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**MNU School of Education Helping Teachers Analyze Instruction Effectiveness**

OLATHE, KAN, -- Local teacher leaders from select high need schools have been chosen to participate in training to analyze instruction with a goal to increase effectiveness in their schools.

[Project “Focusx2i”](http://pdkintl.org/programs-resources/scholarships-awards/innovation-and-impact-grant/), which is funded by a Phi Delta Kappa lmpact and Innovation grant, provides training, resources and video analysis software. The software allows users to video record themselves in class, review the recording, tag results and accumulate data for analysis. The results, according to Project Director Jill Gonzales Bravo can lead to improved instruction.

“It’s a powerful tool for observation, data analysis and reflection,” says Gonzalez Bravo, who serves as director of Clinical and Field Based Experiences in MNU’s School of Education.

Participants will receive training on co-teaching, mentoring strategies, and the use of Focusx2i software. Additionally they will attend dinner and discussion events that focus on increasing rigor in the classroom. The first event is set for October 6 at MNU.

“The teacher leaders will be encouraged and equipped to promote job-embedded professional development and serve as a liaison between their schools and MNU,” Gonzales Bravo said. “As liaisons, participants will work with university faculty to provide effective clinical placements for MNU teacher candidates.”

*Participants*

***Turner District***

*Turner Sixth Grade Academy: Carrie Weber, Monica Roland*

*Midland Trail Elementary: Liz Burton, Chelsea Hansen, Ashley Copple*

***Kansas City Kansas District***

*Central Middle School: Jodi Reno, Ty Collins*

***Bonner Springs District***

*Edwardsville Elementary: Brittany Jonker*

***Gardner District***

*Gardner Edgerton High School: Walt Cochran*

*Grand Star Elementary: Jenny Becker*

**About PDK**

[PDK International](http://pdkintl.org/) is a professional association for educators that brings together the top leaders, thinkers, and doers to collaborate and inspire one another.

By providing professional learning opportunities, targeted networking, and relevant research, PDK helps researchers and practitioners deepen their expertise, elevate their careers, and ultimately experience better results in their work.

**ABOUT MNU**

MidAmerica Nazarene University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university founded in 1966. Offering 40 traditional undergraduate majors, the university is also known for its accelerated professional and graduate programs, including undergraduate degrees in management and nursing and graduate degrees in business, education, nursing, and counseling, and postgraduate certificates. Online offerings include classes in education, nursing and associate’s-level studies. Study abroad as well as service-learning experiences are encouraged through MNU’s Go Global, MNU Europe, and ServiceCorps programs. The campus is located on 105 acres in Olathe, Kan., and operates a location in Liberty, Mo., for professional and graduate programs. More information may be found at www.mnu.edu.

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**MNU facts:**

* MNU enrolls more than 1850 students
* MNU has offered innovative, accelerated adult degree completion and graduate programs since 1987.
* The yearly economic impact of the University in the state of Kansas is nearly $45 million annually.

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