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LAWRENCE

N.J. women to prove reading+math=fun

In December, Bristol-Myers Squibb awarded the American Association of University Women (AAUW) a community grant to spread the Let's Read Math program. The funds will go to the Makefield Area Branch of AAUW in Yardley, Pa., where the program originated in 2005. The Let's Read Math (LRM) program works to overcome math anxiety in elementary school children and their parents. Each LRM event involves reading a children's book and doing related math activities that are fun. The success of the -program rests on the efforts of volunteers. Through grants from the (national) AAUW Educational Foundation and others, the volunteer program has spread throughout the mid-Atlantic region and to branches across the country. New Jersey is next, thanks to funding from Bristol-Myers Squibb. The group will be contacting the 30 AAUW branches in New Jersey and distributing introductory materials. In May, there will be a training session at a Squibb location near Princeton. Branches will then receive a small stipend to implement programs in their home communities -- in classrooms, after-school centers, day camps, libraries or family centers. For more information about the AAUW-NJ, visit aauwnj.org. For more information about LRM, visit letsreadmath.com.

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