



# Evaluation Results:2025

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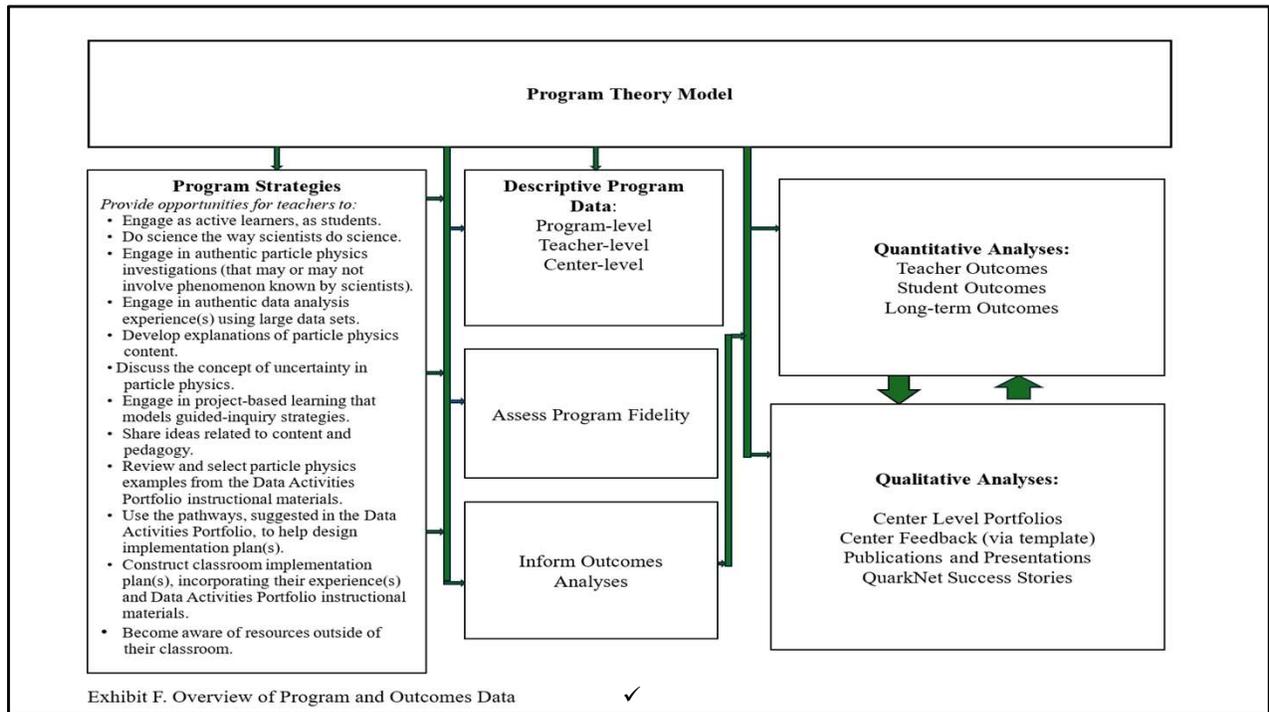


## Evaluation Themes

### **Focus**

Develop (and use) Program Theory Model (PTM)  
Measure Outcomes (Teacher, Student and Long-term)  
Measure Center-level Program Outcomes

**Program Strategies**  **Measurable Program Outcomes**



*It's all very well to test the outcomes in terms of achievement. If we don't know what leads to those outcomes and how we need to change the practices so that we get better outcomes then we could collect outcomes forever and we probably won't be improving very much.*

Senta Raizen  
National Center for Improving Science Education  
Congressional Testimony to the  
National Education Goals Panel  
September 4, 1991

# **Multiple Sources of Information**

## Sources of Outcomes Data

### Teacher Full Survey

Primary Focus: Quantitative analyses of teacher, student, and long-term outcomes

### Update Survey

Primary Focus: Qualitative analyses of QN content and material use in classrooms

### Center Feedback Process and Template

Primary Focus: Comparing center-level and teacher-level responses

### Virtual Workshop Visits by Evaluator

Primary Focus: Implementation plan discussions

### Multiple Sources of Information: Evidence of Program Engagement/ Alignment with PTM

### Workshop Summary Table compiled from:

Workshop Agendas  
Annual Reports from Centers

### Data Activities Portfolio alignment with:

NGSS Science Practices  
Workshop Engagement  
Enduring Understandings

### Acknowledge and Review other Information

(e.g., cosmic ray studies, use of comic watches, professional presentations; masterclasses; student-collected data)

Exhibit G. Summary and Overview of Evaluation Measures and Program Engagement

# QUARKNET Evaluation Report Organization

## Summary of Evaluation Results

The summary of evaluation results is highlighted in Table 15, using the outline highlighted below to achieve this purpose. The narrative of the evaluation report uses this organization and has detailed support for the conclusions presented for each of the following:

1. QuarkNet: Professional Development for HS Teachers
2. (Develop and) Use a Program Theory Model
3. Program Organization
4. Data Activity Portfolio: Brief History and Development
5. Program Implementation and Measuring Fidelity (*Designed vs. Implemented Program*)
6. Linking Program Strategies to Outcomes
7. Survey Implementation and Response Rates
8. Summary of QuarkNet Teachers: Demographics
9. School Characteristics and Student Demographics
10. Overview of Analyses: Teacher (and their Students) and Long-term Outcomes
11. Unique Contribution of Major QN Program Components
12. How QuarkNet Engagement is Related to Outcomes: QuarkNet Centers Matter
13. Qualitative Analyses: Center-level Portfolios A Narrative Picture of QuarkNet's Influence
14. Center-level Outcomes and Effective Practices
15. Getting the Word Out
16. QuarkNet Success Stories: Case Studies
17. Program and Evaluation Recommendations

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Race, Ad Board Meeting, May 2025

## QuarkNet Partners



**NSF:** The National Science Foundation is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 "to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense..." NSF supports basic research and people to create knowledge that transforms the future. QuarkNet is funded through NSF's Integrative Activities in Physics Program.

**Advisory Board:** Typically, eight to ten individuals both familiar with and new to the program meet annually to review QuarkNet program achievements and make recommendations for future plans and objectives. Members represent a diverse mix of high school physics teachers, education administrators, research physicists and physics outreach leaders.



**U.S. ATLAS:** A collaboration of scientists from 45 U.S. institutions. ATLAS is one of two general-purpose detectors at the Large Hadron Collider in Geneva, Switzerland. The ATLAS experiment investigates a wide range of physics, from the search for the Higgs boson to extra dimensions and particles that could make up dark matter. U.S. ATLAS is a co-sponsor of QuarkNet.



**QuarkNet:** The QuarkNet Collaboration is a long-term, national program that partners high school science teachers with particle physicists working in experiments at the scientific frontier. A professional development program, QuarkNet immerses teachers in authentic physics research and seeks to engage them in the development of instructional strategies and best practices that facilitate the implementation of these principles in their classrooms.



**U.S. CMS:** A collaboration of more than 900 scientists from 50 U.S. institutions who make significant contributions to the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector. Discoveries from the CMS experiment are revolutionizing our understanding of the universe. USCMS is a co-sponsor of QuarkNet.



**QuarkNet Centers:** Centers both form the essential backbone of and are partners in QuarkNet. A center is housed at a university or laboratory, serving high school physics and physical science teachers; active local centers number 50+.



