

Dear Participant:

Along with 600 teachers from other participating districts, you have expressed interest in participating in a course or activity supported by the Rocky Mountain- Middle School Mathematics and Science Partnership (RM-MSMSP). This project is funded by the National Science Foundation which requires a level of research to be conducted to determine the impact of the project activities on the participants. This arrangement provides the RM-MSMSP team with an opportunity to determine the effectiveness of our efforts.

The benefits of this project are comprehensive and include reaching our three goals: Enhanced Teacher Quality, Access to Challenging Curriculum, and an Enhanced Teacher Pipeline. The impact of the research on you as a participant will be minimal. All of the grading and assessment procedures will remain consistent with other university courses you may have completed. Any use of answers or performance measures will be confidential. All personal information will be removed from your documents prior to research use and data will be stored in a secure database used only by the project evaluator. You may be asked to participate in classroom observations and/or follow-up interviews, if you agree to take part in the research. Observations and interviews will consist of questions regarding pedagogy and content knowledge. Each will last 1-2 hours and may occur during fall or spring of the academic year. These will be conducted by an external evaluator. Observation information and interview responses will not contain identifying information. Finally, if you are a teacher participating in the science portion of the program may be asked to submit your science notebook for data recording and evaluation. Although minimal, some potential risks should you choose to participate in this research include: the potential breach of confidentiality, some level of discomfort or embarrassment during interviews or survey responses since you may be asked about your performance in the classroom, student achievement, or feelings about teaching and learning in general. We will do everything we can to keep your records a secret, but it cannot be guaranteed. Both the records that identify you and the consent form signed by you may be looked at by others. They are: Federal agencies that monitor human subject research, Human Subject Research Committee, the group paying for the study, and regulatory officials where the research is being conducted who want to make sure the research is being done right. The results from the research may be shared at a meeting. The results from the research may be published articles. Your name will be kept private when information is presented.

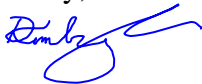
We are looking forward to working with you during your participation in the RM-MSMSP project. Feel free forward questions pertaining to the research activities to Brian Cobb at bcobb@cahs.colostate.edu. You may have questions about your rights as someone in this study. You can call the Human Subject Research Committee (HSRC) at (303) 724-1055.

Please be advised that:

- your decision to participate or not participate in no way affects your grades or completion of any RM-MSMSP course or activity.
- the expected duration of your participation will be the year you participate as well as subsequent years of the grant.
- you may withdraw from the study at any time while remaining in the class or activity with no penalty.

Please sign and date the back of this letter and keep the second copy for your records.

Sincerely,



Doris Kimbrough, Principal Investigator, RM-MSMSP

I have read the letter detailing the purpose and procedures involved as part of my participation in the RM-MSMSP.

I agree to participate _____

I decline participation _____

Name (print) _____

Signature _____