

Invitation to Participate In a Partnership School

District Elementary School

The Math and Science Academy (MSA) of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, a program with a 16-year history of providing high-quality professional development to schools in northern New Mexico, is inviting you to join them in developing a **Partnership School**.

The **Partnership School** will be a collaboration between an existing district elementary school and its community, an institution of higher education with a teacher pre-service program, and MSA. The purposes of the Partnership School are to:

- Build and sustain a school that is a community of learners who are engaged in their work and who think critically and deeply about the world around them,
- Research and develop a model for elementary school education where preservice teachers, in-service teachers, and principals have opportunities to continually improve their practice and the profession of education,
- Provide a model of best practices and innovation for educators, policy makers, and the general public, and
- Effectively partner with a school community to support students.

The specific goals, approaches, and measures of success for the **Partnership School** will be developed collaboratively with the partners.

The roles of a district elementary school in the Partnership School could include:

- Providing a site for practicum training for pre-service teacher candidates;
- Mentoring teacher candidates, participating in action research, and teaching higher education courses;
- Collaborating with higher education faculty and MSA in identifying and implementing educational best practices;
- Participating in grant-funded educational research involving the district school; and
- Serving as a model for educational best practices.

We are seeking a district school or a BIE-operated school for the **Partnership School** that has:

- Consistent leadership with a commitment to improving education,
- Staff committed to their professional learning and to the advancement of the education profession,
- A willingness to commit to a program that leads to an institutionalized program for continuous professional learning,
- A commitment to making connections with the school community to support students' learning and success, and
- A willingness to become a model for educators, policy makers, and the general public.

The school will be in one of the following counties: Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe, San Miguel, Sandoval, and Taos.

How to Learn More

Information sessions will be held on the following dates and at the following locations:

- Taos, March 7 (time/location TBA)
- Espanola, March 8 (time/location TBA)
- Santa Fe, March 9 (time/location TBA)

How to Apply

Submit a letter of interest that

- Identifies your school,
- Describes your school (demographics; history; resources such as staff, programs, and grants; successes; and goals for improving the outcomes of your school),
- Provides your response to each of the items listed in "We are seeking...", above, and
- Describes your interest in this partnership.

Submit your letter of interest to:

Math and Science Academy
Community Partnerships Office
Los Alamos, National Laboratory
P.O. Box 1663, Mailstop: A117
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Deadline for letters of interest is COB, April 15, 2017

Process for selecting partners:

1. Review letters of interest and select finalists
2. Participate in interviews and discussions at the candidate's site to permit each party to better determine if the partnership will suit them
3. Select partners
4. Develop partnership agreements

We anticipate having agreements in place by July 2017, and begin developing the Partnership School soon thereafter.

Related Links

- [MSA video](#)
- [What it means to be a professional development school, NAPDS, 2008](#)
- [Great to influential - Teacher leaders' role in supporting instruction, March 2016](#)