**Fermilab:** America's particle physics and accelerator laboratory whose vision is to solve the mysteries of matter, energy, space and time for the benefit of all. Fermilab, a co-sponsor of QuarkNet, hosts Data Camp held each summer and supports the cosmic ray studies program. Fermilab hosts DUNE and the Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility. DUNE brings together over 1,000 scientists from more than 175 institutions in over 30 countries.

**Broader Impacts:** QuarkNet has led in facilitating the public use of large particle physics datasets. Working within the International Particle Physics Outreach group (IPPOG), QuarkNet shares the overall central coordination of International Masterclasses (IMC). QuarkNet schedules and coordinates ATLAS, CMS, MINERvA and NOvA International Masterclasses with videoconferences based at Fermilab. Also, QuarkNet develops and coordinates World Wide Data Day, an IMC extension, and shares leadership in the global cosmic ray studies project. QuarkNet provides a wealth of information for IPPOG members to consider in their own education and outreach programs. QuarkNet staff and teachers attend and present at meetings of the American Association of Physics Teachers and the American Physical Society. These presentations have highlighted how QuarkNet works, e-Labs, the Data Activities Portfolio and scientific discovery for students.



**IRIS-HEP:** A software institute funded by the National Science Foundation. It aims to develop the state-of-the-art software cyberinfrastructure required for the challenges of data intensive scientific research at the High Luminosity Large Hadron Collider (HL-LHC) at CERN, and other planned HEP experiments of the 2020's. In partnership with IRIS-HEP, QuarkNet offers professional development opportunities for teachers to improve coding skills to enhance classroom implementation of particle physics instructional materials.

**Broadening Participation and Community Outreach:** QuarkNet works on multiple fronts to help broaden participation beyond the existing community, including teachers and students who are underrepresented in physics. Examples include center needs assessment workshops that serve to identify ways to reach out to these communities. QuarkNet partners with other STEM organizations to reach more teachers and students. Recent partners are *STEP UP*, *STEMarts Lab*, and *i.am.Angel Foundation*. Many Data Activities Portfolio activities have been translated into Spanish. Often, participating teachers develop classroom implementation plans that integrate culturally sensitive content. Centers integrate QuarkNet in their community outreach efforts, partnering to reach beyond existing QuarkNet schools to students traditionally underrepresented in STEM.

Exhibit A. The first page of the PTM highlights key partners and outreach efforts.

Table 15  
QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<b>1. QuarkNet: Professional Development for HS Teachers</b>  Appendix A highlights program history.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of previous program and evaluation documents</li> <li>QuarkNet staff expertise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief program history presented.</li> <li>Importance of Centers noted.</li> <li>Four Program Goals presented.</li> <li>Approach to evaluation provided (three themes).</li> </ul>
<b>2. (Develop and) Use a Program Theory Model</b>  Appendix B summarizes the protocol used to develop this model. Appendix C presents the full model (PTM).	Created by working groups based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structured interviews with key QuarkNet staff</li> <li>Relevant literature</li> <li>QuarkNet staff expertise</li> </ul> PTM is intended to reflect that <i>context matters</i> in the implementation of the program providing a representative picture of how <i>change</i> is expected to happen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In detail (7 pages) PTM outlines the links between core program strategies, program structure and major program outcomes. (See Appendix C.)</li> <li>Offers a Theory of Change: <i>By immersing teachers in doing authentic particle physics research and by engaging them in professional development that supports guided-inquiry and standards-aligned instructional practices and materials designed for the classroom, teachers become empowered to teach particle physics to their students in ways that model the actual practices of scientists and support instructional best practices suggested by the educational research literature.</i></li> </ul>
<b>3. Program Organization</b>  (See Figure 2 for chart.) (See Table 1 for list of QuarkNet centers.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organization and Implementation chart (developed by QuarkNet staff)</li> <li>Program's website <a href="https://quarknet.org/">https://quarknet.org/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overviews the administration and implementation of the program.</li> <li>Key role of centers noted (presently 55 centers).</li> <li>Importance of QuarkNet's website presented.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Data Activity Portfolio: Brief History and Development</b>  Appendix D overview protocol. Appendix E presents a brief history of Data Activities Portfolio (DAP) growth.  (See Tables 2-4.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Data Portfolio is a compendium of particle physics classroom activities organized by Data Strand, Level of student engagement, Curriculum Topics and NGSS Standards. (Data Activities Portfolio QuarkNet)</i></li> <li>Organized by key search options</li> <li>Pathway and Template documents created to support development of activities</li> <li>Supported with resources (e.g., teacher/student notes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by required student skills sets (Levels 0-4) (developed by QuarkNet staff).</li> <li>Criteria used to determine the alignment of DAP with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) defined by QuarkNet staff. (See Table 2 in full report.)</li> <li>DAP <i>as designed</i> aligns well with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), (see Table 3) and</li> <li>QuarkNet's defined Enduring Understandings (see Table 4).</li> <li>Grown to include 40 plus activities, designed to be implemented in the classroom. Several can be implemented online and several are in Spanish.</li> </ul>

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Race, Ad Board Meeting, May 2025



**QuarkNet Program Theory Model**

**Program Statement:** The QuarkNet Collaboration is a long-term, national program that partners high school science teachers with particle physicists working in experiments at the scientific frontier. A professional development program, QuarkNet immerses teachers in authentic physics research and seeks to engage them in the development of instructional strategies and best practices that facilitate the implementation of these principles in their classrooms.

**Centers:** QuarkNet delivers its professional development program in partnership with local centers.

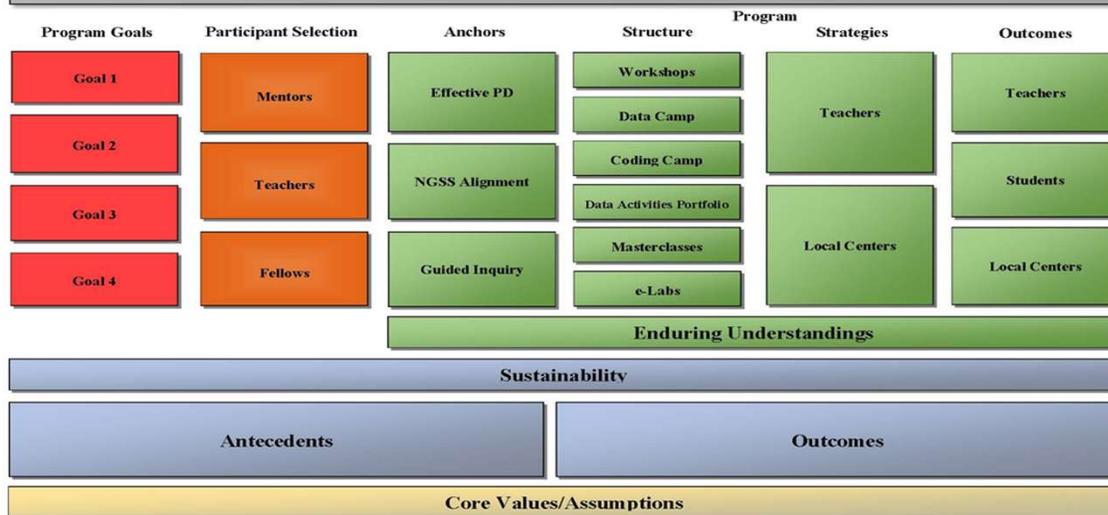


Exhibit B. The second page of the PTM overviews its component parts.

