

# ***Connecticut Noyce Math Teacher Leader Fellows***

**University of Connecticut, with the  
Connecticut State Department of Education, and  
Connecticut Alliance Districts**

**<https://mathteacherleaders.education.uconn.edu/>**

2025-2026 Fellows at a Glance:

## ***Represented Connecticut School Districts***

Bristol, East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, New Britain, New Haven, Putnam, Thompson, Vernon

## ***Certifications***

Grades 1-6 (#005): 1

Grades 4-8 (#006): 1

Pre-K and Kindergarten (#008): 1

Elementary, K-6 (#013): 1

History and Social Studies, 4-12 (#026): 1

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), PK-12 (#111): 1

Comprehensive Special Education, K-12 (#165): 1

Mathematics Grades 4-8 (#229): 5

Mathematics Grades 4-12 (#029): 18

Intermediate Administration or Supervision (#092): 4

Teacher Education and Mentoring (TEAM) Mentors: 18

## ***Leadership Roles***

Department Chairs/Facilitators: 3

Equity Coaches: 1

Instructional Leaders: 2

Subject Area Specialists: 1

Cooperating Teacher for Student Teacher: 5

Supervisor of Internships for Preservice Teachers: 4

District Technology Coach: 1

### ***Degrees Beyond the Baccalaureate***

Ed.S. Teacher Leader: 1

M.A. Teaching Education: 8

M.A. Urban Education Studies: 1

M. Business Administration: 1

M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction, Mathematics: 2

M.S. Bilingual – Multicultural Education: 1

M.S. Educational Leadership: 1

M.S. Educational Studies: 5

M.S. Management of Technology: 1

M.S. Mathematics: 2

M.S. STEM Education: 1

Sixth Year Certificate, Educational Leadership, Policy and Instructional Technology: 3

Sixth Year Professional Diploma, Special Education: 1

### ***Fellow Products***

#### **State-Level Impact Work (2025 – 2026)**

Noyce Fellows spent ample time researching, designing, and producing webinars for the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)! The Ramp-Up Series webinars, now live online, cover topics including [Postsecondary Readiness](#), [Mathematics Pathways](#), [Common High School Content](#), and [Middle School Mathematics Acceleration](#).

In collaboration with the CSDE, the Noyce Fellows worked hard to deliver information about mathematics pathways to school leaders across Connecticut and beyond. Please take a moment to view this work, along with fast fact documents and professional development (PD) playlists, on the 2026 [Alliance District Symposium \(ADS\) website](#).

### ***Fellow Awards and Recognition by Year***

#### **2025**

**Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar Award:** Marta Soto-Johnson, Meriden

**Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching State Finalist:**  
William McKinney, Engineering and Science University Magnet School, New Haven Public Schools

**Teacher of the Year:** Jacqueline Rankin, Bulkeley High School, Hartford

**District Teacher of the Year:** Jennifer Roggi, Vernon Public Schools, Vernon

**2024**

**Shining Star Award:** Courtney Sobanski, Tourtellotte Memorial High School, Thompson

**Teacher of the Year:** Kari Baransky, Edison Middle School, Meriden

**Teacher of the Year:** Shawn McClory, Manchester High School, Manchester

**2023**

**Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching State Finalist:**  
Kate Grayeb, University High School of Science and Engineering, Hartford Public Schools

**Profiles in Professionalism Award Recipient:** Jennifer Roggi, Vernon Public Schools, Vernon

**2022**

**Teacher of the Year:** Leigh Lessard, Pathways Academy of Technology and Design, Hartford Public Schools

### ***Grants Funded by Year***

**2022**

Fund for Teachers Grant: Kari Baransky

*Research and analyze The Hawaiian Ohana culture's lifestyle of equity, diversity and inclusion to help students, staff and families address struggles with interpersonal communication and peer relationships induced by the pandemic.*

**2021**

Teachers Innovation Grant: Kari Baransky

*Learn how the brain is affected from minimal social interaction due to the pandemic to help students and colleagues work through adverse impacts and promote adaptations and social skills development.*

### ***Fellow Presentations by Year***

**2025**

Dunn, C. (2025, April 2). *Facilitating Teacher Led Cohort of Algebra I Instructors*. Alliance District Symposium, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.

Gomez, I. (2025, Feb). [Miss, I need help! ¡Missy, necesito ayuda! □□□ □□□□□ □□□□□ □□□□□□□□! Mic, мені потрібна допомога!](#). AMTEC÷ Connecticut Mathematics Preservice Teacher Conference, Manchester, CT.

