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Purpose

The Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Northeast and Islands is studying the implementation of a professional development program called Visual Access to Mathematics Professional Development (“VAM PD”). REL Northeast and Islands, is sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) at the U.S. Department of Education. This evaluation will examine the effects of VAM PD on teacher knowledge and application of what they have learned as well as student mathematics outcomes related to proportional reasoning and attitudes toward math. This study has been approved by the IES, and data collection activities have been approved by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Procedures

To understand the impact of VAM PD on teacher and student level outcomes, we will randomly assign schools to either a treatment or a control group.

*If the school you teach at is assigned to a **treatment** group, then you would be expected to attend VAM PD sessions on [DATES] and participate in data collection activities throughout the year.*

*If the school you teach at is assigned to the **control** group, then you would be expected to participate in data collection activities throughout the year. Access to professional development similar to VAM PD will be available upon the completion of this study.*

All participants, regardless of which group your school is assigned to, will support data collection activities throughout the year. In total, we anticipate teacher participants will spend a *total of 4.5 hours outside of regular contract hours* to support data collection activities for this study. This includes:

- Teacher participants will be asked to complete three measures in the summer of 2023, and again in the spring of 2024. Each measure consists of multiple choice and/or short answer questions related to proposal reasoning and mathematics instruction. In total, we expect that teacher participants will spend no more than 3.5 hours of time competing these measures.

- In addition, teacher participants will support the collection of student level measures in the fall of 2023 and the spring of 2024. In total, we expect that teacher participants will spend no more than 1 hour outside of regular contract hours to support the collection of student level measures (e.g., review instructions for administering student level measures electronically and on paper).

Risks

There are few anticipated or known risks in participating in this study. Data collected and maintained by, or under the auspices of, IES under a pledge of confidentiality shall be treated in a manner that will ensure that individually identifiable data will be used only for statistical purposes and will be accessible only to authorized persons.

Benefits

Your participation in the evaluation will contribute to an understanding of instructional strategies to support all students, including multilingual learners in mathematics. You will also receive a \$325 stipend for participating in all data collection activities.

Voluntary Participation

Participation in all study activities is voluntary. You also can withdraw from the study at any time. Individuals who decline to participate or later withdraw from the study will face no personal or professional repercussions.

Confidentiality

Your responses will not be connected to your personally identifiable information. Per the policies and procedures required by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, Title I, Part E, Section 183, responses to this data collection will be used only for statistical purposes. The reports prepared for this study will summarize findings across the sample and will not associate responses with a specific school, district, or individual. Any willful disclosure of such information for nonstatistical purposes, except as required by law, is a class E felony. All data collected as a part of this research will be destroyed at the conclusion of the study, currently planned for August 31, 2026.

More Information

If you would like more information about this study, you may contact Jill Battal of REL Northeast and Islands at (202) 403-5163.

If you have concerns or questions about your rights as a research participant, contact AIR's Institutional Review Board (IRB), which is responsible for the protection of project participants, at IRB@air.org, toll free at 1-800-634-0797, or c/o IRB, 1400 Crystal Drive, 10th Floor, Arlington VA, 22202.

Informed Consent

By completing this form, you are indicating that you have read and understood the information provided to you about your participation.

[Check Box; check all that apply] Please indicate your preference for participation in this study:

- Yes, I want to participate in this study
- No, I do not wish to participate in this study.

[Short Answer] Please type your full name here to indicate your signature on this form.

[Short Answer] Full Name

[Dropdown] In what CT School District will you teach during the 2023-24 school year?

[Short Answer] In what CT School will you teach during the 2023-24 school year?

[Short Answer] Please provide your school issued email address that we can use for correspondence related to this project.

[Short Answer] Please provide your CT state issued teacher ID number. If you do not know your state issued teacher ID number, you can look it up here.