Table 15 (con't.)  
QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<p><b>5. Program Implementation and Measuring Fidelity (Designed vs. Implemented Program)</b></p> <p>Previous program years are highlighted in a series of tables in Appendix F.</p> <p>(See Table 5 in evaluation report for 2024 program year summary.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program Theory Model</li> <li>• Workshop Agendas</li> <li>• Center Annual Reports</li> <li>• Virtual site visits by the evaluator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop summary tables highlight the <i>implemented</i> QuarkNet program. (See Table 5.)</li> <li>• Workshop agendas incorporate DAP activities offering opportunities for teachers to engage in these as active learners.</li> <li>• <i>Implemented</i> activities align well with NGSS Science Practices (see Figure Set 14).</li> <li>• Creates predicate to compare program engagement to program outcomes (presented here shortly).</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Linking Program Strategies to Outcomes</b></p> <p>Appendix G presents a series of tables that link core program strategies to relevant education literature, followed by linking core strategies to program outcomes. Appendix H presents Full Teacher Survey. Appendix I presents Update Survey. Appendix J presents Center-level Feedback Template.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program Theory Model</li> <li>• Linking Program Engagement to Outcomes (evidence of program engagement)</li> <li>• Sources of Outcomes Data delineated</li> <li>• Appendix K shows statistical support for use of scale scores</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview outcomes data sources:</li> <li>• Teacher Full Survey</li> <li>• Update Survey (Spanish language version also)</li> <li>• Center Feedback Process and Template</li> <li>• Virtual Workshop Visits by Evaluator</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Survey Implemented and Reponses Rates</b></p> <p>(See Table 6.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher surveys (full/update) were conducted during 2019-2024 program years</li> <li>• Survey implemented during workshop participation with follow-up email as necessary</li> <li>• Raw data from the full teacher survey and the update survey</li> <li>• Data retrieved from Survey Monkey</li> <li>• Raw data cleaned and multiple data calculations and all analyses conducted using IBM SPSS version 28</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual survey responses (including combined full and update versions for years when relevant) range from a low of 72% (during COVID) to 80% during the 2019-2023 program years.</li> <li>• 83% response rate for 2024 program year.</li> </ul>

**Exposure to NGSS Practices: Based On DAP Activities Presented in Workshops:  
2019 through 2023 (March through November for each year)  
As Implemented**

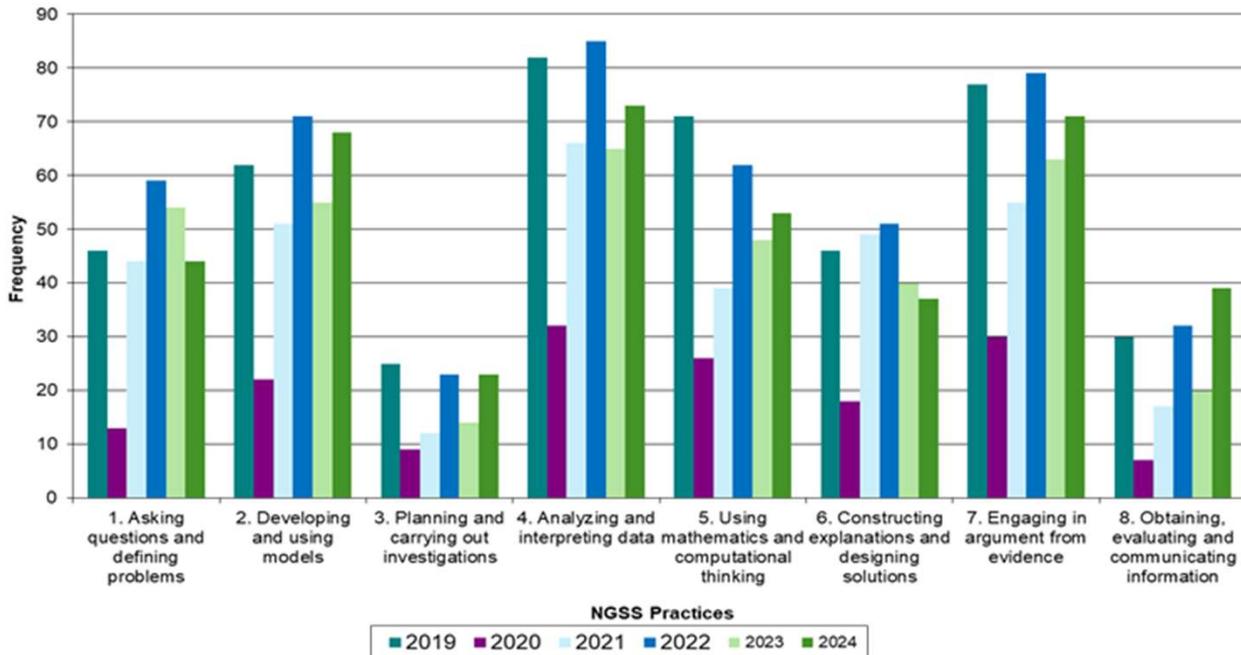


Table 15 (con't.)  
 QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<b>8. Summary of QuarkNet Teachers: Demographics</b>		
<b>a. Gender of Teachers</b> (not statistically related to outcomes)  (See Table 7.)	Full Teacher Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number and percent of women who participate QuarkNet has increased over recent program years.</li> <li>• Over the 2019-2024 program years program engagement is close to parity: 50% for men; 43.6% for women; and 6.4% not specified (based on survey data).</li> <li>• From 2024 program registration information, 48% are men. 47% are women and 5% preferred not to answer.</li> </ul>
<b>b. Teachers New to QuarkNet</b>  Appendix L presents these data by QuarkNet center and program years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey</li> <li>• Operations Data (teachers receiving stipends)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For 2019-2022 program years, 36% of teachers were new/1-year in program.</li> <li>• For the 2023 program year, this percent was 33%.</li> <li>• In 2024 program, 33% of teachers were new/1-year in program (information from attendance records and survey responses).</li> </ul>
<b>c. Years in QuarkNet, Years Teaching and Years at Current School</b>  (See Figure Set 4.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey (at the time teachers completed their survey)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on teacher reports, the mean number of years in QuarkNet is 4.62 years (median 2.0 years).</li> <li>• Mean number of years teaching is 16.12 years (median 15 years).</li> <li>• Mean number of years at current school is 9.09 years (median 7 years).</li> </ul>
<b>d. School Location</b>  (See Table 8.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 50% (51.3%) of schools where participating teachers teach are in urban/urban central city locations.</li> <li>• 29.5% of schools are in suburban locations.</li> <li>• 19.2% of schools are in rural locations.</li> </ul>
<b>e. Teaching Physics</b>  (See Table 8.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey (at the time teachers completed their survey)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 74.8% of teachers reported teaching physics.</li> <li>• Over time, there has been a tendency for more teachers to report that they are not teaching physics.</li> <li>• Other fields mentioned include Chemistry, Physical Science, Earth Sciences, Biology, Statistics, Math.</li> <li>• Slightly more women report that they do not teach physics as compared to men.</li> </ul>

