

LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEADING EDGE!

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CONTACT: Susan Pettit-Riley (615) 397-3407 Stephen Serkaian or Annie Rzepecki (517) 853-2552

Lansing School District and MSU PROM/SE Project Team Up to Promote Math and Science Education

(LANSING) – The Lansing School District, in collaboration with Michigan State University's PROM/SE (Promoting Rigorous Outcomes in Mathematics and Science Education) project will kick off their "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" program with a presentation at the Lansing School Board meeting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, October 4, at the Lansing School District Building, 519 West Kalamazoo.

The "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" program is an innovative program that works in partnership with parents, teachers, schools, and community organizations to coordinate mathematics and science programs, and lays the foundation for success in school.

The MSU PROM/SE project is piloting the "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" program this year in the Lansing School District. Program organizers hope that the success of the program in Lansing will lead to its expansion in other districts.

"We are pleased that the Lansing School District was selected to participate in such an innovative pilot program," said Dr. Carolyn Stone, Parent Involvement Coordinator for the Lansing School District. "We hope this program will instill the importance of math and science education not only in our students, but in their parents as well."

Parent volunteers, who were trained in the program during the summer, will be visiting PTOs, schools, and community groups to give presentations that highlight why math and science are important to children's education and the resources that are available locally to parents and schools.

The program has developed parent guides to important mathematical concepts that children should master by the end of each grade. These guides will be distributed to Lansing school district families with a child in grade K-8 and are available through the Lansing School District Parent Teacher Resource Center or on-line at www.promse.msu.edu.

"The 'Mathematics Counts & Science Matters' program supports the new Michigan high school graduation requirements, including four years of math and three years of science, by helping to ensure a solid foundation for students in earlier grades," said Dr. Terry Joyner, MSU PROM/SE project consultant. "If we stress the importance of math and science now, students will be more encouraged to take higher level math courses later during their high school and college careers."

"Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" is developed by Michigan State University's PROM/SE project in collaboration with the Lansing School District. The program is funded by Michigan State University and the National Science Foundation.

The PROM/SE project is a comprehensive research and development effort to improve mathematics and science teaching and learning in grades K-12, based on assessment of students and teachers, improvement of standards and frameworks, and capacity building with teachers and administrators.

For more information about parent involvement programs in the Lansing school district, call Dr. Carolyn Stone at 755-4081. For more information about the "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" project, call Susan Pettit Riley at 353-4884 or visit "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" on the web at http://www.promse.msu.edu

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