Our mathematics and science support network is for district or school personnel charged with the task of working to improve mathematics and science programs in their school or district. During the 2005-2006, 72 participants were involved in the Mathematics Leadership Support Network (MLSN) and 57 were involved in the Science Leadership Support Network (SLSN).

The MLSN and SLSN provide a network of support, ideas, resources, and expertise.

In the 2006-2007 school year, major focus of the work will be on assessment for “formative” and “summative” learning. Assessment for learning (formative) has shown greater achievement gains than most other educational interventions. “Firm evidence shows that formative assessment is an essential component of classroom work and that its development can raise standards of achievement” (Black & Wiliam, 1998).

The Network will base its work on assessment from the research of Black and Wiliam (1998); Bloom (1984); and Rodriguez (2004). The Network will also utilize resources from the Educational Testing Service (ETS)/Assessment Training Institute developed by Stiggins et. al., Shirley Clarke, and McTighe and Wiggins.

The Network will support mathematics and science leaders with implementation of Core Content 4.0 and the newly revised Program of Studies (POS) to promote enduring understandings in all students that result in transfer from one grade to the next.
3 Leadership Support Network Goals:

- Actively engage in a Professional Learning Community by participating in an ongoing study of important conceptual and pedagogical issues that face elementary, middle, and high school Mathematics and Science teachers including literacy and inquiry and effective facilitation skills. The Network will provide the educators involved an opportunity to work with others in role alike positions whom they can call upon for on-going support between meetings.

- Continue to develop understanding of curriculum, instruction, and assessment related practices that can result in student achievement including continued development of content and pedagogical knowledge.

- Study and engage in dialogue around the latest research on school improvement, teaching and learning.

- Design, Pilot, and Revise high quality units of study and other products that can be shared across the state via the Kentucky Teacher Tools Website.

In order to continue to be proactive, we encourage your district and/or school to partner with PIMSER, the Kentucky Department of Education Mathematics and Science Curriculum Consultants, and the Regional Teacher Partner Facilitators (see list below) to have one or more of your Mathematics or Science leaders (or aspiring teachers) become part of the Mathematics and/or Science Leadership Support Networks.

Through the Appalachian Rural Systemic Initiative Resource Collaborative at the University of Kentucky, we have worked to develop and support Mathematics and Science leaders in Appalachia for the past 10 years. We are now offering the opportunity for ANY district or school across the Commonwealth of Kentucky to join the Mathematics and Science Leadership Support Network. (Testimonials and a list of current participants in the Network are provided at the end of this flyer.)

Targeted Participants: Educational leaders (Assistant Superintendents, Instructional Supervisors, Principals, Department Heads, Curriculum Resource Teachers, Academic Performance Specialists, District Math/Science Resource Teachers) charged with the task of assisting school(s) and/or the district with Mathematics/Science improvement efforts in grades K-12. These individuals may have full, part, or no release time. EILA Credit may be available for administrators.

Cost to participate: $1,250 per participant for the academic year (8 monthly meetings plus a 3 day summer workshop) beginning August 2006 through June 2007 to participate in either the Mathematics or Science Leadership Support Network. These funds provide for meals and refreshments, instructional resources, consultant fees, and rental space for each meeting.
The dates for the meetings are as follows:
Summer 3 day component dates will be determined by the August meeting and shared with each group so they can choose the dates and locations that best accommodate their schedule.

**Mathematics Leadership Support Network Dates and 3 Locations:**

Mathematics Leadership Support Meeting Dates – **Location #1** in Lexington, KY:
Aug 24; Sept 21; Oct 26; Nov 16; Jan 18; Feb 15; Mar 15; May 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mathematics Leadership Support Meeting Dates – **Location #2** in Lexington, KY:
Aug 25; Sept 22; Oct 27; Nov 17; Jan 19; Feb 16; Mar 16; May 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mathematics Leadership Support Meeting Dates – **Location #3** in Elizabethtown, KY:
Sept 1; Sept 29; Nov 3; Dec 1; Jan 26; Feb 23; Mar 23; May 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Science Leadership Support Network Dates and 2 locations:**

Science Leadership Support Meeting Dates – **Location #1** in Lexington, KY:
Aug 23; Sept 20; Oct 25; Nov 15; Jan 17; Feb 14; Mar 14; May 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Science Leadership Support Meeting Dates – **Location #2** in Elizabethtown, KY:
Aug 31; Sept 28; Nov 2; Nov 30; Jan 25; Feb 22; Mar 22; May 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*We will be accepting 50 Mathematics Network Participants and 50 Science Network Participants per location, selected on a first come first served basis. To sign up please complete the attached form and fax it to Kim Zeidler at 859-257-5640 no later than July 31, 2006 or until Networks are full. Confirmation letters will be sent out within 48 hours of receiving your completed application with PO# for $1,250.00.*

**Requirements:**
It is critical that the same participant attend all meetings (unless there is an emergency), because one meeting builds upon the other. Please note that due to testing there will be no meetings in April. The group will work together to establish dates for a 3-day summer event to be held in June or July.
School/District Commitments:

- Ensure that the *Network* participants are supported so they can be released to participate in monthly Mathematics and/or Science Support *Network* meetings.
- Provide travel reimbursement for the teachers’ participation in the meetings.
- Work with classroom level teachers to either pay a stipend or offer professional development credit for the June training component.
- Provide the $1,250 per participant payable to the “University of Kentucky – PIMSER” for their participation in academic year meetings.