Table 15 (con't)  
 QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<b>8. Summary of QuarkNet Teachers: Demographics (con't.)</b>		
<b>f. QuarkNet Participation</b>  (See Tables 9-10.) (See Figure 6.)	Full Teacher Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any and all programs (as reported when survey was completed) that teachers participated in at the time they completed their full survey.</li> <li>• Program engagement linked to exposure to core program strategies.</li> </ul>
<b>g. QuarkNet Participation and Program Year</b>  (See Table 11.)	Full Teacher Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes do not vary by which year a teacher participates in QuarkNet.</li> </ul>
<b>9. School Characteristics and Student Demographics</b> (based on publicly available school-level information) <b>a. Location</b> <b>b. Enrollment size</b> <b>c. Student: Gender (%), Ethnicity/Race (%); Free or Reduced Lunch (%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large scale case study</li> <li>• Either www.publicschoolreview.com or www.privateschoolreview.com</li> <li>• Information accepted at face value.</li> <li>• Based on teachers enrolled in QuarkNet during the 2022 program year.</li> <li>• ~ 250 teachers from ~120 schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized by center.</li> <li>• Schools represented by QuarkNet teachers are varied; representing mostly public schools both large and small; and, to a lesser extent, private schools. Some centers show evidence that students represented by schools are diverse in ethnicity and represent notable percents of low-income students (e.g., free or reduced lunch eligibility). Other centers less so.</li> </ul>
<b>10. Overview of Analyses: Teacher (and their Students) and Long-term Outcomes</b>  (See Figure 7.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey: Quantitative Data Analyses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maps out key outcomes analyses</li> <li>• Statistical analyses support the use of scale scores as program exposure/outcome measures.</li> <li>• Outcomes measures are:                          Core Strategies (exposure),                          Approach to Teaching,                          QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching,                          Student Engagement (as perceived by teachers),                          QuarkNet's Influence on Student Engagement and Long-term Outcomes.</li> </ul>

### 10. Overview of Analyses: Teacher (and their Students) and Long-term Outcomes

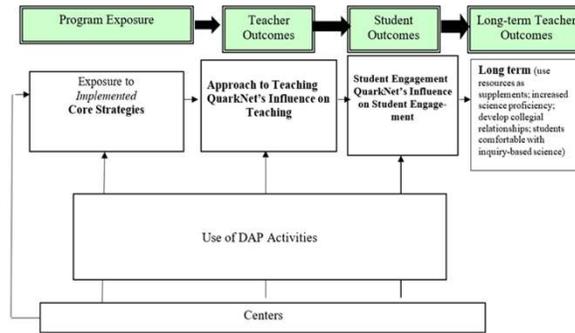


Figure 7. Teacher (and their Students) and Long-term Outcomes: Overview of Analyses

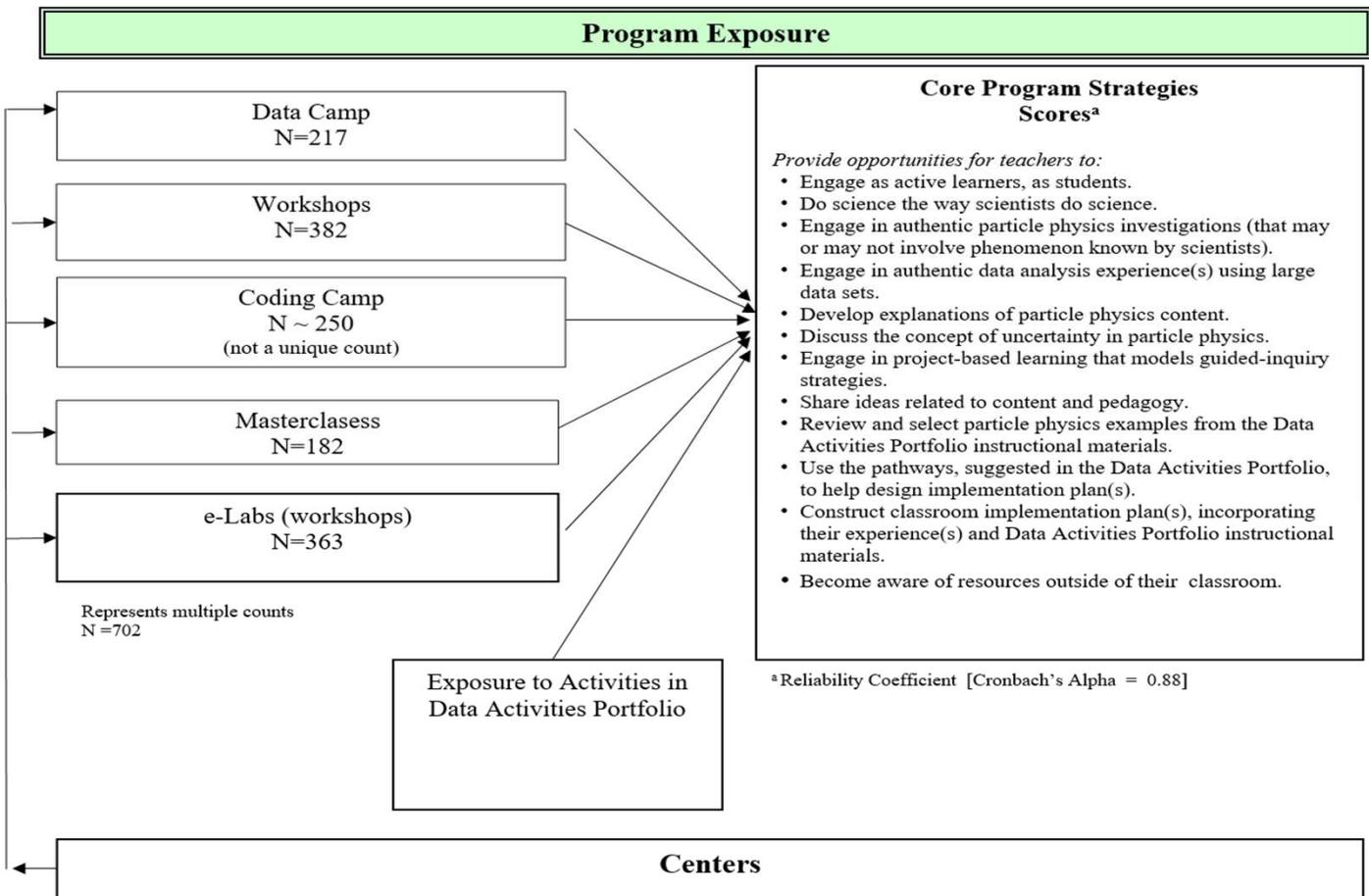


Figure 8. The relationship between engagement in QuarkNet program components and the measure of Core Strategies.

