

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Milwaukee Teacher Education Center (MTEC) Announces new licensure pathway, CSI@MTEC**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin, February 3, 2017** - The Milwaukee Teacher Education Center (MTEC) is excited to announce the addition of a new alternative licensure program: Computer Science Initiative - CSI@MTEC. A curriculum schedule developed in partnership with Marquette University, University of Wisconsin - La Crosse and the Wisconsin Computer Science Teachers Association, to meet the increasing need for computer science professionals in the workforce. Federal Labor Law reports indicate computing professions as two-thirds of all projected new jobs in STEM fields, and while there is a growing need for computing occupations, the number of degrees granted in computing professions is decreasing.

MTEC's Computer Science Initiative alternative licensure program is a 12 month earn-while-you-learn schedule, designed for teachers who currently hold a Wisconsin teaching license at the high school or K-12 levels and are responsible for teaching computer science classes at the high school level. Completion of this program will result in obtaining a DPI teaching license in Computer Science (1405) at the Early Adolescence through Adolescence (73) level.

This new program will not only increase the number of educators in Wisconsin who are certified to teach computer science, but will also create more access to computer science courses for Wisconsin students in preparation for careers in computing. MTEC's Executive Director Dr. Laci Coppins Robbins adds, "An understanding of computer science for student learners is essential in today's world. One way proficiency occurs is through direct and effective instruction by area high school teachers. Offering the CSI @ MTEC program is another opportunity to empower educators and close the gap between skill set and future careers. Needless to say, this is an exciting opportunity for Wisconsin educators!" For more information on the program and how to apply, visit [www.mteconline.org](http://www.mteconline.org) or contact Mr. Joe Becker, Program Administrator at 414-375-0259.

#### **About MTEC**

MTEC is a not-for-profit, teacher certification and professional development center designed to recruit, support, and retain teachers and school leaders in urban settings. In addition, MTEC continues serving teachers and students through their successful year-round K-8 charter school, Milwaukee Environmental Sciences Academy. For more information on MTEC and its services please feel free to contact us.

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