

# Zeroing in on Math Teaching Fellows

Launched in February 2016, the Zeroing in on Math Teaching Fellowship is a highly selective cohort of math teachers who work on improving access to high quality math instruction for students in Boston through EdVestors' Zeroing in on Math (ZioM) initiative. The 2017 Fellowship will run from February 2017 - January 2018 and allow teachers to stay in the classroom while thinking broadly about larger issues facing young mathematicians in Boston. While ZioM focuses on middle grades math (grades 4 through 8) as the gateway for math achievement, the Math Teaching Fellows are solutions-oriented, front-line educators from all grade levels (K-12) who come together to design and inform strategies to advance math instruction in Boston.

## Who is Eligible?

Classroom teachers and coaches

- With at least two years teaching experience (as of August 2016);
- Who currently teach or coach math in a district or charter school in Boston for all or part of their day (elementary, middle and high school teachers, and math coaches welcome and encouraged!): and
- Who would love the opportunity to think beyond their classroom

#### Application and Selection Process:

- Applicants participate in a rigorous two-stage selection process that includes <u>a written application</u> and interview.
- Interviews take place the week of December 12.
- Applicants will be notified of acceptance by December 21.

<u>Application deadline</u> is Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4pm.

## Reasons to apply:

**LEARN** - learn about city wide math initiatives with like-minded math colleagues **ENGAGE** -have access to and engage in discussions with leading math thinkers including researchers in math education, non-profit partners, district and charter math leaders and many more from Boston and beyond!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - impact students beyond your math classroom

### Details about the Math Teaching Fellowship:

- Brings together up to 16 solutions-oriented teachers to meet monthly over the course of a year beginning in February 2017 and concluding in January 2018.
- Requires a commitment of 4-8 hours of work per month including monthly four-hour sessions with expert speakers, engaging readings, working groups, and opportunities to teach/mentor other math teachers
- Involves deep discussions of barriers and opportunities to improve math knowledge and rigor of instruction in Boston.
- Provides an opportunity to identify an issue and develop a strategy to tackle the issue in working groups with the help of EdVestors.

Participants receive a \$1,600 stipend during the Fellowship.

### Sample Meeting Agenda

- 4:30 4:45 Opening, updates on continuing work by Math Fellows
- 4:45 5:45 Speaker and Discussion (based on interests identified by the cohort)
- 5:45 6:15 Dinner
- 6:15 7:15 Activity/Discussion based on pre-reading completed
- 7:15 8:15 Working Group Time
- 8:15 8:30 Closing and survey completion

# FAQ's

# Even though ZioM focuses on middle grades math, can I still apply if I'm an elementary or high school teacher?

Yes! If you are an elementary teacher with a specific interest in math teaching and learning, or a high school teacher who cares about the preparation students receive through the middle grades, we welcome your application.

### If I am a math coach but I do not teach any classes, can I still apply?

Yes! We think math coaches bring a unique perspective to the ZioM initiative. We welcome math coaches to apply for the Fellowship.

#### If I do not teach in Boston, can I still apply?

At this time, the Fellowship is only available to Boston teachers.

### If I am a private school teacher, can I still apply?

At this time, the Fellowship is only available to public district and charter school teachers in Boston.

### How much will Fellows have an opportunity to shape the Fellowship?

Fellows, through their working groups and as a cohort, will identify barriers and opportunities for improving the instruction and math learning in Boston, and will develop a strategy to tackle one aspect of improving math learning that is of personal interest to them.

# What issues might Math Fellows address in their working groups? What impact are they having on math in Boston?

This year's Fellows (finishing in January 2017) tackled complex issues ranging from race and equity in mathematics to blended learning. They formed working groups to address topics including coaching and the culture of math. One working group is currently seeking funding to expand their approach to more teachers within their schools.

For more information, please contact Karen Levin, Director of Zeroing in on Math, at <a href="Levin@edvestors.org">Levin@edvestors.org</a> or 617-585-5740. For more information about Zeroing in on Math, visit our website at <a href="https://www.edvestors.org">www.edvestors.org</a>.