

LEARNING MATTERS

News from the Minnesota Department of Education

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Learning Matters highlights the most important issues coming out of the Minnesota Department of Education including press releases, policy announcements, grant and scholarship opportunities and other items of interest.

Please forward this newsletter to others in the education field who may be interested in Learning Matters.

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Minnesota Receives \$5.9 Million for School Improvement Grant Program

Funds will be used to turn around persistently low-achieving schools throughout the state. [See the June 29 press release](#).

Learning NEVER Stops!

The summer months offer youth the chance to pursue their interests and continue expanding their minds. This summer, the Minnesota Department of Education will offer a video series with ideas for continuing learning during the summer months. Episode 1 brings us to the Works Museum in Bloomington where kids are engaged in fun, hands-on experiences with science, technology, engineering and math. [Watch the video!](#)

Grant Opportunity: State Early Childhood Education Scholarships Local Coordination

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), Office of Early Learning, is soliciting applications from qualified applicants to coordinate and administer the State ECE Scholarships project in ten communities throughout the state of Minnesota. Scholarship funds will be available for families in these communities this fall. The grant objective is to coordinate and administer the State Early Childhood Education (ECE) Scholarships to promote access to high-quality early learning childhood programs for children with high needs within the identified communities. [Access the application packet](#). **Signed applications are due by July 31, 2012**. For further information, contact Lisa Cariveau, Early Learning Services, at lisa.cariveau@state.mn.us or 651-582-8332.

Grant Opportunity: Telecommunications Projects for K-12 Education in Minnesota

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission seeks proposals from qualifying primary, middle and secondary school educators, both public and nonpublic, for grants to fund telecommunications projects for the benefit of K-12 students in Minnesota. The source fund is held by Qwest Corporation and will be distributed by Qwest with direction from the Commission. The fund balance is approximately \$2.8 million. **The deadline for applications is August 31, 2012.** For a copy of the application instructions, see the [Commission's website](#). For assistance with questions, contact Dr. Kevin O'Grady, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, at 651-201-2218 or k12grant.puc@state.mn.us.

Learning Matters is produced by the Communications Office of the [Minnesota Department of Education](#).
If you have questions about the information contained in this newsletter, please contact: mde.contactus@state.mn.us.