



Regional Partnership:

Concurrent Enrollment Teacher Training Program Report to the Legislature 1/15/18

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Northwest Regional Partnership: Concurrent Enrollment Teacher Training Program Report to the Legislature as required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 48, Laws 2016, Ch. 189, Art. 25, Section 58

The report prepared by staff at Lakes Country Service Cooperative (Minnesota Statute 123A.21) with assistance from staff from Northwest Service Cooperative and Minnesota State University-Moorhead.

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1. Executive Summary – Northwest Regional Partnership

In 2016, The Legislature originally responded to a pilot program in Northwest Minnesota. The Northwest and Lakes Country regions cover 90 member districts. In data collection from member districts, we learned that of our 300+ concurrent enrollment teachers, approximately 75% are in need of additional graduate course work to comply with Higher Learning Commission requirements. This pilot program was to meet the needs of concurrent enrollment instructors in the Lakes Country and Northwest Service Cooperative regions of Minnesota. The program and the legislative appropriation began the process of creating course content, admitting high school teachers into Minnesota State University/Moorhead (MSUM) for Master's level coursework and courses beginning in January of 2016.

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1. Executive Summary – Northwest Regional Partnership, continued

Lakes Country Service Cooperative (LCSC), the fiscal host, is a public, non-profit membership-based organization dedicated to providing services that help make our members successful. LCSC is one of nine service cooperatives in the State of Minnesota. In this project, we are collaborating with all service cooperatives by ascertaining teacher need in each region but specifically working with Northwest Service Cooperative and Metro ECSU in engaging with college partners.



1. Executive Summary – Northwest Regional Partnership, continued

The Northwest Regional Partnership Concurrent Enrollment Program Manager is Josh Nelson, LCSC Manager of Education Services. Josh is a licensed Business Education teacher, K-12 Principal and Superintendent. He has previous experience in PreK-12 systems as a Secondary Business Education teacher and Secondary School Principal. Josh has served as the Manager of Education Services at LCSC since 2008. As part of his role, Josh manages over \$1,000,000 in grant activity on an annual basis.

Northwest Service Cooperative (NWSC) is the service cooperative that serves member districts, cities, counties and non-profits in the far northwest part of Minnesota or Minnesota Development Regions 1 and 2, which includes the counties of Kittson, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Beltrami, Polk, Pennington, Red Lake, Clearwater, Norman, Mahnomen and Hubbard. LCSC will collaborate with NWSC to distribute information regarding the project to their membership. NWSC leveraged their relationships with member teachers and administrators to clearly articulate details of the program and the processes to enroll.

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1. Executive Summary – Northwest Regional Partnership, continued

MSUM has developed an online education curriculum to allow eligible secondary school teachers to attain graduate credit at a reduced credit rate in multiple content areas. All content developed as a part of this project will qualify and contribute to teachers meeting the Higher Learning Commission requirements. MSUM also provides instructors for all graduate courses and oversees the enrollment process and all details related.

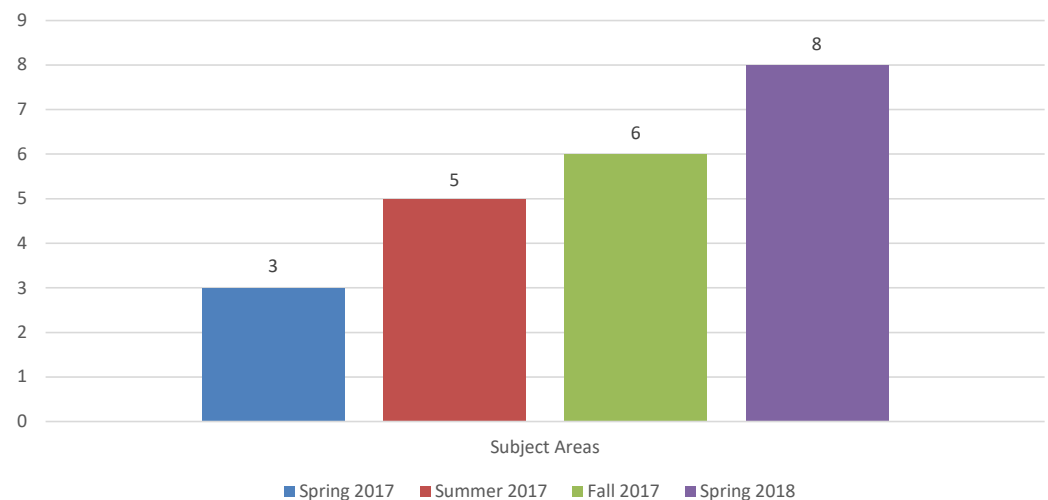


2. Data and Graphs – Northwest Regional Partnership

I. Subject Areas

Beginning in the summer of 2016, after legislative passage, staff from Lakes Country Service Cooperative and Northwest Service Cooperative collaborated with department heads at MSUM to develop high-quality, effective programming for online course development of Master's level courses. Working with each department and leadership at MSUM, we were able to begin online asynchronous courses in January of 2017. Our first three content areas were subject areas of extremely high need: Math, History and English. We added Communications and Biology in the summer of 2017, Political Science in the fall of 2017 and Business and Chemistry in the spring of 2018. We continue to develop and dialogue with other departments and other courses which are in development. Additionally, the statewide partnership will look to offer courses in additional subject areas.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM:
SUBJECT AREAS



