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Blue Valley's Center for Advanced Professional Studies partners with Shakopee Public Schools

Blue Valley Schools is pleased to announce that Shakopee Public Schools, Shakopee, Minnesota, has signed an agreement to implement the Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) model. The inclusion of Shakopee expands the reach of CAPS to 17 school districts in eight states.

"We are continuing to see strong interest in the CAPS model from across the country," said Blue Valley CAPS Executive Director Corey Mohn. "With the dramatic increase in the number of CAPS programs, we look forward to the formal roll out of the CAPS network during the annual Summer Huddle."

"We are excited to be able to start a CAPS program at Shakopee High School this fall," said Rod Thompson, Shakopee Public Schools Superintendent. "We believe in what the CAPS Program can do for our students – providing an authentic, real-world experience that will benefit them for a life-time."

Shakopee will be partnering with two area businesses to rollout the program in fall 2015, St. Francis Regional Medical Center and Shutterfly.

"We are so fortunate to have two great partners to pilot this program," Thompson said. "In their willingness to participate in this pilot and provide classrooms to our students, they have shown their dedication to our community, our students and our public schools."

The Shakopee district serves nearly 8,000 students in Shakopee, Savage, Prior Lake, and the Jackson, Louisville and Sand Creek Townships. The district is located in one of the fastest growing suburbs in the Twin Cities.

"The CAPS approach is unique," said Tom Trigg, Blue Valley Schools Superintendent. "In addition to helping students see the connections between their studies and future careers, the program allows them to try areas of study before they invest financially in an academic track in college."

CAPS network members will be hosting the Annual Summer Huddle on July 19, 2015. The summer Huddle provides a forum for current and perspective CAPS program participants to meet, exchange ideas, refine the vision and develop implementation plans. For more information about the Huddle, visit www.bvcaps.org/huddle.

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