

*NEWS ADVISORY from*



## LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT

**LEADING EDGE!**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Susan Pettit Riley (517) 353-4884  
Stephen Serkaian or Annie Rzepecki (517) 853-2552

### **Lansing School District and PROM/SE Program Host Community Partners Meeting at the Kellogg Center**

#### **Joint Effort Continues to Push the Importance of Science and Math in Schools**

**(LANSING)**—The Lansing School District is partnering with Michigan State University's PROM/SE (Promoting Rigorous Outcomes in Mathematics and Science Education) program to rally support for the "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" initiative which will enable parents to promote math and science learning to their children. A community partners meeting will be held **from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday, May 21 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.**

Community leaders and PTA presidents have been invited to attend this community partners meeting, the purpose of which is to foster support from the community and move forward with a parent outreach initiative.

"The 'Mathematics Counts & Science Matters' initiative developed by the PROM/SE program will start a dialog in the community about the importance of math and science education to our children," said Dr. E. Sharon Banks, Superintendent of Lansing Schools. "The initiative also hopes to foster strong partnerships between parents, schools, and the community by providing the tools needed to help children set high goals and reach their highest potential."

"Studies have shown that U.S. student performance in math and science lags behind those in other countries and that many of our students are not prepared for college or the workplace after graduation," said William Schmidt, PROM/SE leader and distinguished faculty member at Michigan State University. According to school officials, the skills needed to succeed today are different than the skills many parents learned in school. A strong background in math and science opens doors to higher paying jobs and greater opportunities over a lifetime.

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The event will include a PROM/SE research overview, plans for the 2007-08 school year including a review of the “Mathematics Counts & Science Matters” initiative, and open discussion of Community Action Steps.

The PROM/SE program joins teachers and administrators throughout Ohio and Michigan with Michigan State University and the National Science Foundation in a five year development plan to enhance mathematics and science instruction, professional development, parent involvement, leadership, and student achievement.

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