

**Council on Postsecondary Education
September 16, 2007**

**National Math and Science Initiative Grant for
AP and Pre-AP Courses**

On August 31, Governor Fletcher announced that Kentucky was awarded a highly sought and intensely competitive grant to fund training and incentives for advanced placement (AP) and pre-AP mathematics, science, and English courses in Kentucky's high schools.

The grant from the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) will provide up to \$13.2 million over six years to fund extensive training of teachers, identification and cultivation of lead teachers, extended time on task for students, and financing incentives based on academic performance. The Advanced Placement Enterprise of Kentucky (APEK) was formed by the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Education, the Council on Postsecondary Education, and the Partnership for Kentucky Schools.

NMSI was created in March 2007 in response to the urgent call to action by the National Academies of Science 2005 report entitled *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*. That report documented the need to increase the United State's global competitiveness by improving the math and science performance of America's students.

Earlier this year, a special CPE task force issued a report – *The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Imperative: Competing in the Global Economy*. The report presented eight interrelated recommendations to improve the math, science, and engineering performance of Kentucky's students.

NMSI was launched with major backing from ExxonMobil Corporation, which committed \$125 million. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation also have provided funding for this initiative.