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Understanding the Impact of the Mathematics Advancement in Teaching through Professional Development (MAT-PD2) Program.

The Mathematics Advancement in Teaching through Professional Development Phase II (MAT-PD2) program is a mathematics and science partnership among Jackson State University and high needs school districts throughout the state of Mississippi. It is aimed at enhancing teacher content knowledge and self-efficacy. The initiative goals include improved teacher practice through mathematics content enactment for the effective implementation of Common Core State Standards in middle and elementary mathematics classrooms. During an extensive three-week summer institute participants engaged in classroom simulations and inquiry-based activities designed to cultivate deep conceptual understanding of both K – 8 mathematics content and mathematical pedagogy. The professional development facilitators modeled research-based teaching strategies that the participants have been observed utilizing in their own classrooms. Outcome data results also showed that there was a statistically significant increase in teacher content knowledge and self-efficacy among participants. Ongoing data collection and analysis will consider the relationship between participant use of MAT-PD2 materials and strategies and student attitudes and content knowledge. (Received September 21, 2016)