

<u>Initiative Title</u>	<u>Description of Initiative</u>
Choice Ready Grants	<p>The NDDPI provided a grant opportunity to strengthen our Choice Ready Framework and enable more students to graduate Choice Ready. The purpose of this grant was to increase opportunities for more students to graduate Choice Ready. Applications could be submitted from high school principals, CTE directors, and special education directors.</p>
Math Innovation Grants	<p>The NDDPI is committed to helping improve mathematical concept understanding for all North Dakota children and equipping educators with the tools to do so. Because math is cumulative, unfinished learning and skills from prior years make it difficult for students to master new concepts and achieve proficiency in later grades (New Classrooms, 2019). The >Math in ND program is a grant opportunity made available through ESSER funds to promote the use of blended learning instructional approaches in grades 3-8 math classrooms in North Dakota. This program aims to increase math growth by closing the students' math gaps by implementing a high-quality blended learning model.</p>

Academic Summer Enrichment Grant	<p>The state has set aside in funding for the Academic Summer Enrichment Grant. This grant was developed for programs that run summer camps and can provide opportunities to enrich and extend evidenced-based academic learning opportunities for students who were impacted by learning loss during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
Education Pathway	<p>This is a project to create an educational pathway for high school students to earn dual credit in the area of education. The Office of Special Education worked collaboratively with outside stakeholders to create the educational pathway. Scholarships are made available to juniors and seniors so they can complete dual credit classes specific to the education pathway.</p>
Be Legendary School Board Leadership Institute	<p>This intensive program is designed for governing teams – school boards with their superintendents – that are dedicated to continually sharpening and cultivating their focus on one primary objective: improving student outcomes. It is a unique opportunity for governing teams that are committed to pushing themselves to do even more for their students.</p>

Early Literacy Training	The NDDPI contracted with early learning expert(s) to provide training for early learning providers aligned to the ND Early Learning Standards focused on wide accessibility and including childcare providers.
Grow Your Own Special Education Teachers	More than 60 percent of U.S. teachers work within 20 miles of where they went to high school (Reininger, 2012). With this in mind, the Minot State University Department of Special Education created a new pathway for people interested in becoming a special education teacher. The para-to-teacher pathway (PTP) allows paraprofessionals to continue to work in their local school district while completing courses that will enable them to earn a bachelor's degree in special education.
Incentivize Reading Corps Expansion	The NDDPI worked with NDREAs to support the expansion of the Reading Corps program to districts not previously implementing the program. The granted funds will support the launch of new programs.
LINCspring	The NDDPI contracted with Cognia to provide all North Dakota educators access to high-quality, proven professional learning content, practical resources, and coaching support via the online coaching and

	professional learning platform, LINCspring.
ND Parks	The NDDPI worked collaboratively with ND Parks to support the creation of classroom activities for the existing "Campfire" videos and the development of new videos and activities that align to state standards. This work would also provide tools that would support visits to the parks that may be used by schools or families throughout the year.
ND PCBL Scale Work	The NDDPI worked collaboratively with partners to scale opportunities for schools and districts to personalize learning for students and explore personalized, competency-based learning in their local learning environments.
ND Science of Reading	The NDDPI contracted with state and national expert presenters to provide multiple opportunities for K-3 educators to obtain foundational reading training in face-to-face and virtual formats to meet the requirements of NDCC 15.1-21-12.1.

ND Systemwide Literacy Improvement (NDSLII)	The NDDPI offered system-wide (birth through grade 12) Literacy Improvement Grants through competitive application to districts that have not received federal Comprehensive Literacy Grants within the past five years. Funding will support action steps to align local work with the state literacy plan, including a literacy audit to identify areas for improvement, professional development to address the district's specific literacy instructional needs, and supporting technical assistance to achieve system alignment.
NDDPI Family Engagement Grants	A great need exists for family and community engagement strategies that provide high-impact family engagement and for evidence-based comprehensive family engagement programs, implementation, and enhancement of effective family engagement activities that lead to improvements in student academic achievement. Additionally, the program focuses on meaningful engagement with families and their children's education and supports family-school partnerships.

North Dakota Exact Path Edmentum	The NDDPI contracted with Edmentum to continue providing Exact Path site licenses and program support until September 2024 for participating districts. Exact Path helps to ensure all schools and families have the tools they need to address student learning and the missed learning opportunities or gaps that may have occurred due to COVID-19 disruptions.
Out of School Time Grant	The NDDPI created the Out of School Time competitive grant opportunity for applicants that could provide comprehensive afterschool programs to serve students disproportionately impacted by COVID-19-specifically high minority students and students in poverty. The Out of School Time Grant provided in funding for programs to address the students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs using evidence-based interventions and strategies.
Prairie Public	The NDDPI supported public media services to ensure young children across North Dakota have access to Prairie Public resources for early childhood and K-12 Education.

REA Priority Standards	The NDDPI contracted with the REAs to expand the development of priority standards and proficiency scales as well as train schools in the effective use of these tools. Science and social priority standards and proficiency scales will be developed and the proficiency scales in ELA and Math will be completed.
Teacher Innovation Grant	The NDDPI has been soliciting proposals from ND teachers that encourage innovation in our classrooms. Over the next two and a half years of the ESSER funding period, the department will fund one innovative proposal each quarter submitted by a North Dakota teacher. Teachers currently employed by public LEAs are eligible to receive funding.
Tutoring - High Impact Tutor Training	The NDDPI contracted with the REAs to provide training for paraprofessionals throughout the state on effective strategies for tutoring students in Math and English Language Arts/Reading. These strategies will focus on a model in which this tutoring is done during the school day, so tutoring is accessible to more students.

MTSS	<p>The goal of the MTSS Expansion ESSER project is to build, enhance, and expand access within the overall infrastructure of the North Dakota Multi-Tier System of Supports (NDMTSS). NDMTSS is a framework to provide all students with the best opportunities to succeed academically, socially, emotionally, and behaviorally in school. NDMTSS focuses on providing high-quality instruction and interventions matched to student needs, monitoring progress frequently to make decisions about changes in instruction or goals. Data is used to allocate resources to improve student learning and support staff implementation of effective practices. NDMTSS is a system of supports that has proven successful not only for schools but also in authoring multiple grants, programs, administrative rules, and legislative requirements in ND. In order for the system to flex, adapt, innovate, and keep up-to-date, funds have been critical to improve continuously and expand to all four corners of the state.</p>
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