



News Release

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Universities and K-12 Schools Partner Up to Improve Math and Science

PIERRE, S.D. – Six projects that partner public universities with K-12 schools will receive nearly \$300,000 in federal grant funding to improve science and mathematics instruction in middle and high schools.

The Title II grants from the U.S. Department of Education pair university science, math, and education faculty with teachers and administrators from high-need school systems to develop relevant professional development activities. More than 135 teachers from across South Dakota will participate.

The partnership grants, each funded at about \$50,000, include:

- Black Hills State University, along with South Dakota State University and **Bennett County School District**, for a “South Dakota Counts” project;
- BHSU and **Colome School District** for a “Life Science Concepts for Teachers” project;
- SDSU and **Bennett County School District** for a “Cosmic Connections 2012” project;
- SDSU and **Takini School** for a “STEM Enhancement Teacher Institute: Sustained, Effective Teacher Interaction” project;
- BHSU, along with Dakota State University and **Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Schools**, for a “South Dakota Counts” project;
- SDSU and **Colman-Egan School District** for an “Engineering the Future” project.

The grants will involve teachers in specialized summer workshops and follow-up activities that lead to implementation of lesson plans in math and science throughout the school year. The South Dakota Board of Regents administers the grant funds under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

The projects will bring together higher education faculty, local school systems, and other education agencies and partners to achieve statewide impact. Funding runs from April 2012 through September 2013.