



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, April 8, 2015

Universities Team with K-12 Schools to Improve Math and Science

PIERRE, S.D. – Six projects involving public universities and K-12 schools will receive nearly \$270,000 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. About 125 teachers from across South Dakota will participate.

The partnership grants, each to be funded between \$29,000 and \$50,000, include:

- South Dakota State University and **school districts from Waubay and Chamberlain** for “Using the CCSS-M Mathematical Practices to Promote High Quality Instruction” project.
- SDSU and the **White River School District** for “Engineering the Future 2015” project.
- SDSU, along with **Newell and Hoven school districts**, for “STREAM: Science Technology Resources for Engagement Activity Modules for 2015” project.
- Black Hills State University and **school districts from Bennett County, Newell, and White River** for “Life Science Concepts for Teachers” project.
- BHSU, **Bennett County School District, and Todd County Middle School** for “Embedding the Standards for Mathematical Practice within the Common Core State Content Standards Year 2, West” project.
- BHSU, the Sanford Underground Research Facility, and the **Huron and Chamberlain school districts** for “Physics of Atomic Nuclei: Connecting Content and Practices with Applications, Careers and the Sanford Underground Research Facility” project.

The grants engage 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 federal grant funds.

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 2015 through September 2016.