Student success begins with teachers. Today’s teachers must be skilled at instructing diverse classrooms, using new technologies, and preparing students to be lifelong learners who are able to problem solve, think creatively and adapt to the evolving workforce demands of our increasingly STEM-intensive economy.

NMSI’s Laying the Foundation (LTF) Teacher Training Program equips educators with the content knowledge and instructional know-how they need to set high classroom expectations and shift students to advanced levels of thinking and learning. Developed by experienced teachers and content experts, the program provides:

- Comprehensive, hands-on training led by a national corps of expert classroom teachers;
- Classroom-ready materials and resources aligned with state standards; and
- Instructional best practices for increasing academic rigor and building college and career readiness.

LTF teacher training is available for the following disciplines and grade levels:

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<tr>
<th>ELEMENTARY (3-5)</th>
<th>MIDDLE SCHOOL</th>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL</th>
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<td>Math/Science</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>English/Social Studies</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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**HANDS-ON TRAINING**

LTF trainers guide participants through content-rich instruction that moves beyond ‘what’ to teach to ‘how’ to deepen student understanding of key concepts. Collaborative, discovery-driven training sessions enable and encourage teachers to:

- Experience first-hand how students learn and process new skills and concepts;
- Adopt new techniques and receive feedback from colleagues and mentors; and
- Implement classroom activities to infuse their existing curricula with instructional rigor.

**CLASSROOM-READY MATERIALS & RESOURCES**

Training participants receive a full suite of print and online classroom-ready materials that encourage higher-order thinking and are aligned with state standards, including:

- **Model Lessons**: Content-rich resources with stated learner outcomes and teaching suggestions.
- **Formative & Summative Assessments**: Tools to help monitor student understanding of complex concepts critical to rigorous coursework in higher grades.
- **STEM Labs & Activities**: Classroom exercises that allow teachers of all experience levels to relate science, technology, engineering and math concepts to real-world examples.
INSTRUCTIONAL BEST PRACTICES

LTF training emphasizes research-based instructional strategies and best practices that build on teachers’ pedagogical knowledge to increase the impact of their classroom practice, including:

**Inquiry-based Learning:** Approaches for engaging students to take a more active part in their own learning.

**Instructional Scaffolding:** Techniques and guidance for delivering differentiated instruction and facilitating students’ progression through the academic pipeline toward advanced coursework.

**Vertical Alignment:** Education about the knowledge and skills students need to master at each grade level to meet college- and career-readiness expectations.

“With LTF, I learned to meet each of my students where they are with scaffolding and build true rigor into every lesson. The way I teach now is so much more intentional. Everything I do in the classroom is with a goal in sight.”

— Stephanie Hyatt, Lee High School, Huntsville, Alabama

To date, more than 40,000 teachers nationwide have participated in NMSI’s Laying the Foundation Program and are using their expertise to build the capacity of their schools and districts to advance student achievement at all grade levels.

For sample lessons, go to nms.org/freelessons. For more information about NMSI’s Laying the Foundation Program please contact Nathan Douglas at ndouglas@nms.org or 214.346.1213.