



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02186

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November 13, 2018

Sam Catherine, Johnston, Ed.D.
Jess Gropen, Ph.D.
CAST
40 Harvard Mills Square, Suite 3
Wakefield, MA 01880

Dear Drs. Johnston and Gropen:

Thank you for the invitation to serve as a school site partner the project you are proposing to the National Science Foundation: *“Exploring the Impact of a Peer Tutor Teacher Exchange (APTTE) on Minority Students in High School Mathematics.”* As the Superintendent of Milton Public Schools and on behalf of the mathematics teachers and students in our district, the proposed project aligns with our school and district mathematics achievement goals and I am pleased to offer my commitment to the project should it be funded. I understand that you will be partnered with Dr. Adrian B. Mims Sr. of The Calculus Project to develop and evaluate an intervention that includes a web-based peer tutoring environment to support high school minority peer tutors and teachers in ninth grade math classes.

The proposed project builds on the success of The Calculus Project and will support teachers in developing practices that support minority students’ achievement and engagement in mathematics, while also building the leadership and teaching skills of the peer tutors. I am confident that the APTTE platform, as proposed, will fill a pressing need for our minority students and has the potential to expand the pipeline of minority students who pursue teaching and other mathematics-related pathways beyond high school.

The mission of The Calculus Project at Milton Public Schools is to support students who may be historically absent from high level mathematics classes on a trajectory toward success in calculus in their senior year. The district began working with Dr. Mims five years ago to replicate The Calculus Project with 20 rising eighth graders. Today, approximately 100 students participate in the program with 70 percent of our first cohort enrolled in honors or Advanced Placement Calculus.

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I will actively support CAST and The Calculus Project in identifying and recruiting high school teachers for this project. I understand that our work will include participation in the co-design of the APPTE intervention, which will take place mainly in the first two years of the project (2019-2021). Further, I understand and will support the participation of APTTE teachers and peer tutors in professional learning. We understand that our participating teachers will receive stipends, and that we will cover the costs for substitute teachers.

I wish you success in securing funding for this exciting initiative.

Sincerely,



Mary C. Gormley
Superintendent

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