Table 15 (con't)  
QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<p><b>11. Unique Contributions of QuarkNet Program Components</b></p> <p>a. <b>Data Camp</b> b. <b>(Variety of) Workshops</b> c. <b>Masterclasses</b></p> <p>(See Table 12 in full report.) Appendix L presents summary of results and analysis details.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Teacher Survey (Program Exposure and Outcome Scale Scores: Core Strategies, Approach to Teaching, QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching, Student Engagement, QuarkNet's Influence on Student Engagement, and Long-term Outcomes: Teachers.)</li> <li>Requested by NSF. In response, conducted a series of simultaneous Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) analyses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyses suggest that Data Camp and Variety of Workshops each contribute to teachers' reported engagement in Core Strategies, and that</li> <li>Each major program component of QuarkNet contributes uniquely to at least one or more outcome measures: Approach to Teaching; QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching, Student Engagement (as reported by teachers), QuarkNet's Influence on Student Engagement; and Long-term Teacher Outcomes. (See Table 12 in full report.)</li> <li>Thus, analyses suggest that each of the major components of QuarkNet contribute <i>uniquely</i> to outcomes as measured.</li> <li>Analyses do not take into consideration the role that centers play in engagement and outcomes (do not meet statistical requirements for such analyses).</li> </ul>
<p><b>12. How QuarkNet Engagement is Related to Outcomes: QuarkNet Centers Matter</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Teacher Survey</li> <li>Hierarchical linear regression analyses that account for teachers nested in QuarkNet Centers.</li> <li>Using scale scores to measure outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Figure 8 for a schematic on the relationship between program engagement and exposure to core program strategies.</li> <li>QuarkNet Centers <i>matter</i> when assessing teacher, student, and long-term outcomes. (See below for short summary of each.)</li> </ul>
<p>a. <b>Approach to Teaching</b></p> <p>(See Figure 9-10.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scale Scores: Core Strategies, Approach to Teaching, QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching and Center-level Mean Scores (Approach to Teaching)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A hierarchical linear regression analysis based on 26 centers (34 combined) explored the relationship between QuarkNet program engagement and Approach to Teaching. The results of this analysis suggest that QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching, Core Strategies and Centers (as measured by mean Approach to Teaching Scores) are shown to be positively related to teachers' use of content and instructional practices in their classrooms (i.e., Approach to Teaching). These results are statistically significant [<math>F_{(3, 424)} = 77.32, p &lt; .001</math>]. See Figures 9-10.</li> </ul>

Table 12  
Analyses Comparing Individual QuarkNet Components:  
Unique Contributions of Each

QuarkNet Program Component	Statistical Results	Other Relationships	Long-term Teachers: Outcomes
<b>Data Camp</b>	Data Camp experience was shown to be statistically significantly related to higher <b>Core Strategies<sup>a</sup></b> scores and <b>Approach to Teaching</b> scores (on average) by participating teachers.	Workshop experience was also statistically significantly related to higher <b>Approach to Teaching</b> scores (on average).	All QuarkNet components Data Camp, Variety of Workshops, and Masterclass participation were statistically significantly related to higher <b>Long-term Teacher Outcomes<sup>a</sup></b> scores (on average).
<b>Variety of Workshops</b>	Participation in workshops (two or more) as reported by teachers was statistically significantly related to higher scores (on average) for <b>Core Strategies,<sup>a</sup> Approach to Teaching, QN's Influence on Teaching,<sup>a</sup> and Student Engagement.</b>	Higher <b>Student Engagement</b> scores (on average) were also statistically significantly related to teachers' participation in Masterclass.	
<b>Masterclass</b>	Participation in Masterclasses (one or more) as reported by teachers was statistically significantly related to <b>Student Engagement, and QN's Influence on Student Engagement</b> scores.	Higher <b>Student Engagement</b> scores were also statistically significantly related to reported workshop participation.	

Note: This table summarizes the results of a series of ANOVA analyses where each of the listed QuarkNet program components are treated simultaneously as independent variables, and where in separate analyses Core Strategies, Approach to Teaching; QN's Influence on Teaching, Student Engagement, QN's Influence on Student Engagement, and Long-term Teacher Outcomes scores each is treated as the dependent variable. Long-term outcomes include survey items that address: 1. Use resources as supplements. 2. Increased science proficiency; 3. Develop collegial relationships; and 4. Students are more comfortable with inquiry-based sciences. <sup>a</sup>Unequal variance was noted as well. Based on scale scores created from survey responses from 2019 through 2023 program years.

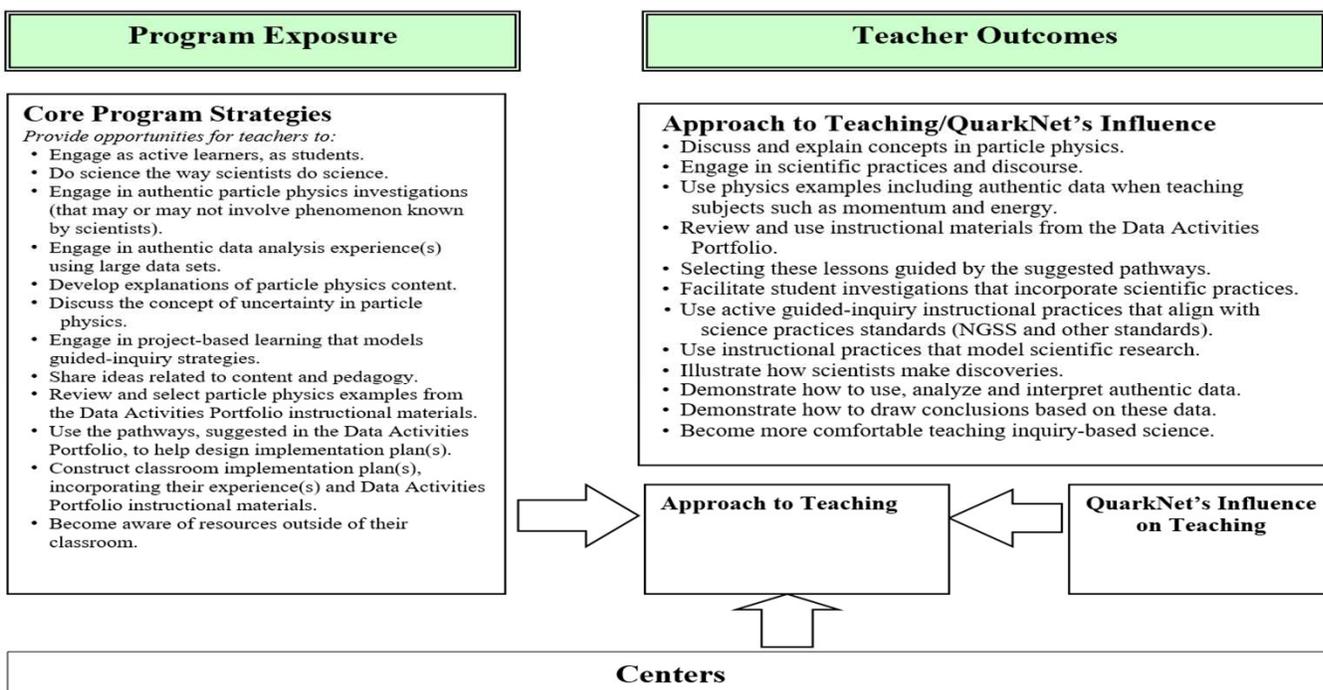
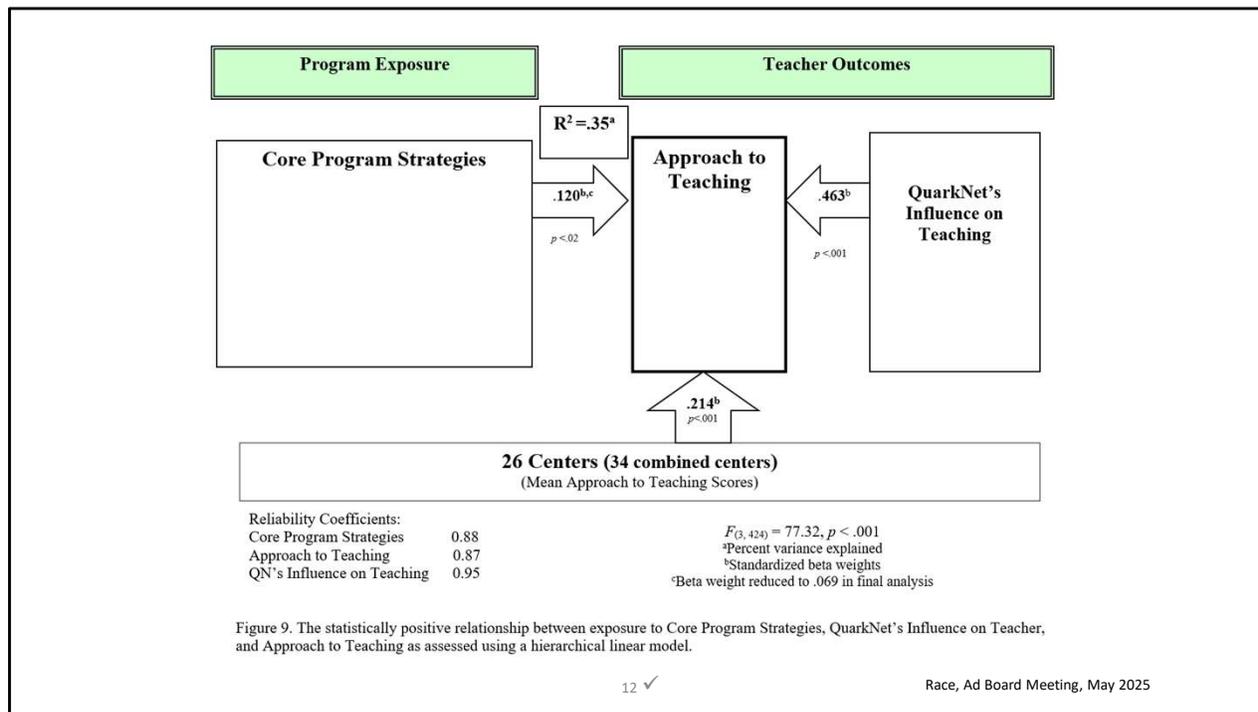


