

The AMSTI-USA Monthly Newsletter is published on the first business day of each month. All issues are archived on the AMSTI-USA page [HERE](#). For questions or comments, please email Cassie Haywood at chaywood@southalabama.edu.

From Leadership



Rachel Broadhead | Director

3213
hours of on-site support for AMSTI teachers

As we move into second quarter of the 18-19 academic year, the AMSTI staff took a look at our 17-18 support data in order to look long term at our progress towards support targets. AMSTI USA educators are a data-driven evidence-based group and sharing our data with the larger group of stakeholders opens opportunities for us to receive feedback. I would love to hear your thoughts on the data, or any questions it might spark in you - our professional peers.

2364 hours
of coaching with AMSTI teachers to plan, implement, and reflect on high quality teaching and learning

More than **2500** teacher contact instances

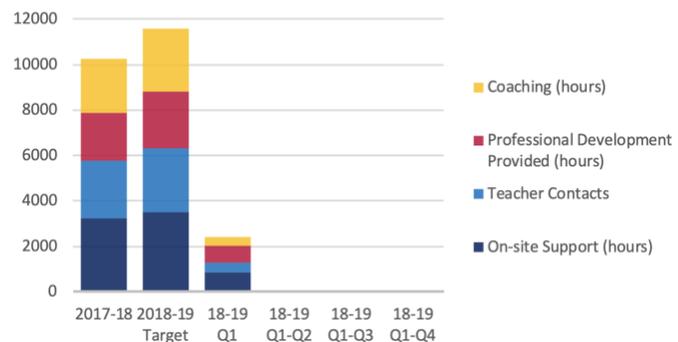
This year we are working to develop evidence collection tools that will allow us to measure our impact in providing supports like those reflected in the data shared here. Some specialists will be piloting apps, google forms, surveys, and other digital tools designed to help us know we

are helping you achieve your professional goals.

2121 hours
of professional learning across the region including workshops, online courses, and professional learning teams

Lastly the table reflects how we are doing in meeting our annual support targets so far this year. If you haven't been a part of these supports and would like to get connected you can contact us through our new website AMSTIUSA.org.

AMSTI USA SUPPORT TARGETS



AMSTI-USA Welcomes New P.D. Coordinator

Guess Who's New to the Crew?

Cassiopeia joined AMSTI-USA as Professional Development Coordinator in August. Before coming to AMSTI, Cassie worked as an Assistant Manager for Enterprise Rent-A-Car located here in Mobile, AL. She and her husband, Eddie, live in the Midtown area along with their four children.



Cassiopeia Haywood | P.D. Coordinator
chaywood@southalabama.edu

Cassie is already an asset to the AMSTI team. Reach out to her for any of your training questions.

Materials Corner

Data Dashboard



Susan Andress | Business Manager

Last academic year we began maintaining a data dashboard for the materials center so that our staff can see their impact. While our job is an important one for the AMSTI project, it is easy for our materials center staff to feel separated from the big picture. We don't get the opportunity to work side-by-side with the teachers in the classroom or see the "ah-ha" moments with students like our curriculum staff do.

This year we plan to schedule time for materials center staff to partner with specialists and visit classrooms. We all benefit from seeing the fruits of our labor, especially in the eyes of the students and teachers we serve. If you are interested in having us visit and learn from your classroom this year, you can volunteer to partner with us by emailing sandress@southalabama.edu or telling your specialist.

Our materials center staff consists of 3 full time refurbishers, 1 part-time refurbisher, an Assistant Materials Manager, and me. So, 3.75 people refurbish all of the kits that you receive each quarter. Last year in total we sent out 7,446 tubs. That's incredible! I am very proud of my team. I plan to share this data via our newsletter each year, to track our effectiveness and celebrate the impact of our partnership with you. Our goal is to see the number of teachers and students served increase and our work orders remain low.

Data	1 st Qtr	2 nd Qtr	3 rd Qtr	4 th Qtr
Tubs Delivered	2537	1417	2023	1469
Work Orders	11	8	14	9
Work Order %	0.43%	0.56%	0.56%	0.56%
Teachers Served	666	439	685	414
Est. Students Served	25,150	17,350	25,325	16,725

Math Highlights

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Counting with Fifth Graders at Semmes Elem.

By Jennifer Fagerstrom



Above, an example of a counting collection method used by the students.

Counting with Fifth Graders at Semmes Elementary

By Jennifer Fagerstrom

On April 27, I had the pleasure of facilitating a Counting Collection lesson with fifth grade students in Mrs. Parker's classroom at Semmes Elementary School. It was tremendously rewarding for me to observe older students working with counting collections.

After counting around the classroom and learning about the task before them, students paired up to estimate the size of the collection they needed to count and developed plans to find out how many items were in the assigned collection.

Collection sizes ranged from one hundred fifty to five hundred and various tools, such

as cups, bowls, plates, and grids, were available for students to use.

A variety of tools and strategies were put to the test. One group, for example, used the cups to count by fives before realizing that counting by ten would be more efficient. Some students divided the collection, with each partner counting and then adding each group together.

During debrief, students shared things that made counting their collection easier and difficult. Students stated that keeping track, forgetting where they were in their count, keeping up with items, having a different count than their partner, not having enough space, and remembering what number was next in the count sequences were some struggles.

Many students stated things that made it easier to count the collections were the tools/supplies, counting separately then adding them together, counting by hundreds and that the cups and plates helped to keep items together.

Interestingly, fifth grade students demonstrated the same counting skills as younger students based on the magnitude of the counting collection. Due to the size of the collections, students had to develop a plan for counting, which included, how they would organize and count.

Keeping track proved to be difficult, as well as recalling that rote sequence with such large collections.

Thank you to Mrs. Parker's Fifth Grade class for inviting us into their classroom and sharing their learning.

Science Highlights

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Teacher Training

By Christine Sealy

Weather Walking in the Classroom



On September 14 exciting times were happening in our AMSTI-USA classroom. Kindergarten teachers attended Compressed Training for AMSTI's "Weather Walk" science kit. The teachers were engineers and constructed a frame and covering for Sam's sandbox to keep the sand from getting so hot.

