Math Teachers, Grades 5-8….*if you teaching now with only an Initial License, the following may be of interest to you…*

YOU CAN EARN YOUR PROFESSIONAL LICENSE *without having to earn a Masters Degree!* *Start in January '12 and finish in December '12…..*

You should know that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) has approved just a few agencies throughout the state to offer teachers an alternative pathway to **professional license…*one that does not require a Masters degree.***

French River Education Center (FREC) is currently approved by the DESE to offer four (4) such *Professional License Programs*, including one program for **math, grades 5-8**.

The DESE requires those teachers holding an **Initial License** to earn a **Professional License** in the same field ***within five years of hire or risk losing certification***. If you are looking for a low cost, alternative pathway to professional license---*one that does not require enrolling in a Masters program*---yet satisfies the teacher licensure requirements of the DESE--- then our program should be of real interest to you.

To earn a professional license through French River's DESE approved program, math teachers need only to successfully complete *two (2) graduate courses,* a math course and a literacy course---not 10 or 12 courses one would need to for a Masters degree. Graduate credits are awarded by **Framingham State University (FSU)**. Each course is four (4) graduate credits. There are no substitute courses allowed.

Where do I take these courses? Start in January 2012, and take the DESE required math course at Oxford High School, one night a week, for 15 weeks, on either **Tuesdays** or **Thursdays *(whichever day is more convenient for you)***, from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. In September, 2012, you will complete the program by taking the DESE required literacy course one night a week, for 15 weeks, on the same day of the week as your math course, again at Oxford High School, from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Following this schedule, **you will complete your professional license requirements in mid-December 2012**and, if you have already taught for 3 years under your initial license, the DESE will awrd you your professional license.*

***NOTE: The DESE has additional requirements for all teachers which must be met before awarding professional licensure. The actual professional license cannot be awarded to any teacher until he or she completes a DESE approved program—like ours—and completes 3 years of teaching under their initial license. If you have been teaching for less than 3 years with your initial license, you can still enroll in our program, complete the course requirements now, and receive your professional license in the mail as soon as you finish your 3rd year of teaching under your initial license.**

To be eligible for this program…you must meet the following requirements:

~must already have your initial license in the same field as you seek a professional license;
~must be employed as a teacher, working in the role of your initial license; and
~must have completed your mentoring year---or will complete your mentoring year---by June 2012.

Compare time and cost…If you are still paying for your undergraduate degree, a Masters now could be difficult financially. By comparison, the FREC professional licensure program should total less than $2,600 for math teachers. Compare this to having to take 10-12 graduate courses at a cost of $14,000 -

$16,000 plus program fees for a Masters degree. ***You save time and money with our MA Dept. of Education approved professional licensure programs.***

Interested? Want to learn more? Ready to enroll? If you would like to learn more about how you can earn your professional license without having to earn a Masters degree, or you are ready to enroll and reserve a space in the January 2012 program now, call Mike Fields, Director, at 508-987-0219, ext. 101, (***mfields@frec.org***), or Maddy Dudley at ext. 104 (***mdudley@frec.org***) or complete and return the form below. We will contact you once we receive this form.

Professional License Program: Math, Grades 5-8 January 2012

_____ I am interested and would like to enroll in the **Tuesday, January '12 Cohort.**
_____ I am interested and would like to enroll in the **Thursday, January '12 Cohort.**

I know that to be eligible for the professional license program, I must: ***already have my initial license; be employed as a teacher working in the role of my initial license; and have completed my mentoring year, or will complete my mentoring year by June 2012.***

NOTE: NO TUITION MONEY IS DUE AT THIS TIME. Program enrollees are billed on or about December 15 with tuition due January 15, 2012.

As for the course tuition, we will bill you on or about December 15 at which time you will have the option of paying the tuition in full--$1,200 either by check or credit card--or you may pay half by January 15--$600--and we will bill you for the remaining $600 on or about April 1. Please be advised that when paying by check for tuition or the $50 program application fee, please make checks payable to French River Education Center. We accept district purchase orders as well as *MasterCard, Visa,* and *Discover* credit cards.

Name: _____ ***Telephone:*** _____

Address: _____
(Street) ***(City/Town)*** ***(Zip)***

Employed as a teacher by: _____
(Name of School District)

School Assigned: _____ ***Grade Level:*** _____

Soc. Sec. #: _____ - _____ - _____ ***I have my initial license in:*** ***MATH, Grades 5-8***

Best email address to contact me: _____

Mail to: **French River Education Center, Attn: Mike Fields, PO Box 476, 672 Main St., North Oxford, MA 01537** **OR**

Fax to: **508 -987-1396, attn: Mike Fields.**