Figure 10. Survey items included in the measurement of Core Program Strategies scores, and Approach Teaching scores and perceived QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching scores.

Table 15 (con't.)  
QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<b>12. How QuarkNet Engagement is Related to Outcomes: QuarkNet Centers Matter</b> (con't.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey</li> <li>• Hierarchical linear regression analyses that account for teachers nested in QuarkNet Centers.</li> <li>• Using scale scores to measure outcomes.</li> </ul>	
<b>b. Student Engagement</b>  (See Figure 11-12.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scale Scores: Student Engagement, QuarkNet's Influence on Student Engagement, Approach to Teaching and Center-level Student Engagement Mean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This hierarchical linear regression analysis was based on 26 (34 combined) centers. The results of this analysis suggest QuarkNet's Influence on Student Engagement, Approach to Teaching and Centers (as measured by mean Student Engagement scores) have a positive relationship on this Student Engagement. These results are statistically significant [<math>F_{(3, 383)} = 94.43, p &lt; .001</math>].</li> </ul>
<b>c. Long-Term Outcomes</b>  (See Figure 13.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scale Scores: QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching, Student Engagement and Long-term Outcomes</li> </ul>	<p>Again, using a hierarchical linear regression analysis, perceived QuarkNet's Influence on Teaching, Student Engagement and Center-level Means (Long-term Outcomes) are positively and statistically related to Long-term Outcomes: Teachers [<math>F_{(3, 386)} = 66.64, p &lt; .001</math>].</p>
<b>13. Qualitative Analyses: Center-level Portfolios A Narrative Picture of QuarkNet's Influence</b>  Compiled for 26 (34 combined) centers included in the quantitative analyses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Teacher Survey (open-ended questions)</li> <li>• Update Survey (open-ended questions)</li> <li>• Virtual workshop site visits by evaluator</li> <li>• Teacher Implementations Plans (workshop agendas/center annual report)</li> <li>• Examples of teachers' work</li> <li>• Examples of student work</li> </ul>	<p>Organized by center, portfolios are comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers reported planned or actual use of QuarkNet content and materials in their classroom over time (based on survey responses).</li> </ul> <p>When available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation plans prepared by teachers or groups of teachers and posted on QuarkNet website are included.</li> <li>• Examples of teacher work (during workshops, science fairs, presentations at workshops/ professional conferences) are included.</li> <li>• Examples of student work are included.</li> </ul>

