



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Center for School Improvement & Policy Studies

Building partnerships, developing improvement networks, and increasing student achievement and success in schools across Idaho.





Idaho Special Education Support & Technical Assistance (SESTA)

Idaho SESTA assists the Idaho State Department of Education, Special Education Department by providing professional development and monitoring supports to build the capacity of district administrators and school-based personnel to (a) increase positive students' outcomes in inclusive environments through evidence-based practices and (b) increase achievement on IDEA indicators.

District and School Improvement

Idaho Building Capacity (IBC)

IBC empowers successful educational leaders, Capacity Builders (CBs), to partner with superintendents and administrators in building a strong internal leadership structure within districts and schools that demonstrate a high need for support, serve a high proportion of at-risk students, and have limited local resources to meet those needs. CBs assist school and district leaders in implementing key improvement initiatives.

Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics

STEM Action Center (STEM AC) Support Project

The ultimate aim for this project is to provide collaboration and administrative support to the STEM AC, whose mission is for Idaho to become a STEM business destination. Summer institutes for teachers across Idaho will be developed and implemented for teachers to learn ways to integrate STEM into classroom curriculum, thus engaging students in critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, and innovation, which are all 21st century skills that employers require. These summer institutes reach more than 45,000 students across the state of Idaho.

Positive Behavior Supports to Schools

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) provides a framework to organize evidence-based behavioral interventions that help each student succeed in school, both academically and socially. Schools that implement Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) services can achieve the following outcomes: increased academic achievement, increased school safety, decreased bullying and problem behavior, and an enhanced positive school culture.

Rural Schools Research (RK-12)

The RK-12 project is funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. This four-year project is testing whether the Idaho Rural Implementation (I-RIM), a set of support strategies, can accelerate the implementation of PBIS in rural schools. The project is working with 43 rural Idaho schools.

Mountain Home Partnership

This project provides training and assistance to over 200 teachers and staff, impacting 3,870 students in the Mountain Home School District. Our goal is to improve social-emotional skills and reduce disciplinary incidents among students and to foster a safe and positive environment where all students can successfully engage in learning.





Boise State University Regional Math Center

The Regional Math Center is a partnership between the Idaho State Department of Education and Idaho's institutions of higher education. The Boise State Regional Math Center provides mathematics professional development to public school teachers in grades K-12 that is linked to research on student math achievement, is accessible to educators across Region 3, and develops leadership capacity at the school and district levels.

Researching Order of Teaching (ROOT)

ROOT is an innovative Design and Development project that investigates classroom interventions to improve grades 6-8 students' mathematics achievement in the content area of modeling and problem solving. Leveraging ongoing partnerships with regional schools, many rural with low enrollment, the project engages 100 teachers in the co-production of professional knowledge.

College of Education (COED) Grants Management/Support Services

CSI &PS offers support for to COED college faculty and staff in their research and coordinates grant management to help increase scholarly activity resulting in external funding. This support includes grant management to the Principal Investigators (PIs) and project staff through coordinating with the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) to manage budgets, provide timely fiscal services, research new grant opportunities, and to facilitate required reporting.

International Field Studies

This project provides undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to examine an educational system in another country. Annual studies offered in Belize and Japan provide short-term cultural immersions offering participants the opportunity to meet and work with a cross section of students, meet with teachers, administrators, and other educators as well as to learn from university and education officials, and community members to gain a unique perspective into the nation's systems of education.

Postsecondary Rewarding Education is Possible (PREP) Academy

In partnership with the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, PREP Academy offers a summer college experience for students with disabilities ages 14 to 21 years old who are interested in attending a two- or four-year college. This five-day experience on the Boise State University campus, focuses on career readiness, job exploration and self-advocacy.

Summer Academy

Since 1985, Boise State's Summer Academy has offered fun and challenging all-day academic/adventure day camps for students entering grades 2-9. Students in the Moving and Thinking Program (grades 2-6) engage in a school-like setting, featuring active learning, games, and activities in math, physical education, arts, coding, and science. Students in the Bicycle Adventure Program (grades 7-9) embark on daily bicycle explorations as part of social learning and academic enrichment curriculum. Instruction led by Boise State faculty, education students, and certified local classroom teachers.





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