

## FAME Research Studies and Development Work

### Introduction

The FAME Research and Development Team carries out two types of work in support of the Formative Assessment for Michigan Educators (FAME) program. Some of the key activities of each type are described below.

### Research Studies

The MAC R & D team is carrying out several research studies. These include:

- Direct study of FAME Learning Teams
- Study of teacher use of formative assessment practices in their classrooms
- Surveys and interviews with FAME Coaches, both those new to the program and returning Coaches in their second or third year in the program. Study questions have included how administrators can support staff participation in FAME, and how schools that are able to incorporate study of formative assessment practice with other school improvement activities are able to do so.

### Development Work

The other major type of work of the MAC FAME R & D team is to create new resources for use by FAME Coaches and Learning Team members. Current work includes:

- Development of a guide on student peer and self-assessment;
- Development of a guide on providing descriptive feedback to students;
- Summaries of research (*FAME Focal Points*) on how administrators can support participation of teaching staffs in FAME, as well as how some schools are able to incorporate study of formative assessment practice with other school improvement activities.
- Development of discipline area and formative assessment to demonstrate how disciplinary knowledge and formative assessment practice build on and support one another.
- Summary of optimal conditions at the district, school, and classroom levels for effective learning about formative assessment practices
- Case studies on effective FAME learning by teams at the intermediate district, school district, and school levels

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