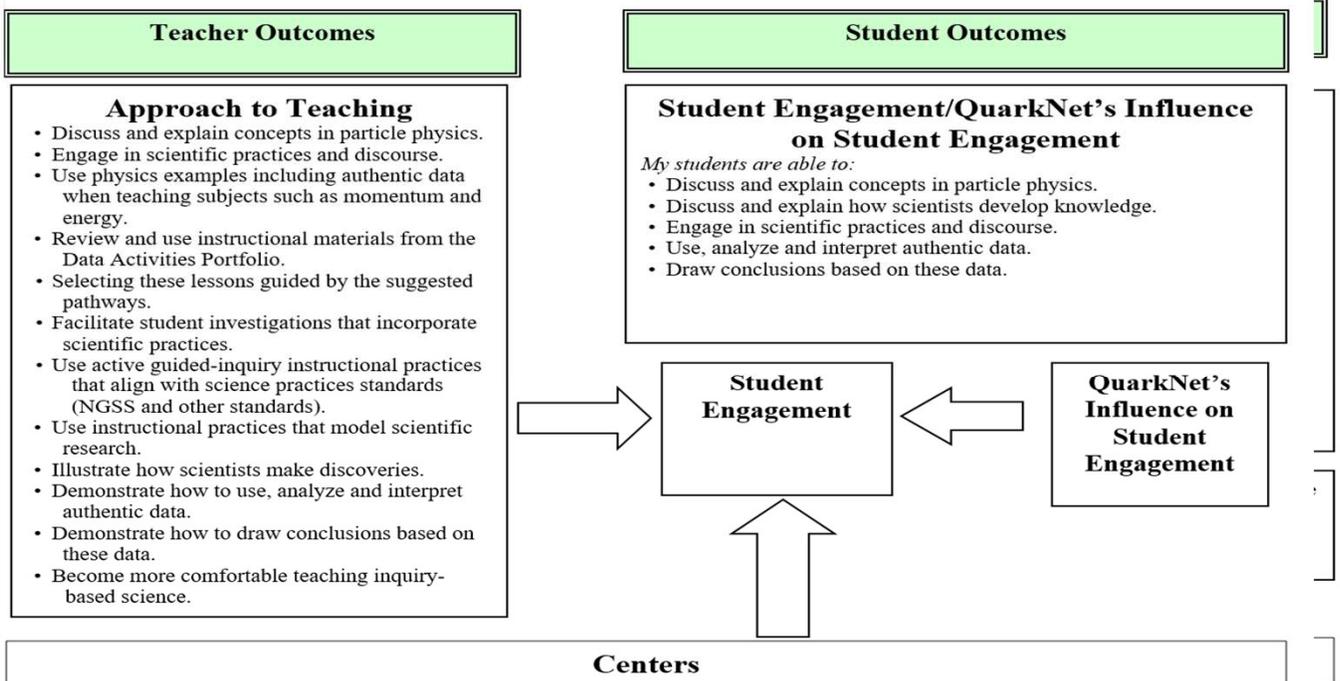
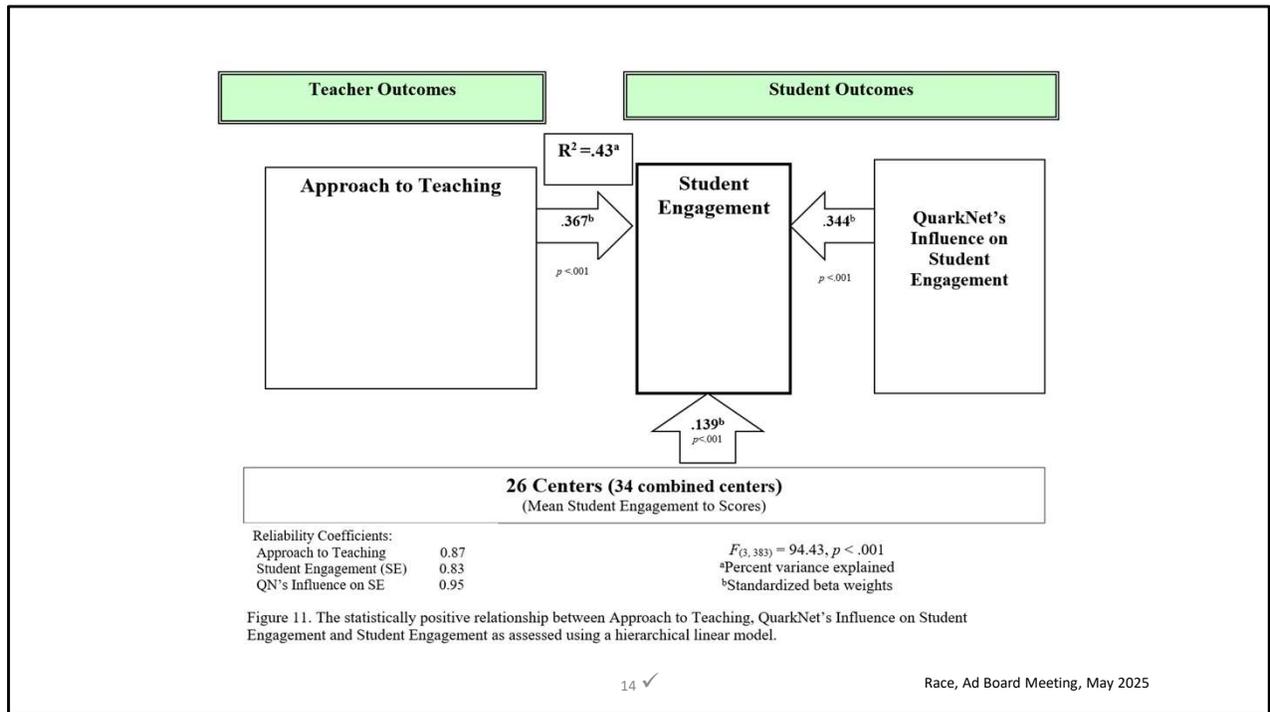
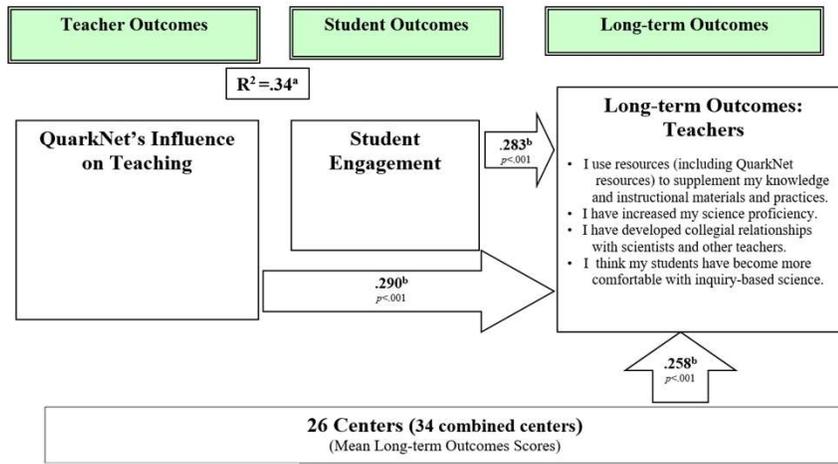


Figure 12. Survey items included in the measurement of Approach to Teaching scores, QuarkNet's Influence on Student Engagement scores and Student Engagement scores as assessed using a hierarchical linear model.



Reliability Coefficients:  
 QN's Influence on Teaching 0.87  
 Student Engagement (SE) 0.83  
 Long-term Outcomes 0.81

$F(3, 386) = 66.64, p < .001$   
<sup>a</sup>Percent variance explained  
<sup>b</sup>Standardized beta weights

Figure 13. The statistically positive relationship between QuarkNet's Influence on Approach to Teaching, Student Engagement and Long-term Outcomes as assessed using a hierarchical linear model.



**Qualitative Analyses:  
Center-level Portfolios  
26 (34 combined) Centers**



## Center-level Portfolios

### **Each is posted on the QN Center's website**

All contain a table that summarizes responses to open-ended questions by teachers over time.

Suggest a variety of ways in which QuarkNet content and materials are used in classrooms (and specific events such as science fairs, physics clubs, masterclasses).



## Center-level Portfolios

### Implementation plan examples from teachers:

Boston Area Center  
Brookhaven National Lab  
Catholic University of America  
Johns Hopkins University  
Oklahoma State University/University of Oklahoma  
Virginia Tech University  
University of Iowa/University of Iowa  
University of Minnesota



## Center-level Portfolios

### Examples of work by teachers:

Rice University/University of Houston (coding projects)

University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez (coding projects)

Colorado State University (presentations at regional conference)

Kansas State University (center-level research project)

University of Illinois at Chicago (center-level data analysis project)

Fermilab (guest teachers at regional meeting analyze masterclass data)

Syracuse University (teachers drawing Feynman diagrams during workshop)



## Center-level Portfolios

### Examples of student work:

Boston Area (data collected by students during a masterclass)  
Virginia Center (data collected by students during a masterclass)  
Idaho State University (student poster at local science fair)  
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (student presentation during workshop)  
University of Minnesota (former student co-author of published paper)  
University of Illinois at Chicago (student presentations at national conference)  
University of New Mexico (particle deck sorting activity – classroom work)

