

## **Mathematics Learning Communities 2 (MLC2) - Project Abstract**

The Mathematics Learning Communities Project was founded in 2008 and has functioned over the last seven years through the support of two Mathematics and Science Partnership Grants and two College Access Challenge Grants.

The core purpose of the MLC Project has been to provide services and programming designed to strengthen the math preparedness of middle-achieving high school seniors to assist them in avoiding the costs in time, dollars, discouragement and reduced degree completion that result from required math remediation when making the transition from high school to college and career.

The Two-Tier Strategy for Strengthening Math Preparedness is grounded in the assessment of student readiness to engage in credit-bearing college-level math instruction, and providing senior year course offerings to address the different levels of readiness determined.

The two courses making up the Two-Tier Strategy have complementary purposes:

- Senior Math is a college preparatory course based on the fourteen algebraic competencies taught in the community college developmental (not for degree-credit) math courses. Students who have completed the Accuplacer – Elementary Algebra pre-test assessment, and scored below the required cut-score, will be encouraged to enroll in Senior Math with the goal of both mastering the fourteen competencies and achieving the established CCSNH cut-score on the posttest, thereby avoiding remediation when transitioning to their college experience.
- Topics in Applied College Mathematics is a college-level math course offered via the Running Start Program for students achieving the established cut-score on the pre-test assessment. The TAC.Math course not only satisfies the math requirement for many Associate Degree programs at the NH community colleges, but the credits earned have been accepted for transfer at more than thirty senior colleges and universities.

The MLC Project has succeeded in attracting thirty-two High School Partners. These schools represent a population of institutions as diverse as Profile School and Pinkerton Academy. During the 2013-14 AY, more than 490 students were enrolled in Senior Math and more than 245 students were enrolled in TAC.Math, statewide. The expectation is that in the next two years – with the support of the MSP Program – that the combined enrollment of the Senior Math and TAC.Math courses will exceed 1,000 students.

During the next three years the MLC2 Project would endeavor to: enhance the support to its existing partners; recruit additional HS Partners; continue to advance the professional development for the math faculty teaching both of the Two-Tier Strategy courses; and continue to assess the success of the project by measuring student outcomes.

The MLC2 Project is pleased to be partnering with Pembroke Academy as its LEA, with Greg Brighenti, Director of Curriculum, serving as both primary contact and a member of the MLC - Project Leadership Team.