University of Kentucky PIMSER Commitments:

- Host monthly Mathematics and Science Leadership Support Network Meetings in Lexington and Elizabethtown
- Provide consultants (Regional Teacher Partners—see full list below) to facilitate the network meetings
- Establish and maintain a Leadership Support Network listserv for on-going communication between facilitators and participants throughout the year
- Provide materials and resources for the *Network* members to improve their Mathematics and Science programs
- Provide meals and refreshments for the participants during each *Network* meeting

Partner Institutions and Organizations: University of Kentucky PIMSER; the ARSI Master Teacher Project/Regional Teacher Partner Facilitators; Kentucky School Districts; and the Mathematics and Science Consultants at the Kentucky Department of Education.

Mathematics and Science Leadership Support Network Facilitators:
Kim Zeidler, ARSI, Resource Collaborative Director, University of Kentucky;
Diane Johnson, Science Regional Teacher Partner, Lewis County;
Kathy Armstrong, Science Regional Teacher Partner;
Karen Kidwell, KDE Science Consultant;
Sean Elkins, KDE Science Consultant;
Ann Booth, Mathematics Regional Teacher Partner; Lincoln County
Vonda Stamm, Mathematics Regional Teacher Partner; Menifee County
Terry Parkey, Mathematics Regional Teacher Partner; Rockcastle County
Ruth Casey, Mathematics Regional Teacher Partner; Anderson County
Rhonda Allen, Mathematics Regional Teacher Partner; Madison County
Gloria Davis, Mathematics Regional Teacher Partner;
Ann Bartosh, KDE Mathematics Consultant.
Testimonials from Leaders who have participated in the Leadership Support Network in 2005-2006:

**Benefits:**
1. The latest information regarding Mathematics and Science initiatives and curriculum, instruction, and assessment directly from KDE Consultants. (e.g., this year we got to preview documents (revised POS and Core Content 4.0) and begin to discuss how to support our district and school in a proactive way).
2. The Network provides a model of what a professional learning community can be.
3. The Network provides for district impact.
4. The Network provides for reflection and sustained leadership growth.
5. The Network is a value for the money.

**Provides a Model!**
“The Network is a model to me of what a professional learning community can be. I have grown so much from the discussions, professional readings, and activities with people who are in a similar role in their districts. A big part of that growth has been because I feel a part of the group and can interact and discuss ideas in ways that I never would otherwise. Because of the ongoing professional development, I am much more effective at facilitating teacher cadres in my own district for purposes such as analyzing student work, analyzing program data to assess needs, and implementing best practices. In fact, without the leadership meetings, I probably would be pretty clueless about the best way of handling these tasks and the resources that can help!”

**District Impact!**
“Not only have I benefited from leadership network support meetings, but my district has benefited. We have become more aware of research-based practices and the strategies for managing teacher change. For example, last year we implemented a National Science Foundation exemplary Mathematics program which required a lot of follow up support for our district teachers. We applied knowledge and strategies from the meetings - the planning skills, the facilitation skills, and the knowledge of what we needed to do for the teachers and students. I am confident that without the PD on supporting teacher change that we would have had a much more difficult time - and may not have even been able to make the large scale changes we needed!

**Networking for Sustained Growth!**
“Attending “sit and get” sessions at conferences just doesn’t compare with the resources and contacts made during our monthly meetings. Certainly I still need and benefit from conferences, but with leadership network support meetings I get authentic follow up and assistance that is relevant to my own situation. Also, there is a lot of value to having a network or community of teachers whom I feel comfortable calling on for help. Often I have asked teachers from other districts for advice or consulting and vice-versa. We know each other’s strengths and play on them.”

**A Value for the Money!**
“Without the leadership network support meetings, I would feel isolated and alone in my job since nobody else in my district has the same role of working directly with teachers on curricular and instructional issues. I always look forward to interacting with the other participants and learning from their experiences in their districts. I enjoy the collaborative atmosphere as we learn new strategies for improving our Mathematics and Science programs. I constantly look to the “toolbox” of resources from the meetings. I can’t think of anyone else who offers the level of professional development and a time for reflection that I get at the Network meetings. I really hope other resource teachers get to experience this type of professional development. It is essential support for the work we do and well worth the cost!”
Feel free to contact the following Network participants if you have any questions about the meetings or the value to their growth and development as leaders.

Jennifer Francis
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