THE NATIONAL MATH AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE is an agent of change, driving improvements in American student achievement in math and science. NMSI’s mission is to bring best practices to public school classrooms by replicating on a national scale programs that have data showing they produce solid results. Educators value our comprehensive, evidence-based approach because it delivers dramatic and sustainable results and fundamentally changes educational culture.

In 2011, the Laying the Foundation (LTF) teaching training organization merged with NMSI, putting in place a seamless system for supporting math and science education from middle school through college.

NMSI’s divisions include:

LAYING THE FOUNDATION is dedicated to providing the best content-based, pedagogy-driven, teacher-to-teacher training, which is supported by rigorous classroom-ready lessons and web-based resources to improve the quality of English, mathematics, and science instruction. LTF has trained over 36,000 teachers to date and has demonstrated dramatic increases in Advanced Placement* exam participation and success in STEM subjects. LTF believes that training, mentoring, and empowering the teacher corps will lead to high standards of academic excellence for all students.

THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT* TRAINING AND INCENTIVE PROGRAM increases the number of high school students succeeding in AP courses — which means they are much more likely to complete college. The APTIP formula for success includes: extra training for AP teachers, support from master teachers, more time on task for students in after-school and weekend prep sessions, as well as incentives for teachers and students to excel.

THE UTEACH PROGRAM encourages talented college students majoring in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to enter the teaching profession. The UTeach formula for success includes: tailored degree plans, coaching from master teachers, early practice teaching experience, and financial assistance. UTeach students graduate with their STEM degree and a teaching certificate with no extra time or cost.

GAME-CHANGING RESULTS
The APTIP program has nearly doubled the number of students taking and passing Advanced Placement courses in participating states.

+ Consecutive progress for three years proves APTIP works: 2008-2011 results from 63 schools in six states showed a 124 percent average increase in passing rates on math, science and English AP exams - nearly six times the national average.
+ Progress among minority students was even more pronounced: College Board results showed a remarkable 216 percent increase in passing scores on math, science and English AP exams among African-American and Hispanic students, over four times the national average.
+ APTIP also is addressing the "gender gap" in critical fields of math and science, as the passing rate for female students has increased 144 percent - over seven times the national average.

*Advanced Placement and AP are registered trademarks of the College Board.
Originated by The University of Texas at Austin in 1997, the UTeach Program is one of the fastest-growing teacher preparation programs in the country:

- UTeach is now being implemented in 29 universities in the U.S.
- Enrollment has more than tripled in three years and reached the milestone of 5,500 students in fall 2011.
- More than 82 percent of the graduates who become teachers are still in the classroom after five years, compared to a national average of 65 percent.
- By 2017, the 13 universities in the first cohort of participating schools will graduate more than 1,000 math and science teachers a year. Those graduates alone have the potential to impact more than a million students during their careers.

EXPANDING OUR SCOPE

In fall 2010, NMSI also launched the new Initiative for Military Families (IMF) to provide AP courses in math, science, and English for students in military families. NMSI is partnering with the Military Child Education Coalition, the Military Impacted Schools Association and the Department of Defense Education Activity to implement the IMF program in a total of 29 high schools where there are high concentrations of children with family members serving in the military. Commitments have already been made to boost the number to over 50 schools in 2012.

In order to reach rural schools without access to full AP programs, NMSI also is pioneering AP instruction online in South Dakota through the Learning Power program, which has rapidly grown to reach half the school districts in the state. NMSI also is supporting an AP incentive program in New Orleans through Advanced NOLA with Tulane University and is partnering with the Legacy Foundation to bring APTIP to Colorado.

FUNDING SUPPORT

A non-profit organization, NMSI has received major funding from Exxon Mobil Corporation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, with additional support from the Carnegie Corporation, Texas Instruments Foundation, and Lockheed Martin Corporation.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Help us multiply success across our nation. We are off to a great start, but we need more allies for this crucial national mission. You can get involved by:

- Providing a donation. Help from corporations, foundations and individuals is needed to move math and science education forward.
- Applying for a grant. Encourage your state or university leaders to apply for NMSI grants.
- Supporting NMSI programs in your area. Local donations will leverage the impact of NMSI grants.
- Contacting government officials. Call on your elected leaders to support science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) as education priorities.