

2008 Funded Projects

Before It's Too Late (BITL III)

This project partners The University of Montana-Missoula School of Education, Montana State University-Bozeman Mathematics Department, and the Poplar, Froid, Havre, Helena, Bozeman, and Hardin School Districts to increase the mathematics content awareness in algebra, geometry, and statistics of classroom teachers of mathematics, grades 6-12. Funds are used to provide intense mathematics instruction for up to 20 participants and regional workshops for up to 70 participants. Participants also develop materials shared statewide via the Montana Learning Center website: <http://bitl.montanalearning.org>.

Contact David Erickson, The University of Montana, 406-243-5318, david.erickson@mso.umt.edu.

Technical Writing Essentials for Math and Science (TWEMS)

This project is designed to help teachers restructure math and science instruction to incorporate technical writing strategies, practices, and assessments. The project includes Summer Institutes, inservice workshops during the school years, and onsite support (both online and in person) from facilitators to ensure implementation. The project focuses on ten high-need districts in the Montana North Central Education Service Region and includes a partnership of Montana State University Northern, MNCSR, the Golden Triangle Curriculum Cooperative, and technical support from Montana State University Great Falls College of Technology.

Contact: Jeredene Mayfield, MNCSR, 434-2745, jeer@gtccmt.org.

Improving Middle School Students' Writing Proficiency through Teacher Professional Development—Writing Intervention Now (WIN) Program

This project forms a partnership with UM Western's School of Education, The University of Montana English Department, the Montana Small Schools Alliance, and Alder, Anaconda, Grant, Jackson, Reichle, Wisdom, Wise Rive, Butte Elementary, Dillon Elementary, Lima, Divide, and Melrose School Districts. Project funds cover training sessions, research by participants into writing assessment and instruction, and the development, administration, and scoring of a middle school writing assessment to be used as a statewide model.

Contact: Claudette Morton, Montana Small Schools Alliance, 447-4218, cmorton@metnet.mt.gov

Improving High School Writing Instruction and Assessment to Inform College Admission and Placement

This project partners the UM Department of English and School of Education, the Missoula College of Technology English Department, and the Corvallis and Superior School Districts to establish a regional writing assessment partnership to provide professional development and college credit in leadership, writing instruction and evaluation for area schools.

Contact Beverly Ann Chin, The University of Montana Missoula, 406-243-2463, Beverly.Chin@umontana.edu

Assessing Writing to Improve Proficiency for College

This project partners the MSU-Billings College of Technology English Department and MSU-Billings School of Education with the Shephard School District to establish a regional writing assessment partnership to provide professional development and college credit in writing instruction and evaluation for area schools.

Contact: Kathy Holt, Montana State University Billings, 406-657-2082, kholt@msubillings.edu

Using Early Assessment to Predict Placement and Improve Student Writing

This project partners the Montana State University Departments of English and of Education, the MSU Great Falls College of Technology, and the Centerville School District to establish a regional writing assessment partnership to provide professional development and college credit in writing instruction and evaluation for area schools. It also provides an online course for teachers of struggling writers to assist them in preparing students for college writing during the senior year.

Contact: Art Bangert, Montana State University Bozeman, 994-7427, abangert@montana.edu.