Teaching English Learners Early Mathematics (TEEM):
An i3 Development Project Addressing Absolute Priority 4(a)

Abstract

California State University, San Bernardino, University Enterprises Corporation (CSUSB) proposes the Teaching English Learners Early Mathematics (TEEM) project to improve the academic achievement of English Learners in pre-K through grade 6 mathematics. TEEM will be a partnership between CSUSB, the Riverside County Office of Education, Nuview Union School District, Romoland School District, and Romoland Head Start and State Preschool programs. TEEM will innovate through a focus on inquiry for students, teachers and principals. The project will implement and evaluate a novel combination of mutually supportive interventions. TEEM will support English Learner (EL) students in structured inquiry through interactive mathematics notebooks to develop language, study and metacognitive skills. It will support teachers and principals through intensive professional development and cycles of inquiry following the Japanese Lesson Study model.

The goals of the four-year development project include:

1. To improve the academic achievement of ELs
2. To improve teacher knowledge and beliefs for teaching mathematics to ELs
3. To improve the teaching of math to ELs
4. To develop principals as instructional leaders in mathematics.

The project is estimated to reach approximately 4000 students.