Unified School District 259 dba Wichita Public Schools

Project Name: Project DREAM

Project Director: Stacey Painchaud
Telephone: (316) 973-8300 E-mail: spainchaud@usd259.net

Number of Schools Served: 1 Number of Students Served: 750
Year 1 Funding: $1,007,711

Wichita Public Schools (WPS) serves a very diverse population of more than 50,000 students who speak over 70 languages in their homes. As a Title 1 district, WPS is the largest, most urban, and most diverse school district in Kansas.

WPS will use Magnet Schools Assistance Program funds to significantly revise the magnet program at Mueller Aerospace and Engineering Discovery Magnet Elementary School to increase levels of student achievement and to reduce racial group isolation. Mueller has an enrollment of approximately 550 students but has the capacity to serve 750 students. It is located in the innermost part of the city in a neighborhood that has a predominantly Black population.

Project DREAM—DiscoveRy Engineering and Aerospace Magnet—is designed as a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) program in which students will learn core subjects through constructivist methodologies under the aerospace and engineering theme. The project will weave together the following proven, evidence-based curricula into a comprehensive, 21st-century education program: effective methods of instruction; integration of technology into learning activities; support services; effective partnerships with families; and supportive partnerships with businesses, industry, museums, and higher education.