

PARTICIPANT'S COMMITMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We are pleased that you have registered to participate in an upcoming Problem-Based Learning (PBL) Institute through the **Center of Excellence for Research, Teaching, and Learning (CERTL)**. We are confident that you will experience professional development education of the highest quality and continued support in your classroom at the Institute's end. These are our commitments to you. Now we ask that you make a commitment as well.

The PBL Institute for which you are registered is ONLY A BEGINNING in the steps to making a real difference in the quality of education that is available in this community. We recognize that fact in several ways. The first is in providing you with four additional half-days of professional development attention. Participation in these half-day sessions, which will be spread over the following academic year, is as critical as attending the Institute itself. Experience also reveals that changing the practices in your classroom is difficult at best and, sometimes, it is a scary and lonely process. For that reason, we offer you in-classroom support as you implement the PBL process by providing an experienced peer consultant at your request. And, we are dedicated to providing to you all of the instructional materials needed to support the PBL methodology.

The *COMMITMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE* that we request from you follows:

- I am committed to full participation in the PBL Institute and each of the four half-day follow-up sessions.
- I am committed to returning to my classroom and undertaking the challenge of attempting the PBL methodology with my students using the Center's support and materials. I will notify the Center's staff indicating the time and date that I first try PBL with my own students.

Participant signature _____

Principal signature _____

These two commitment statements indicate how pivotal we believe you, as the classroom teacher, are to making a difference for students. PBL cannot accomplish anything without you. CERTL is dependent on you and your students need you to commit to real change for them.

The PBL Institutes all currently have waiting lists for teachers wishing to participate. If you are uncomfortable returning this *COMMITMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE* to us, please make your space in the Institute available to a teacher who is more ready to commit to this philosophy at this time.