Grayeb, K., Webb, J., Dresko, G. (2025, April 2). *Cultivating a Thriving Math Teacher Community: Strategies for Retention and Growth*. Alliance District Symposium. Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.

Jackson, K. (2025, Jan). *Beyond the Algorithm: Fostering Equitable Practices*. AMTEC÷ Connecticut Mathematics Preservice Teacher Conference, Manchester, CT.

Lessard, L. (2025, April 2). *Grading Systems*. Alliance District Symposium, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.

Roggi, J. (2025, July). *Grade What You Value and Value What You Grade*. 2025 Noyce Summit, Washington, DC.

Sobanski, C. (2025, July). *Professional Development, BTC Coaching, and Peer Observation*. 2025 Noyce Summit, Washington, DC.

Sobanski, C., & Jané, J. (2025, February 22). *Cross-District Collaboration and PLC Building in Small Rural Communities*. 2025 CPM Teacher Conference, San, Diego, CA.

## 2024

Baransky, K.D. (2024, March 2). [Thinking Routines and Vertical Spaces](#). MidSchoolMath National Conference, Santa Fe, NM.

- Busa, D. (2024, April 2). *Accelerating Learning for Students Not on Grade Level*. Alliance District Symposium, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.
- Grayeb, K., Rankin, J., & Carullo, M. (2024, Mar). *Homegrown Teacher Leadership: Building a Districtwide Model for Supporting Building Thinking Classrooms Implementation*. Annual conference of the Associated Teachers of Mathematics in Connecticut (ATOMIC), New Haven, CT.
- Kuegler, K., & Roggi, J. (2024). *Using Student Reflection as a Tool to Build a Community Where All Students Contribute to the Learning of Mathematics*. AMTEC Annual Preservice Teachers Conference, Manchester, CT.
- McClory, S. (2024, January 27). *Launching Problem Solving Tasks to Maximize Engagement*. Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators in Connecticut Conference, Manchester, CT.
- Rankin, J., & McKinney, W. (2024, Mar). *Designing Effective Thin Slicing Tasks: A look into multiple ways of slicing! Learning*. Annual conference of the Associated Teachers of Mathematics in Connecticut (ATOMIC), New Haven, CT.
- Sobanski, C., & Jané, J. (2024, April 11). *Cross-District Collaboration and PLC Building in Small Rural Communities*. VTCM Spring Conference: Equity in Math Class, Vermont State University, VT.
- Staples, M., Gomez, I., Grayeb, K., Sobanski, C., McKinney, W. (2024, Jan and March). *Shining Light on the Work: Three Structured Dialogues to Advance Equity in Math Class*. Vermont Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Virtual.

**2023**

Ahl, B., McKinney, W., Olthoff, B. (2023, Mar). *Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics*.

Annual conference of the Associated Teachers of Mathematics in Connecticut,  
New Haven, CT.

Gomez, I. (2023, Jan). *Miss, I need help!* □□□□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□□ □ □□□□□!

*¡Missy, necesito ayuda! Міс, мені потрібна допомога!* AMTEC Preservice  
Teachers Conference, Manchester, CT.

Gomez, I. (2023, Mar). *Miss, I need help!* □□□□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□□□ □ □□□□□!

*¡Missy, necesito ayuda! Міс, мені потрібна допомога!* Annual conference of the  
Associated Teachers of Mathematics in Connecticut, New Haven, CT.

Grayeb, K., & Rankin, J. (2023, Aug). *Thin Slicing Your Curriculum*. Hartford Public Schools

Professional Development, Hartford, CT.

McClory, S. (2023, October 12-13). *Launching Problem Solving Tasks to Maximize*

*Engagement*. Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England (ATMNE)  
Conference, Portland, ME.

McKinney, W. (2023, Oct). *Thin Slicing Your Way to Student-Centered Learning*. Annual

conference of the Associated Teachers of Mathematics in Connecticut, New  
Haven, CT.

Onofrio, K., McKinney, W., Soto-Johnson, M. (2023, Aug). *Thin-Slicing your Curriculum using*

*the Building Thinking Classrooms Model – a Back-to-School Webinar*. Virtual.

Rankin, J., Staples, M., & Frazee, L. (2023, Oct). *Building Thinking Classrooms - Designing Effective Thin Slicing Tasks*. Annual conference of the Associated Teachers of Mathematics in New England, Portland, ME.

Staples, M., Kersaint, G., Michalek, J., Jones, K., McKinney, W. (2023). *Expanding Capacity to Advance More Equitable Outcomes: Building a Cadre of Mathematics Teacher Leaders*. 55<sup>th</sup> National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics Annual Conference, Washington D.C.