Standards Mapped Graduate Education and Mentoring Program

Principal Investigator

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Description of the Program

- Partnership between ***Florida Atlantic University*** and ***Broward County School District***, the nation's sixth largest fully-accredited school district
- Dedicated team of researchers, administrators, and teachers provide a strong foundation for the success of the program
- Institute created a new curriculum for graduate-level middle grade teacher education
    - Jointly developed with Broward District
    - Meetings scheduled regularly with the district to coordinate and improve the activities of the program
- Curriculum strongly based on technology and science integration
- After completion, teachers receive a master of science in teaching mathematics degree

Program Components

- Evening Spring and Fall semester classes
- Pedagogy Conferences during each Spring and Fall semester
    - Held on Saturdays
    - Participating teachers plan and deliver workshops
    - Lectures by invited faculty
    - Given to other mathematics teachers from the district
    - Foster communication and cooperation among teachers
- Intensive Summer Institutes
    - Ten days of workshops and lectures for mathematics teachers in the district. Workshops given by participating teachers
    - Summer course where participating teachers receive graduate level credit. Invited faculty give lectures from other states and countries
- Online community, mentoring and leadership training

Goals of Institute

- University Level
  Increase relevance and timeliness of University education for Middle Grade Mathematics teachers
    - Increase University-District Communication
    - Increase faculty awareness with teaching in other grade levels

- District Level
  Enhance the pedagogical content knowledge of SBBC Middle Grade Mathematics teachers to deliver quality mathematics education
    - Foster teacher leaders
    - Build community and networking among teachers
    - Increase technology knowledge
- Student Level
  Demonstrate a positive impact on student classroom performance and standardized tests
    - Evaluation component
    - Quantify the impact of Institute activities

Indicators of Success

- Evaluation Components
    - Monitor and report to NSF and Project leaders
    - Participating teacher interviews, class visits and questionnaires
    - District wide assessment test comparative analysis of classes
- Assessment Findings
  Studies demonstrate that teachers in the program
    - Increased their students scores in the Florida Comprehensive Achievement Test (with statistical significance)
    - Made mathematical knowledge content gains
    - Increased classroom and pedagogical effectiveness
    - Empowered for district wide and state wide leadership
- Leadership and Outreach
    - During the year 2009, the participating teachers and graduates of the program gave over 140 workshops and presentations within the nation, region, district, and their own schools
    - More than 20 of the graduates have assumed leadership positions within the district (curriculum specialists, department heads, coaches)

Technology Emphasis

- Supplement Grant was obtained to develop, train and integrate the use of ***GeoGebra*** in the classrooms
    - www.geogebra.org
- GeoGebra, Excel, PowerPoint, design and use of interactive web-materials, use of html editors are part of the classes, workshops, and summer institutes
- Teachers have shown growth in technology literacy
- Teachers have become trainers in technology
    - In the year 2009, 37 workshops were given nation wide by the graduates
- Teachers continue implementing technology in their classrooms