Executive Summary

The proposed STEM project partners middle grades and mathematics methods course faculty and preservice middle level teachers at Georgia State University (GSU) with teachers and students at Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School (ANCS), a local middle school recently opened in southeast Atlanta. The overall purpose of this project is to create several year-long after-school mathematics clubs for middle level students at ANCS. The project hybrid space for practice teaching affords preservice teachers with the opportunity to design and implement student-led, democratic, project-based curriculum and to engage in alternate forms of reflection and learning among preservice teachers, inservice teachers, and middle grades students. The proposed project will be analyzed through the collection and evaluation of quantitative data, including preservice teacher and student surveys, and qualitative data, including preservice teacher reflection narratives, lesson plans, and interviews. Findings from this project will be communicated locally at GSU professional development seminars, at local middle schools, and at the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference; nationally via two journal manuscript submissions; and internationally at the Psychology of Mathematics Education conference.