

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Seven math partnerships work to strengthen teaching and learning

MADISON — Math teachers across the state will work with university staff members in partnerships to improve student achievement in mathematics through seven grants funded by the federal Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant program.

The projects, two new and five continuing that total \$1.5 million, are based on a needs assessment and will impact more than 720 teachers. The projects help classroom teachers gain more content knowledge and provide higher education science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) faculty with the opportunity to partner with the K-12 system. Each project provides a two-week summer institute consisting of a minimum of 80 hours of direct interactions between teachers and STEM faculty followed by at least 20 hours of school and classroom visits.

“Research clearly shows that student achievement improves when their teachers have a deep understanding of the subject area and multiple methods to bring that content alive for their students,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “These partnership grants provide the training and support teachers need to implement Wisconsin’s mathematics standards, which will help our students achieve at the higher levels demanded by the globally competitive economy.”

Over the last several years, a number of Wisconsin’s partnership projects have earned national recognition, meeting rigorous standards that demonstrate the efforts have an impact on student achievement. For example, **Raising Achievement in Mathematics through Fostering Algebraic Thinking (RAM t-FAT)** from Marquette University and the **Alliance for Teaching Mathematics to Special Education Learners: Strengthening Content Knowledge and Collaboration of Regular and Special Education Teachers** from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee were recognized at the national level for their significant impact in student achievement. Both projects ended in 2014.

A new project, **Strengthening Teacher Mathematical Knowledge and Instruction in Grades K–3**, from UW-Milwaukee will provide more than 35 teachers from Milwaukee Public Schools an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of mathematical concepts, connections, structure, and progressions for teaching Wisconsin’s

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mathematics standards. The new project, **Mathematical Progressions through Habits of Mind**, from UW-River Falls will deepen mathematical thinking as teachers form collegial relationships among the partnership participants. The project also will develop a wide network of math educators across western Wisconsin.

To be eligible for a grant, the lead school district had to have at least 10 percent of students from low-income families; have a Rural Education Achievement Program or be a small, rural school district; or have student mathematics achievement that is less than 65 percent proficient based on 2013-14 statewide test score data. Funding for the Mathematics and Science Partnership grants is part of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title II, Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program. These programs encourage scientifically based professional development as a means for improving student academic performance.

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NOTES: A list of Mathematics and Science Partnership Grants follows. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015_99.pdf.

Mathematics and Science Partnerships 2015-16 School Year Grants

New Grants

UW-River Falls and New Auburn School District Mathematics Partnership, \$332,637

Barron Area School District
Black River Falls School District
Bloomer School District
Cameron School District
Clayton School District
Durand School District
Elk Mound Area School District
Frederic School District
Glenwood City School District
Luck School District
New Auburn School District
New Richmond School District
River Falls School District
Spring Valley School District
Tomah Area School District
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

UW-Milwaukee and Milwaukee Public Schools Mathematics Partnership, \$199,314

Milwaukee Public Schools
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Second-Year Projects

UW-Eau Claire and Clayton School District Mathematics Partnership, \$188,739

Amery School District
Boyceville Community School District
Clayton School District
Clear Lake School District
Elmwood School District
Grantsburg School District
Osceola School District
Plum City School District
Saint Croix Falls School District
Shell Lake School District
Siren School District
Spooner Area School District
Turtle Lake School District
Unity School District
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Webster School District

UW-Eau Claire and Mondovi School District Mathematics Partnership, \$207,273

Augusta School District
Bruce School District
Cadott School District
Fall Creek School District
Gilmanton School District
Mondovi School District
Neillsville School District
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

UW-Oshkosh and Medford Area Public School District Mathematics Partnership, \$160,555

Abbotsford School District
Colby School District
Medford Area Public School District
Prentice School District
Rib Lake School District
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

UW-Parkside and Kenosha Unified School District Mathematics Partnership, \$205,429

Burlington Area School District
Kenosha Unified School District
Racine Unified School District
University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Third-Year Projects

UW-Milwaukee and Cudahy School District Mathematics Partnership, \$263,700

Cudahy School District
South Milwaukee School District
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee