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**REGENTS ANNOUNCE 10 STEM, FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACADEMY FUNDS**

**Columbus, Ohio** – The Ohio Board of Regents today announced that 10 Ohio higher education collaborations will receive a total of \$3.5 million for the development of Regents STEM and Foreign Language Academies for students entering 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The academies will provide approximately 500 students the opportunity to earn college credit, at no charge, while also meeting high school requirements in mathematics, science and foreign language.

The Regents STEM and Foreign Language Academies are in response to House Bill 115 of the 126<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, which appropriated \$13.2 million in FY 07 to support the implementation of the Ohio Core through initiatives designed to increase teacher capacity in mathematics, science and foreign language. Additionally, H.B. 115 provides opportunities for more high school students, particularly those who currently may not aspire to attend college or to study career in the STEM fields, to engage in advanced learning opportunities for college and high school credit in these disciplines.

The Office of the Governor, the Ohio Board of Regents, the Ohio Department of Education, and the Partnership for Continued Learning have provided leadership for establishing the overall direction of the H.B. 115 initiatives. Many of the H.B. 115 initiatives are in the implementation phase. In addition to the Regents STEM and Foreign Language Academies, H.B. 115 funded the following efforts:

- \$2.6 million for the development of intensive, accelerated teacher licensure programs at higher education institutions designed to prepare mid-career professionals to teach in mathematics, science and foreign language at the secondary level;
- \$1.5 million to encourage educational service centers to work in partnership with colleges and universities to develop alternative teacher licensure programs;
- \$3.6 million to school districts to contract with colleges and universities to provide more high school students dual credit opportunities in mathematics, science or foreign language; and
- \$2 million for eTech Ohio Commission to provide online learning opportunities.

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The 10 Regents STEM and Foreign Language Academies are geographically dispersed throughout the state, and they reflect opportunities for students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously in science (chemistry, astronomy, biology and environmental science, for example), math (algebra, statistics and pre-calculus) and foreign languages (Chinese, Arabic, Japanese, Russian and Spanish). Comprised of collaborations of public and private colleges and universities, business partners and K-12 schools and districts, the Regents Academies include:

*Foreign Language focus:*

- **Foreign Language Regents Academy for Students of Chinese**  
Partners: Ohio State University, Cleveland State University and Miami University
- **Regents Foreign Language Academy**  
Partners: Kent State University, Bowling Green State University, Oberlin College

*Science and Science/Math focus:*

- **Regents Academy: Igniting Streams of Learning in Science**  
Partners: Hiram College, University of Akron, Kent State University
- **Lakeland Regents Science Academy**  
Partners: Lakeland Community College and John Carroll University
- **Lake-to-River T4 (Teaching Tomorrow's Teachers Today) Summer STEM Academy**  
Partners: Youngstown State University, Kent State University – Regional Campuses, and Jefferson Community College
- **Regents Environmental Academy for Learning (REAL)**  
Partners: Northwest Ohio Center of Excellence (Bowling Green State University and Owens Community College)
- **Southern Ohio Youth Regents STEM and Foreign Language Academy**  
Partners: Shawnee State University, Ohio University – Southern Campus and University of Rio Grande
- **Toledo Urban Math and Science Alliance**  
Partners: University of Toledo, Toledo Public Schools and Owens Community College

*Mathematics focus:*

- **Northeastern Ohio Center of Excellence (NEOCEX) Summer STEM Academy**  
Partners: Northeastern Ohio Center of Excellence at the University of Akron, with Cleveland State University
- **Southwest Ohio STEM2 Secondary Teacher Academy**  
Partners: Southwest Ohio Center of Excellence for Mathematics and Science Education, University of Cincinnati, Miami University and Xavier University

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