

Working with MPS on Your Research Grant

District Improvement Plan (2014-15)

Goal: By the close of the 2014-15 school year Milwaukee Public Schools will realize a minimum of a five percentage point reduction in the achievement gap of MPS students at all grade levels in both math and reading and a ten percentage point increase in students meeting readiness on the ACT by providing support to all teachers and leaders, aligned to the Framework for Teaching (FFT) and Framework for Learning (FfL), to ensure high quality instruction occurs in every classroom.

Four Strategies:

1. **Teaching and Learning-** The district will provide a year-long focus on continued implementation of the Common Core State Standards, Comprehensive Literacy Plan and Comprehensive Math Science Plan. Other standards such as the Next Generation Science Standards and Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards will be integrated into the work across the year.
2. **Professional Development System-** The district will implement a robust professional development system designed to support all educators in the implementation of the Teaching and Learning strategy aligned to the Framework for Teaching.
3. **Educator Effectiveness-** The district will implement the Educator Effectiveness System for teachers anchored in common language to define high-quality, standards-based instruction. The district will also implement the Educator Effectiveness System for principals and assistant principals to guide administrative leadership development.
4. **Continuous Improvement System-** The district will implement a continuous improvement system that supports, measures, and informs Teaching and Learning, Professional Development, and the Educator Effectiveness System.

Facts to know:

1. Approval for any research involving a school or personnel within MPS must be authorized by the MPS Department of Research and Evaluation. The Office of Grants Development must authorize approval for any grant partnership.
2. Start the process early; begin conversations with interested individuals at the beginning of idea formulation.
3. MPS is looking for partners that will include their staff in the design and outcome measurement of any proposal.

Grants Development

5225 W. Vliet St., P.O. Box 2181 ♦ Milwaukee, WI 53201-2181

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Milwaukee Public Schools**Questions to consider:**

1. How does research project support the District Improvement Plan?
2. Does the research project align with the district's [Research Agenda](#)?
3. Do you have an executive summary?
4. Do you have particular schools in mind and rationale for the selection of those schools?
5. Have you reviewed the MPS website Partnership grant information, where the external partner to MPS is the applicant? <http://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/en/District/About-MPS/Departments/Office-of-Innovation/Grants.htm>
6. Have you completed the MPS Partnership Grant Intent Form? (use above web link and click on tab with Grant Intent form).
7. Have you scheduled a meeting with the Grants Manager, Marie Thompson (thompsmx@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) in the MPS Office of Grants Development and Deb Gurke (gurkedbe@milwaukee.k12.wi.us) in the MPS Office of Research and Evaluation?

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