



For Immediate Release: October 1, 2015

Contact: Charles B. Pyle, Director of Communications, (804) 371-2420

VDOE Announces Math & Science Partnership Mini-Grants *Grants Fund STEM-Related In-Service Training for 258 Teachers*

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) has awarded grants totaling more than \$213,000 to nine partnerships between school divisions and colleges and universities to increase content knowledge and sharpen classroom skills of teachers in science and mathematics.

The awards were made through VDOE's Mathematics and Science Partnership mini-grant competition, which was announced last July. School divisions were encouraged to submit proposals to create partnerships that would provide professional development to teachers. The professional development proposals focus on supporting the implementation of the 2009 Mathematics Standards of Learning (SOL) and the 2010 Science SOL.

Grants were awarded to fund the following six mathematics projects:

- **Building Teacher Capacity in Mathematics Instruction to Support English Language Learners** – \$38,081 for Chesterfield County Public Schools and Virginia Commonwealth University to serve 65 teachers.
- **Improving Mathematics of Teachers in Lunenburg County (IMathTLC)** – \$23,330 for Lunenburg County Public Schools and Longwood University to serve 18 teachers.
- **Integrated Professional Learning Communities (K-8) Centered around Applied Math & Applied Science to Support Vertical Best Practices** – \$13,173 for Spotsylvania County Public Schools and the University of Mary Washington to serve 15 teachers.
- **Numbers & Number Sense and Computation and Estimation** – \$19,510 for Norton Public Schools and Virginia Tech to serve 15 teachers.
- **Rational Numbers and Proportional Reasoning for Middle School Teachers** – \$19,459 for Caroline County Public Schools and Virginia Commonwealth University to serve 15 teachers.
- **Supporting Math Process Goals through Research-Based Teaching Practices** – \$21,400 for Henrico County Public Schools and Norfolk State University to serve 60 teachers.

Grants were awarded to fund the following three science projects:

- **Middle School Science Teachers Soar (MSSTS)** – \$35,602 for Henrico County Public Schools and Virginia Commonwealth University to serve 45 teachers.
- **SAIL: Scientific Argumentation and Inquiry for Learning** – \$28,527 for Portsmouth Public Schools, Tidewater Community College and The Elizabeth River Project to serve 15 teachers.
- **Science Academy for Improving Learning in Science (SAILS)** – \$13,929 for Alexandria Public Schools and George Mason University to serve 10 teachers.

Mathematics and Science Partnership grants are authorized by Title II, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (also known as No Child Left Behind).

(more)

The program is designed to create partnerships between school divisions and institutions of higher education to provide opportunities for mathematics and science teachers to increase subject-matter knowledge and improve classroom skills.

In addition to professional development opportunities, the grants also support the development and availability of curriculum and lesson plans, professional development materials and other resources developed by project leaders and teachers for school division use.

More information about [Mathematics and Science Partnership](#) projects and resources is available on the VDOE website.

#