

Dear Business Partner,

Thank you again for your willingness to be a business partner in this unique, National Science Foundation (NSF) Academy for Young Scientists, Team Researchers in a GLOBE-al Environment (TRIAGE).

My name is Becky Martin and I have been hired as the Out of School Time (OST) Coordinator through Calvin College. I have been a science teacher in East Grand Rapids for the past ten years and I recently took a year family leave to spend more time with my young children. I am thrilled to act as coordinator for this fantastic science project. I am also very excited to meet and work with you on this extraordinary journey. Students will surely depart the program more excited and knowledgeable about science because of your commitment.

I will be contacting you by phone over the next couple of weeks to begin planning authentic science experiences for the middle school students as I design the OST curriculum and activities, which will be held at the Bunker Interpretive Center on Calvin's campus. The educational goals of these experiences are primarily to expose students to real-world science research and to excite students about science and a future career as a scientist. We are looking to reach this goal through exposing students to science experiences, experiments, and data collection with a focus on the research process. Some of my ideas include field trips, company visits, professional shadows, career speakers, or directed data collection to help your cause. Any ideas or experiences you have in mind are welcome.

My goal is to plan the authentic science experiences first in the planning process so that we can best fit into your busy schedules. This will also allow us to tailor our educational lessons at the Bunker Center at Calvin to fit with your area of expertise.

Thank you in advance for your excitement, commitment, and willingness to embark upon an opportunity for young people that will clearly influence, inspire, and engage future scientists. I look forward to meeting you!

Best regards,

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