



News Release

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

PIERRE, S.D. – Five 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 115 teachers from across South Dakota will participate.

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

- Black Hills State University and school districts from **Bennett County, Kadoka Area, Wagner, White River, and Wilmot** for the “Earth and Space Science Concepts for Teachers” project;
- South Dakota State University and **Summit School District** for the “Practicing the Mathematical Practices” project;
- SDSU and **Todd County School District** for the “Engineering the Future 2014” project;
- BHSU and **Summit School District** for the “Embedding the Standards for Mathematical Practice Within the Common Core State Content Standards, Northeast” project;
- BHSU and **Bennett County School District** for the “Embedding the Standards for Mathematical Practice Within the Common Core State Content Standards, West” 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 2014 through September 2015.