

Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race®

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2016 IDITAROD TEACHER ON THE TRAIL[™] ANNOUNCED

Wasilla, Alaska-(April 17, 2015), Laura Wright, has been selected as the 2016 Iditarod Teacher on the Trail[™]. Laura is a 3rd grade teacher at Eanes Elementary in Austin, Texas. Laura is the 18th educator to be chosen for the Iditarod Teacher on the Trail[™] program.

Beginning in June and throughout the next year, Laura will be creating standards aligned curriculum and developing an online journal at http://itcteacheronthetrail.com/. During the 2016 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, Laura will be flying from checkpoint to checkpoint sharing her observations and lesson ideas via the internet to students and teachers in classrooms around the world.

Laura says, "When students connect with the lditarod, they are engaged in a meaningful way to important 21st century skills that connect real- world project based learning with technology, critical thinking, and collaboration. Engaging your students with the lditarod is a way to build fluency in technology along with the development of critical-thinking skills that all 21st century students should have."

Laura will officially begin her responsibilities in June when as presenter at the 2015 Summer Camp for Teachers June 20 – 29 in Wasilla, she introduces her Teacher on the TrailTM curriculum goals and vision for the upcoming race year. Laura will also be a presenter at the 2016 Winter Conference for Educators March I - 4, 2016 in Anchorage, Alaska.

The Iditarod Teacher on the Trail[™] program began in 1999 with an inspirational idea and grown into a nationally acclaimed and globally followed 21st Century technology project.

For more information on the Teacher on the Trail[™] program or conference events for educators, please contact Diane Johnson, Education Director at 605-290-3423 or <u>djohnson@iditarod.com</u>.