

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEM PATHWAY 2023****ABSTRACT**

Through the *Environmental STEM Pathway* project, Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) seeks to establish a K-12 Environmental STEM magnet pathway with a focus on innovative and sustainable environmental STEM curriculum in a rural, low-income, majority Hispanic neighborhood of Albuquerque, NM. District goals for the grant include **reducing** Hispanic minority group and low socioeconomic group isolation, increasing academic achievement and building district and school capacity to offer broader educational choice and rigorous, integrated learning environments to all students. Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) funding will support APS efforts to establish four new whole school magnet programs. **Los Padillas Elementary** (234 students/20 teachers), **Mountain View Elementary** (233 students/27 teachers), **Polk Middle School** (269 students/26 teachers) and **Rio Grande High School** (1,532 students/90 teachers) will establish a new *Environmental STEM Pathway* that will provide challenging curricula, innovative lessons, electives, courses and develop 21st-century skills to prepare students for post-secondary and career experiences. The four *Environmental STEM Pathway* magnet schools will implement proven innovative inquiry-based programs, infusing cutting edge curriculum, units and lessons from Project Lead the Way and iCEV. All four schools will implement evidence-based **eMINTS** (enhancing Missouri's Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies) providing research-based professional development programs focused on inquiry-based learning to K-12 educators found to positively impact teacher instructional behaviors and student math achievement. In addition, evidence-based literacy strategies from **Start Making a Reader Today** (SMART) will be applied to increase the achievement of students and close achievement gaps.