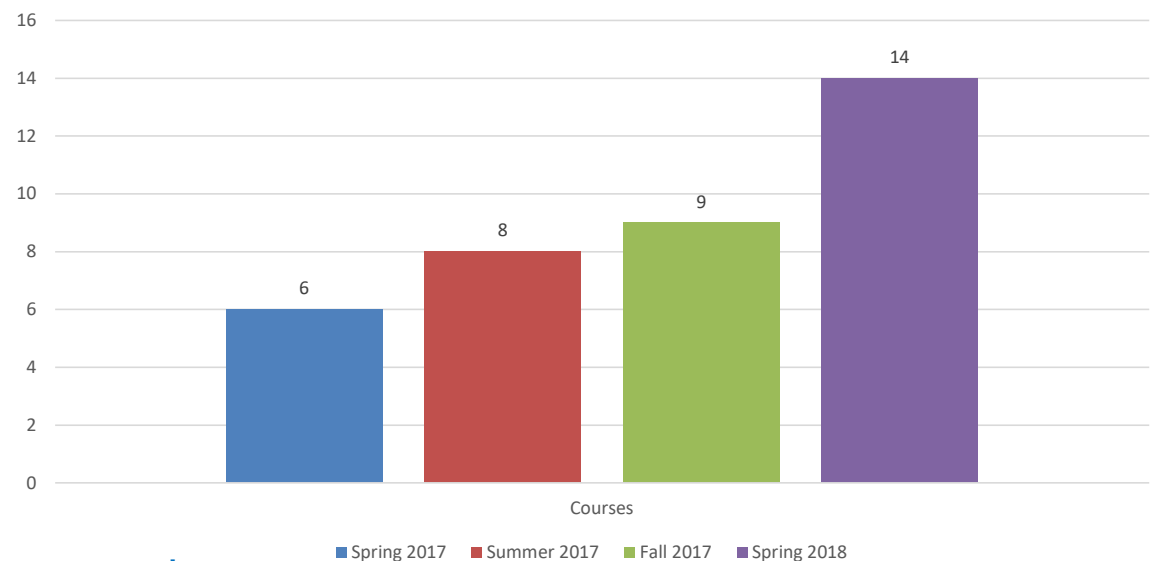


2. Data and Graphs – Northwest Regional Partnership, continued

II. Courses Offered - Northwest Regional Partnership

Each Master's level course developed by MSUM faculty is designed to meet the high-quality standards of the University. These are 500 or 600 Level University courses designed to give high school teachers access to high quality content to match their strengths in teaching pedagogy. Early courses include: Plant Evolution, Communication Theory, American Newcomers, Advanced Studies in Shakespeare, The Late Roman World and Mathematical Problem Solving. Each department at MSUM offering courses is developing cohorts of at least 18 graduate credits to meet Higher Learning Commission guidelines.

CONCURRENT ENTOLLMENT TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM: COURSES OFFERED



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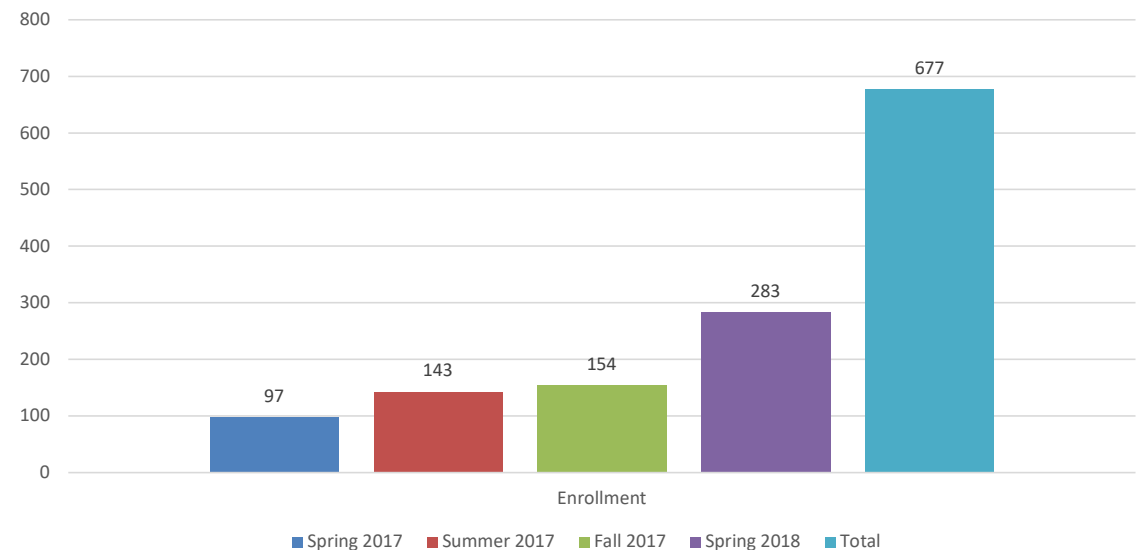


