

## **Development of Prosocial and Active Learning (PAL) Classrooms Intervention**

The University of Missouri in addition to eMINTS National center is currently developing the *Prosocial and Active Learning (PAL)* professional development program. PAL Classrooms aims to provide teachers the skills to teach prosocial behaviors combined with problem-based learning through intensive professional development sessions. This approach embeds technology-rich curriculum with prosocial behavior development and relationship building. PAL classroom's main goal is to promote student self-control through modeling and research-based strategies that teach empathy, prosocial behaviors, and values.

The PAL program is just finalizing its first year of the development process with three schools (6 teachers and 114 students). The intervention includes 60 hours of professional development and instructive coaching sessions. The participating teachers learn teaching strategies, student-teacher relationships, effective praise, and effective discipline techniques. Both qualitative and quantitative data were analyzed to determine implications for iterative development of PAL. Preliminary results are promising. Teachers are enthusiastic about the program, students are developing higher quality relationships with their teachers and each other, and teachers are shifting the way they praise and discipline students.