North Dakota Teacher Center Network

Mission

The mission of the North Dakota Teacher Center Network (NDTCN) is to assist practicing teachers, education students and other educational personnel in professional knowledge and skill development to improve the learning of students.

Results

For almost 40 years, the NDTCN has been providing quality professional development and services to educators throughout North Dakota. During the 2013-2014 school year, the NDTCN:

- Served 6,995 teachers, 1,765 pre-service teachers and 74,408 students.
- Offered 228 educational courses to 4,123 participants.
- Supported numerous additional educational opportunities such as teacher collaborations and student camps to more than 7,400 participants.
- Partnered with more than 70 non-school educational agencies within North Dakota and Minnesota.
- Supported 428 members, including public school districts, non-public schools and individuals.
- Made available thousands of educational resources for educators to use in classrooms and for professional learning requirements or needs.

Types of Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public School Districts</th>
<th>Public School Buildings</th>
<th>Non-Public Schools</th>
<th>Supporting Organizations &amp; Individuals</th>
<th>Non-North Dakota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clients Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teachers</th>
<th>Pre-Service Teachers</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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Network Impact

Teacher Centers have helped practicing teachers, education students and other educational personnel increase their knowledge and skills to improve student learning for almost 40 years.

- Teacher Centers provide professional development and access to instructional resources, hands-on materials and educational equipment.
- Teacher Centers collaborate with other organizations and serve as a facilitator between K-12 schools, regional education associations, state and federal agencies, and institutions of higher education.

Each of the nine Teacher Centers has evolved to best meet the needs of the teachers and students in its region. Some Centers are based at universities; others are located within regional education associations or school districts.

Teacher Centers offer much more than workshops and classes for teachers and education students. Centers help teachers learn best practices and implement new knowledge and skills in their classrooms.

State funds are used by the Teacher Centers to leverage significant additional resources to serve teachers and students. Centers raise 30 percent of their revenue through membership dues, program fees and grants, while another 25 percent of their revenue is in-kind contributions.

Financial Support

The Teacher Centers rely on two types of financial support: income and in-kind contributions. In 2013-2014, eight Centers* reported combined income and in-kind contributions of $395,371. Both sources are critical to the continued operation of the Centers.

*North Central Teacher Center was approved as a new Center as of July 1, 2014, and so is not included in the 2013-2014 financial data.
**Network Activities**

The **Mid-Dakota Teacher Center** in conjunction with the Mid-Dakota Education Cooperative REA has provided National Geographic Giant Traveling Maps to member schools for the last four years (North America, Asia, Africa and Europe). The oversized vinyl floor maps are the largest maps ever produced by National Geographic and require a school gym or large room for use. Each map is accompanied by teacher resources (i.e., set of activities and materials).

The **Digitalis Digital Star Dome** is located at Valley City Area Teacher Center and available for teachers to check out. The Digitalis system consists of a fabric dome, projector, fan, computer and Nightshade software, which is available for weekly rentals. The Digitalis spent 60 days in schools in just five months in the first half of 2014, and 80 teachers were trained in 15 schools.

Member teachers from the **Lake Region Teacher Center** participate in regional collaborative grade and content-level meetings sponsored by the Teacher Center and NESC at Lake Region State College.

The **Williston Area Teacher Center** and the Great Northwest Education Cooperative worked together to host the North Dakota Geographic Alliance Summer Institute. Teachers from all over the state spent five days learning about North Dakota agriculture, geography, history and energy.

The **West River Teacher Center** assisted with the coordination of Dickinson State University’s Real World Camp. Real World Camp provided area 6th and 7th graders a first-hand look at life through hands-on break-out sessions and a stroll through the “Real World” city featuring local businesses that affect our daily lives.

The **Bismarck Area Teacher Center** hosts many groups of education students each year. These pre-service teachers become familiar with the Center while learning to develop their own curriculum and lesson plans. They continue using its resources once they have their own classrooms.

The **Bismarck** and **Minot Devils Lake** area Teacher Centers work with the STEM Education Department and Mayville State University to provide experiences for teacher candidates to work with area students. The STEM Carnival held at the university allows area students and community members to explore 20 interactive STEM booths facilitated by teacher candidates.

The **North Central Teacher Center** provides professional development opportunities and resource materials for educators that are aligned with 21st century strategies for student learning.

The **Grand Forks Area Teacher Center** collaborates with the University of North Dakota to hold Super Science Saturdays. Elementary students participate in hands-on science experiments, while their teachers go home with curriculum packets featuring activities using Center resources.

The **Mayville Area Teacher Center** works with the STEM Education Department and Mayville State University to provide experiences for teacher candidates to work with area students. The STEM Carnival held at the university allows area students and community members to explore 20 interactive STEM booths facilitated by teacher candidates.

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Teacher Centers

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