



# News Release

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## Universities Partner with K-12 Schools to Improve Math and Science

PIERRE, S.D. – Seven projects involving public universities and K-12 schools will benefit from nearly \$350,000 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 districts to develop relevant professional development activities. More than 175 teachers from across South Dakota will participate.

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

- Black Hills State University, along with South Dakota State University and **Oelrichs School District**, for a “Best Practices in Teaching Mathematics and the New Common Core Standards” project;
- BHSU, along with Dakota State University and **Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Schools**, for a “Best Practices in Teaching Mathematics and the New Common Core Standards” project;
- BHSU and **Summit School District** for a “Best Practices in Teaching Mathematics and the New Common Core Standards” project;
- The University of South Dakota and **Avon School District** for a “South Dakota Science and Mathematics Teacher Enhancement: Integrating Math and Science and Using Topical Issues in Science Instruction” project;
- SDSU and **McIntosh School District** for a “Cosmic Math 2011” project;
- BHSU, along with **Wall and Andes Central school districts**, for an “Earth and Space Science Concepts for Teachers” project;
- BHSU and **Newell School District** for a “Modeling Physics Instruction in South Dakota” project.

“These grants involve teachers in specialized summer workshops and follow-up activities to help them implement lesson plans in math and science throughout the school year,” said Gary Johnson, system vice president of research for the South Dakota Board of Regents, which administers the grant funds under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

The projects involve higher education faculty, local school districts, and other education agencies and partners to achieve statewide impact. Funding runs from April 2011 through September 2012.