

## **NINE HIGH SCHOOLS WILL BE FIRST IN AN EXPANDING INDIANA PROGRAM TO BOOST STUDENTS' CAREER HOPES THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL MATH AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE**

Dr. Tony Bennett, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, today announced a new initiative to increase college and career readiness among Indiana students, especially in the areas of math and science.

A program to boost the quantity and quality of Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup> (AP) courses—called the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program in Indiana, or “AP-TIP IN”—will be introduced during the 2012-2013 academic year in nine high schools, with at least 33 high schools around the state scheduled to be involved during the five-year initiative.

Through a far-reaching partnership to expand training and incentives for AP\* teachers in math, science, and English, students in the participating schools will become better prepared for college and for success in the highly technical and competitive jobs of the future.

The nine high schools who are first to embark on this initiative are:

- Concord High School
- Elkhart Central High School
- Elkhart Memorial High School
- Jeffersonville High School
- Mississinewa High School
- Perry Meridian High School
- Pike High School
- Southport High School
- Speedway High School

Representatives from participating schools, the business sector, higher education, and government were present at the announcement today held in the Indiana Statehouse.

Besides the Indiana Department of Education and school leaders from numerous communities, other AP-TIP IN partners include the following:

- **The National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI), which has made a \$7 million grant to implement additional math, science, and English AP<sup>®</sup> courses in Indiana.** With this grant, made possible by U.S. Department of Education funding, Indiana joins Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Kentucky, Massachusetts, and Virginia, which have become partners in NMSI's highly successful AP<sup>®</sup> initiative. Find NMSI at <http://nationalmathandscience.org>.
- **The University of Notre Dame, whose Institute for Educational Initiatives will administer the AP-TIP IN program.** Find AP-TIP IN details at <http://iei.nd.edu/programs/advanced-placement-training-incentive-program-ap-tip-in/>.
- **Corporate and foundation supporters, including BioCrossroads, an enterprise catalyzing the continued growth of Indiana's life sciences industry.** Notre Dame's Institute for Educational Initiatives has already overseen the training of about 225 AP math, science and English teachers—a key step toward making AP-TIP IN a success. Notre Dame's efforts are supported with assistance from BioCrossroads, the Lumina Foundation, and the Lilly Endowment.

NMSI was launched in 2007 by top leaders in business, education, and science to reverse the troubling decline in American math and science education.

Dr. Bennett recently announced AP data that show more Indiana schools than ever are reaching the state's goal for 25 percent of high school graduates to have received qualifying scores of 3, 4, or 5 on AP tests.

"More Indiana students are acquiring the skills necessary to graduate high school prepared for college and the 21st century workforce," said Dr. Bennett. "Indiana's participation in the NMSI initiative will bring our state's students—and our economy—even farther along the path toward a successful, sustainable future."

AP courses, part of the college readiness programs of the College Board, provide students access to challenging, post-secondary experiences in high school. A student who receives a qualifying score on an AP test, typically after a rigorous college-level course taught by an outstanding teacher, can receive college credit in that subject. AP testing is one measure Indiana uses as an indicator of college and career readiness.

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