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Contact: Charles B. Pyle, Director of Communications (804) 371-2420
 Julie C. Grimes, Communications Manager (804) 225-2775

VDOE Announces Mathematics & Science Grants ***Grants Fund STEM-Related Professional Development for 662 Teachers***

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is awarding grants totaling more than \$2 million to 10 partnerships between school divisions, colleges and universities to increase content knowledge and sharpen classroom skills of teachers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics – subject areas known collectively as STEM.

The grants are awarded through VDOE's Mathematics and Science Partnership competition, which was announced last September. School divisions and institutions of higher education were encouraged to submit proposals to create partnerships to provide professional development for teachers. Criteria for awarding the grants included support for teachers in implementing the 2009 Mathematics Standards of Learning (SOL) and the 2010 Science SOL.

Nearly \$970,000 was awarded to fund the following four mathematics projects:

- **Building Number and Number Sense through Math Models and Performance-Based Assessments: Teaching and Assessing Virginia's 2009 K-2 Mathematics SOL** — \$246,696 for George Mason University to serve 90 teachers in seven school divisions (Alexandria, Arlington County, Fairfax County, Frederick County, Manassas, Prince William County and Stafford County).
- **Developing Rational Numbers and Proportional Reasoning through Math Models and Performance-Based Assessments: Teaching and Assessing Virginia's 2009 6-8 Mathematics SOL** — \$246,696 for George Mason University to serve 90 teachers in seven school divisions (Alexandria, Arlington County, Fairfax County, Frederick County, Manassas, Prince William County and Stafford County).
- **Secondary Mathematics Professional Development Center** — \$250,000 for Radford University, the College of William & Mary, Virginia Commonwealth University and NASA Langley Research Center to serve 76 teachers in 45 school divisions (Arlington County, Augusta County, Bedford County, Botetourt County, Brunswick County, Buchanan County, Carroll County, Charles City County, Chesapeake, Colonial Heights, Floyd County, Franklin County, Frederick County, Gloucester County, Hampton, Hanover County, Henrico County, Henry County, Isle of Wight, King William County, Loudoun County, New Kent County, Newport News, Norfolk, Norton, Patrick County, Pittsylvania County, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Powhatan County, Pulaski County, Rappahannock County, Roanoke, Roanoke County, Salem, Spotsylvania County, Stafford County, Suffolk, Surry County, Sussex County, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg-James City County, Wise County, Wythe County and York County) and two schools (Piedmont Governor's School for Mathematics, Science & Technology and St. Catherine's School).
- **Tidewater Team to Improve Middle School Mathematics Instruction** — \$225,000 for the College of William & Mary, Radford University and Texas Instruments Inc. to serve 45 teachers in 25 school divisions (Bedford County, Carroll County, Charles City County, Colonial Heights, Floyd County, Franklin, Franklin County, Gloucester County, Hampton, Hanover County, King William County, Middlesex County, New Kent County, Newport News, Petersburg, Poquoson, *(more)*)

- Portsmouth, Richmond County, Roanoke, Southampton County, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg-James City County, Wythe County and York County) and two private schools (Norfolk Christian and Walsingham Academy).

More than \$699,000 was awarded to fund the following five science projects:

- **A Successful Teacher Professional Development Model for Inquiry Teaching in STEM** — \$181,760 for Sweet Briar College to serve 69 teachers in seven school divisions (Amherst County, Appomattox County, Bedford County, Campbell County, Lynchburg, Nelson County and Prince Edward County).
- **Flipped Out for Science** — \$146,276 for Regent University to serve 25 teachers in two school divisions (Williamsburg-James City County and York County).
- **Learning Enhanced through the Nature of Science: An Inter-Disciplinary Sustainable Professional Development Model for High School Science** — \$239,174 for Old Dominion University Research Foundation and Tidewater Community College to serve 38 teachers in Virginia Beach.
- **K-5 Science Collaborative for Innovative and Enhanced Content Excellence (SCIEnCE)** — \$65,081 for Longwood University and the National Science Teachers Association to serve 20 teachers in six school divisions (Amelia County, Buckingham County, Chesterfield County, Cumberland County, Nottoway County and Prince Edward County).
- **Middle School SCIEnCE** — \$66,976 for Longwood University and the National Science Teachers Association to serve 35 teachers in six school divisions (Amelia County, Buckingham County, Chesterfield County, Cumberland County, Nottoway County and Prince Edward County).

A grant was also awarded to the following partnership:

- **The Virginia STEM Collaborative Nurturing Network to Enhance Content-focused Teaching** — \$350,000 for Longwood University, the College of William & Mary, George Mason University, James Madison University, Longwood University, Old Dominion University, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia, Southwest Virginia Public Education Consortium, Virginia Association of Science Teachers, Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Virginia Mathematics and Science Consortium, Virginia Space Grant Consortium, Virginia Public Television, and the MathScience Innovation Center to serve 174 teachers in 33 school divisions (Alexandria, Amelia County, Brunswick County, Charlotte County, Chesterfield County, Colonial Heights, Cumberland County, Dinwiddie County, Fairfax County, Gloucester County, Greensville County, Halifax County, Hampton, Hanover County, Harrisonburg, Henrico County, King William County, Manassas, Mecklenburg County, Newport News, Nottoway County, Page County, Patrick County, Pittsylvania County, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Powhatan County, Prince William County, Richmond, Rockingham County, Suffolk, Williamsburg-James City County and York County) and two schools (the Governor's Academy for Innovation, Technology and Engineering and the Governor's School at Innovation Park).

Mathematics and Science Partnership grants are authorized by Title II, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, also known as No Child Left Behind). The grant program is designed to improve instruction by encouraging partnerships between institutions of higher education and school divisions to provide opportunities for mathematics and science teachers to increase subject-matter knowledge and improve classroom skills.

More information about Mathematics and Science Partnership grants — including links to previously funded programs and partnership-developed resources for teachers — is available on the [Mathematics and Science Partnerships page](#) of the VDOE website.