

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: National Math and Science Initiative	Federal Tax ID#: 11-3769438	501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(2)
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Address: 8350 North Central Expressway, Suite M-2200	City: Dallas	State: TX	Zip Code: 75206
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Website: www.nms.org	Fax: (214) 525-3090	United Way Funded: No
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Fiscal Year: January 01 to December 31
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Head Of Organization

Name: Dr. Bernard A. Harris, Jr.	Title: Chief Executive Officer
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E-Mail Address: bharris@nms.org	Phone: (214) 346-1204
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Application Contact

Name: Laure O'Neal	Title: Chief Development Officer	E-Mail Address: donate@nms.org	Phone: (310) 922-7294
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Has the organization applied to the Najim Charitable Foundation in the past and been declined? Yes 06/2020

Grant Amount Requested \$: \$175,000	Total Project Budget \$: \$600,000	Organization's Annual budget \$: \$30,425,790
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Mission Statement: To advance STEM education to ensure all students, especially those furthest from opportunity, thrive and reach their highest potential as problem solvers and lifelong learners
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PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title: To support Year One of the College Readiness Program at SAISD.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date 05/15/2021	End Date 05/30/2022
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Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation Priorities: Education

Education Priorities:

Program / Project Description:

Since 2017, NMSI has continuously expanded its impact on students furthest from opportunity in the San Antonio community. Beginning with 10 schools in the region, today 30 schools participate in NMSI's rigorous teacher professional development across the area, affecting up to 26,539 students in the 20-21 school year. Our geographic impact is growing again thanks to a regional funding coalition committed to San Antonio's emerging workforce, including corporate, federal, and private dollars.

South San Antonio Independent School District (SSAISD) is part of TEA Region 20. Students who started eighth grade in 2008 in this region had a college graduation rate of 22.7 percent. South San Antonio, one of the smaller districts in the region, is home to approximately 8,500 students, over 70% of whom are at risk of dropping out. The district serves a large population of Latino students (96%) and represents an area of dire socioeconomic need (89% free and reduced lunch). Furthermore, compared to the other 18 San Antonio-area ISDs, SSAISD experiences extremely high teacher turnover. Most teachers in nearby districts stay more than 10 years. SSAID teachers stay less than two.

With new leadership, however, SSAISD is positioned to create a system of robust academic supports, with key academic officers already trained by NMSI through previous positions in other districts. New leadership means new opportunities for this district, nimble and ready for changes that can help secure an equitable future for all. NMSI and SSAISD propose a \$175,000 investment in South San Antonio and West Campus High Schools, underwriting the first year of our three-year College Readiness Program. These two campuses employ more than 150 teachers and administrators, serving more than 2,600 students for whom NMSI's programs will widen a path to college readiness.

In San Antonio, over the course of three years, NMSI has assisted thousands of our students taking Advanced Placement exams, 1,748 of whom earned a score of two or above, signifying college readiness. So far in San Antonio, 649 NMSI-supported students have received qualifying scores on their AP exams, half in AP English and half spread across AP science and math disciplines, including computer science. The number of exams receiving qualifying scores doubled in just three years, including Spring 2020--exams taken only weeks after COVID-19 shuttered schools and created sudden, dramatic challenges. During that time, San Antonio students earned college credit resulting in \$973,500 of tuition savings.

NMSI's CRP also diversifies the AP classroom, encouraging participation from students often underrepresented in advanced academics. For example, in our San Antonio-area public schools in 2018, only 44% of AP students identified as Latino. By 2020, NMSI had helped elevate that percentage to 75%--far closer to the representation we would expect based on the overall district population. We also increased the number of military-connected AP students by 14% and the number who qualify for free or reduced lunch by 12%. Enrollment gains were particularly notable in math and computer science--at a time when AP enrollment overall was dropping in the area, NMSI schools saw a 38% increase in these disciplines, as well as a remarkable 119% leap in AP Environmental Science enrollment.

Beyond increasing AP engagement, the CRP is designed to foster systemic, sustainable change, encouraging inclusive district-level cultures that invite all students to challenge themselves and provide the support they require to excel. "Part of the experience is changing the culture of the campus. If students are willing to step up to a challenge, NMSI has given us a good foundation for not only growth and support for our teachers, but for our students," says Sergio Saucedo, Academic Dean at Veterans Memorial High School in Judson ISD.

We would like the Najim Family Foundation to invest with us in South San Antonio to increase rigor and opportunity to ensure all students have access to the college education they need and deserve. Our 2020 longitudinal evaluation indicates that, regardless of race, 64% of NMSI students go on to a four-year college (over the national average of 44%), and that NMSI particularly empowers African American, Asian, and Latino students to earn STEM degrees by double the national average for each racial demographic. Ultimately, by ensuring that these local students are college ready, we ensure the region's economic growth.

