

### *Looping Ford PAS Teachers with a Cohort of Students in Lima, Ohio*

Lima currently has two teachers teaching Ford PAS who loop with a cohort of students. Another teacher and cohort of students will be added in January. The teachers are content area teachers who volunteer to teach Ford PAS; currently, one teaches math, and the other teaches English and social studies. The teachers see Ford PAS as a breath of fresh air in their day—an opportunity to break out of their content area routine, teach new content, and try new techniques.

Even though Ford PAS wasn't designed to be taught by one teacher, because the content across the courses is so varied, this setup is working in Lima because the teachers are working together to help each other when Ford PAS requires them to work outside their own content area: the math teacher may offer to help teach some of the statistics lessons; the English/social studies teacher may offer advice on how to grade student writing assignments.

The teachers' enthusiasm has translated to the students, who have helped increase student enrollment in the program through word-of-mouth endorsements. Each new cohort has been bigger than the last.

In order to ensure the success of "looping," EDC recommends that teachers volunteer to teach Ford PAS. Teachers also need to be willing to collaborate with other teachers to address their challenges in some content areas.

### *Student Application Process*

Lima doesn't have an application process, but it does have requirements. Originally, students were required to take Algebra II; however, with the expansion of the program, this requirement has been relaxed. In general, though, Lima recruits academically successful and motivated students.

Visit <http://www.fordpas.org/network/marketing.asp> for recruiting tools.

EDC has a suggestion about applications: While inviting students to apply to the program is often a good strategy to identify students with a genuine interest in Ford PAS, using prior academic performance as a basis for selection is not recommended, since many students who were previously disengaged from school do very well with Ford PAS.