**Make plans for a field trip that will stimulate and entertain your students!**

On behalf of the local planning committee, I look forward to hearing from you!

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