NMSI's CRP provides schools with the necessary support to add offerings to their suite of AP courses and build the pipeline of students prepared for such rigorous classes with a wide range of educator professional development options. School leaders, counselors, teachers, and students all have opportunities to benefit directly from the program. Hallmarks of the CRP include:

- o Expert trainers in course content, pedagogy, and curriculum who model and collaborate on best practices
- o Dedicated program manager assigned to each school
- o Support for AP courses from Biology to Spanish to Computer Science
- o Training on culturally responsive practices that build diverse students' skills and knowledge for advanced coursework and college success
- o Classroom materials stipend for equipment
- o Direct support for students via participation in content review sessions in a blended format, with tutorial services delivered in online and face-to-face contexts

NMSI seeks funding to build this program within the San Antonio area to ensure that all students are provided access to rigorous content and experiences that are relevant, personalized, and connected to career. In providing comprehensive support to South San Antonio's district, schools, teachers, and students, NMSI will build a sustainable pathway to success for all students in the San Antonio community.

Evaluation Plan:

NMSI is committed to continual, rigorous program evaluation, employing diverse methods throughout each school year that address both teacher and student perspectives. These encompass internal and third-party efforts to ensure objective learnings. Our robust management structure facilitates data sharing and analysis with our partners, including unique data agreements with districts and a national agreement with the College Board. Program managers work with our partners to foster cultures of success and engagement by setting ambitious but realistic goals and ensuring implementation with fidelity. Metrics on school enrollment and testing outcomes will be provided to the Foundation, which will demonstrate how our programs:

- o positively change the number of educators trained in rigorous AP delivery;
- o widen the aperture for students to come into rigorous AP coursework;
- o diversify the students accessing AP courses, including marginalized groups such as Latino students and girls; and
- o improve student AP exam outcomes.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

Our momentum in greater San Antonio is designed to make an indelible impact, giving students a greater chance of gaining the skills and rigor required of a 21st-century workforce. The following are critical to sustaining progress:

- 1) Elevate the work by funding mock exam readings or training for incoming teachers with their own funds.
- 2) Our program is known for connecting educators. Through course-specific teacher networks, many of which are created and sustained by NMSI Alumni, educators continue to collaborate, share curricula, and problem solve on social media and other platforms.
- 3) To affect ongoing change, NMSI will continue to solicit investments across the community, inviting more schools, diverse funders, and districts over time.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?	How many unduplicated children will NCF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?
2,600	2,600

Please provide the percentage of each group below that will be served by the project in which funds are being requested. Do not leave any area blank. If that specific group will not be served, include zero. The percentage should total 100%.

A. Population Served Age	B. Population Served Ethnicity
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Infants (0-5)	0%	African American	1%
Children (6-13)	0%	Asian American	0%
Young Adults (14-18)	100%	Caucasian	8%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	91%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	0%
		TOTAL:	100%

City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:

District4

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Year 1 of the College Readiness Program for SSAISD	\$200,000	\$175,000
Year 2, CRP continued in SSAISD	\$200,000	\$0
Year 3, CRP continued in SSAISD	\$200,000	\$0
TOTAL:	\$600,000	\$175,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

For Project being Requested: Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed.

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Marcia and Otto Koehler Foundation	\$25,000
TOTAL:	\$25,000

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
	\$0
TOTAL:	\$0

Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request.

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
U.S. Department of Defense	\$1,238,954
Boeing	\$500,000
Texas Women's Foundation	\$35,000
Institute of Education Services	\$3,410,739
North Texas Community Foundation	\$250,000
TOTAL:	\$5,434,693

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
U.S. Department of Education	\$34,069,287
U.S. Department of Defense	\$38,871,745

Toyota USA Foundation	\$1,250,000
The Brown Foundation	\$100,000
The Cullen Foundation	\$150,000
Capital One	\$50,000
AT&T	\$100,000
National Science Foundation	\$238,653
TOTAL:	\$74,829,685

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?

100%

If Board giving is not at 100%, please explain why?

How are board members expected to participate in your organization?

Board members serve NMSI by connecting the organization to their networks in a variety of capacities--by building professional and fundraising relationships, introducing us to potential programmatic partners, and leveraging their expertise in education and STEM fields to provide strategic oversight. In the past year, the NMSI Board has worked especially hard to examine the organization's role and expand our footprint--externally and internally--of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, especially as COVID-19 continues to disproportionately impact communities of color and students furthest from opportunity. Please see the following statement from Board chair Dr. Shirley Malcom and CEO Dr. Bernard Harris, re-committing NMSI to service as a determinedly anti-racist influence in education:

<https://www.nms.org/Statement-on-George-Floyd.aspx>.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Shirley Malcom, Ph.D., Chairwoman	American Association for the Advancement of Science
Bruce Alberts, Ph.D.	University of California, San Francisco
David Chavez	Los Alamos National Laboratory
Kenneth Cohen	ExxonMobil Corp.
Nancy S. Grasmick, Ph.D.	Maryland Department of Education
Jamison Monroe	Monroe Vos Consulting Group
Ron Ottinger	STEM Next Opportunities
Mary Ann Rankin, Ph.D.	University of Maryland, College Park
Susan Sclafani	National Center on Education and the Economy

Signature

Laure O'Neal