

M² Middle Matters

is a collaborative project between James Madison University and Hopewell City Public Schools to:

- Provide an effective accelerated, alternative route to Middle School Science and/or Mathematics teacher licensure for highly qualified career switchers.
- Provide support in designing and implementing a recruitment, induction and retention plan to keep highly effective Science, Mathematics, and Technologically skilled teachers in Hopewell City Public Schools
- Provide support for enhancing the rigor and effectiveness of Science, Mathematics and Technology skills curriculum and instruction/learning in Hopewell City Public Schools
- Design, implement and evaluate a replicable model of accelerated, alternative teacher preparation that produces highly effective educators for high-needs rural and urban school districts, including those serving military families

ACCELERATED, ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE PROJECT – mid-career professionals (career switchers) with non-education degrees in Science, Mathematics, Technology / Computer fields (or equivalent content area coursework for licensure) can become fully-licensed in STEM subject areas within two years, while working full time in their own Hopewell City Public Schools classroom. The M² project will provide high quality and responsive support through Professional Studies modules (self-paced and competency based), a field supervisor assigned especially to the candidates, a mentoring team consisting of a seasoned teacher mentor, the field supervisor and a school administrator assigned to each candidate, and access to the Hopewell House for support resources and services.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT will be provided to HCPS teachers on effective instruction of Science, Mathematics and Technology skills, effective integration of technology into the curriculum, and effective instruction and support of high-needs learners. Professional development will be offered through a series of planned, on-going large group, small group, one-on-one and independent learning opportunities with educators who have expertise in the topic. In addition to this planned professional development series, there will be three specialized opportunities: Enhancing Mentoring Skills, Professional Learning Community for Effective Instruction in STEM content, and Teacher Leadership Academy.

M² Middle Matters is funded by the US Department of Education

Contact information:

Rebecca Nelson, Project Manager
Hopewell House #2 & #3
245 E Broadway Avenue
Hopewell, VA 23806
804-477-8210
nelso2rs@jmu.edu

Cheri Beverly, Principal Investigator
James Madison University
Memorial Hall, MSC 6913
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
540-568-6262
beverlcl@jmu.edu