2. Data and Graphs – Northwest Regional Partnership, continued

III. Enrollment by class - Northwest Regional Partnership

From the onset in January of 2017, the program has seen continued growth. With the addition of new courses and the Statewide Partnership, we anticipate accelerated enrollment as evident here in the spring of 2018. In addition to advertising openings through the Minnesota Service Cooperatives and databases, the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP) and the Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) will share open courses with administrators throughout the state of Minnesota. The enrollment data below shows the number of teachers who have enrolled in our courses. Some teachers will enroll in multiple courses to attain the 18 required credits.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM:
ENROLLMENT BY CLASS



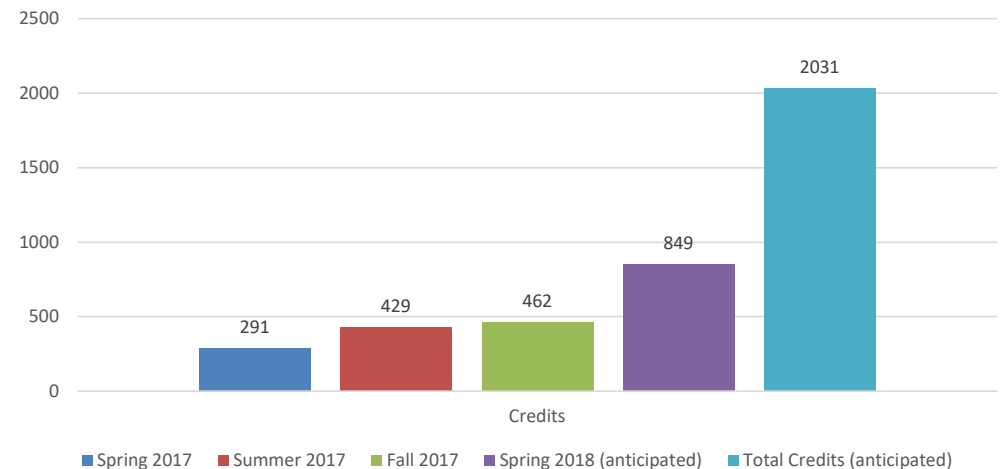


2. Data and Graphs – Northwest Regional Partnership, continued

IV. Credits Earned - Northwest Regional Partnership

The ultimate goal of the partnership is to continue Minnesota's strong tradition of concurrent enrollment courses offered to our high school students. To do so will continue to be a major undertaking. We anticipate continued growth as MSUM and other college partners build capacity. However, resources may soon become limited and capacity among colleges to deliver Master's level content is limited. It is our goal that these developed courses will continue to serve teachers throughout Minnesota. In addition, it is our hope that colleges such as MSUM will develop Master's level curriculum for the next generation of teachers that integrates high quality content with exceptional pedagogy in curriculum and instruction. Additional funding by the State of Minnesota may be necessary to build additional capacity, hire additional college faculty and grow the program to ensure the future of concurrent enrollment throughout Minnesota.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM:
CREDITS EARNED





3. Student Demographics

To date, the Northwest Regional Partnership has served 462 enrolled total teachers from 158 school districts in Minnesota. These 462 have enrolled in 677 courses as detailed above. The regional breakdown is by service cooperative region. Keep in mind that the Lakes Country Service Cooperative and Northwest Service Cooperative regions had a head start due to the 2016 legislation.

- Lakes Country Service Cooperative (Fergus Falls) – 178 Teachers from 37 Districts
- Metro Educational Cooperative Service Unit (Arden Hills) – 41 Teachers from 12 Districts
- Northeast Service Cooperative (Mountain Iron) – 14 Teachers from 7 Districts
- National Joint Powers Alliance (Staples) – 19 Teachers from 11 Districts
- Northwest Service Cooperative (Thief River Falls) – 89 Teachers from 27 Districts
- Resource Training and Solutions (Sartell) – 34 Teachers from 20 Districts
- South Central Service Cooperative (North Mankato) – 18 Teachers from 8 Districts
- Southeast Service Cooperative (Rochester) – 31 Teachers from 13 Districts
- Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative (Marshall) – 38 Teachers from 23 Districts



Jeremy Kovash
Lakes Country Service Cooperative Executive Director
218-739-3273
jkovash@lcsc.org

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