Table 15 (con't)  
 QuarkNet Evaluation: Summary of Major Efforts and Results

Evaluation Effort	Source(s) of Information	Highlighted Major Results
<p><b>14. Center-level Outcomes and Effective Practices</b></p> <p>(See Figure Set 14 for comparisons of designed vs. implemented and teacher-level and center-level responses.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Center Feedback Template</li> <li>• Effective Practices (M.J. Young &amp; Associates (2017, September). <i>QuarkNet: Matrix of Effective Practices</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Center-level responses from Center Feedback Templates indicate that QuarkNet teachers engaged in NGSS Science Practices as part of their work-shop engagement; and this experience has a noted influence on teachers related to these practices.</li> <li>• Comparisons suggest good agreement on select responses by individual QuarkNet teachers and QuarkNet centers [26 (34 combined) centers].</li> <li>• Results suggest good alignment of centers to meet the criterion of each of 10 effective practices.</li> <li>• Offers a suggestion of program sustainability (i.e., what is being sustained).</li> </ul>
<p><b>15. Getting the Word Out</b></p> <p>Compiled by K. Cecire and S. Wood</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://quarknet.org/content/publications-presentations-and-posters-sept-2018-sept-2023">https://quarknet.org/content/publications-presentations-and-posters-sept-2018-sept-2023</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Publications, Presentations, and Posters June 2023-Present   QuarkNet</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of the 2023 program year (Sept), QuarkNet has posted a total of 72 presentations, posters, and publications by staff, teachers and/or students.</li> <li>• From June 2023 to present, an additional 35 presentations, posters, and publications by staff, teachers and/or students have been posted.</li> </ul>
<p><b>16. QuarkNet Success Stories: Case Studies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Testimonials</li> <li>• Interviews with select staff, teachers and former students</li> <li>• Emails from staff about former students</li> <li>• <a href="#">Evaluation Team   QuarkNet</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In more detail as how QuarkNet has influenced teachers, students as well as its staff, a series of two supplemental reports were created in support of these quantitative and qualitative analyses</li> <li>• Each vignette prepared with the active participation of the individual highlighted.</li> <li>• The first report highlights individuals from four QuarkNet centers. The second report highlights individuals from one QuarkNet center.</li> <li>• Staff, teacher and student work examples are proffered including publications, and presentations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>17. Program and Evaluation Recommendations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culmination of information sources contained in this evaluation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 10 program recommendations and</li> <li>• 10 evaluation recommendations are proffered.</li> </ul>



## **Center-level Feedback Templates**

Comparing Center and Teacher Responses  
Effective Practices/Success Factors

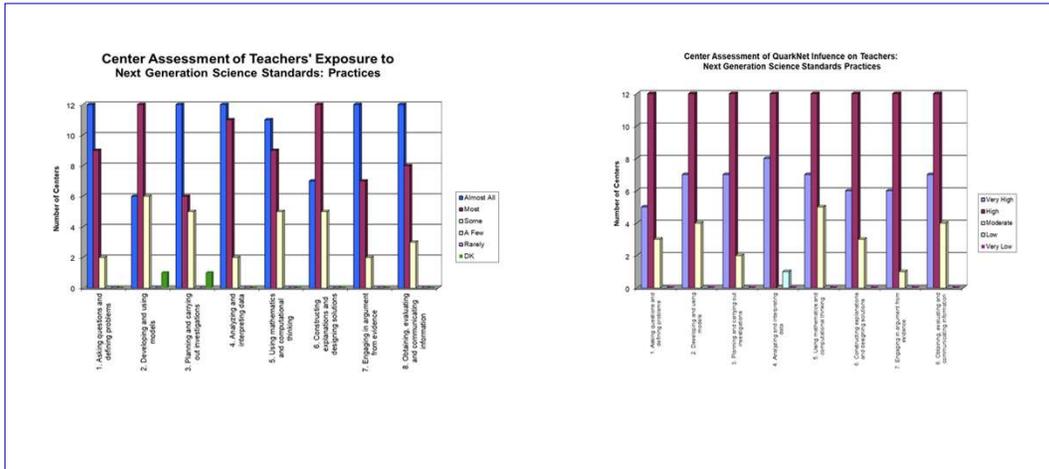


Table 13  
Comparison of Center-level<sup>a</sup> and Individual Teacher<sup>b</sup> Responses

Program Engagement Opportunities	Center: Engage Teachers as Active Learners, as Students <sup>a</sup>	Teachers: QuarkNet provides opportunities for teachers to engage as an active learner, as a student <sup>b</sup>	Center: QuarkNet's Influence on Teachers (on this behavior) <sup>a</sup>
Teachers engage as active learners, as students	<i>Almost all</i> Teachers 20/25 centers	79% of teachers reported opportunities as <i>Excellent</i>	Rated as 14/25 centers <i>High</i> 11/25 <i>Very High</i>
Teachers interact with Mentor(s) and/or  Other teachers	<i>Almost all</i> Teachers 18/25 centers  22/25 centers	81% of teachers reported opportunities as <i>Excellent</i>	Rated as 16/25 centers <i>Very High</i> 6/25 centers <i>High</i> 22/25 <i>Very High/High</i>  12/25 centers <i>Very High</i> 9/25 centers <i>High</i> 21/25 center <i>Very High/High</i>
Form lasting collegial relationships	<i>Almost all</i> Teachers 12/25 centers <i>Most</i> Teachers 7/25 centers  <i>Almost all/Most</i> Teachers 19/25	63% of teachers reported opportunities to form collegial relationships with scientists/teachers as <i>Excellent</i>  71% of teachers reported opportunities to building a local learning environment as <i>Excellent</i>	Rated as 12/24 centers <i>Very High</i> 9/24 centers <i>High</i> 19/24 centers <i>Very High/High</i>

<sup>a</sup>Based on 25 (33 combined) centers.

<sup>b</sup>Based on teacher survey data from 2019-2024 program years (for teachers who answered this question).



## Getting the Word Out

2018-2023 72 Publications, presentations, and posters

[Publications, Presentations, and Posters 2019-2023 | QuarkNet](#)

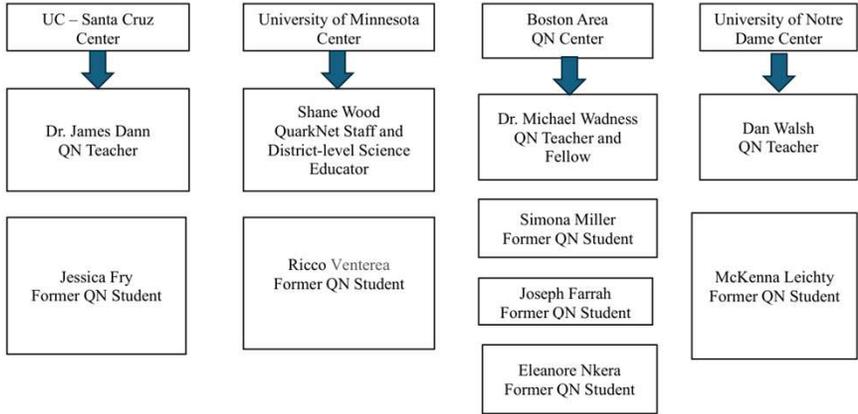
June 2023 Additional 35 works and growing

[Publications, Presentations, and Posters June 2023-Present | QuarkNet](#)

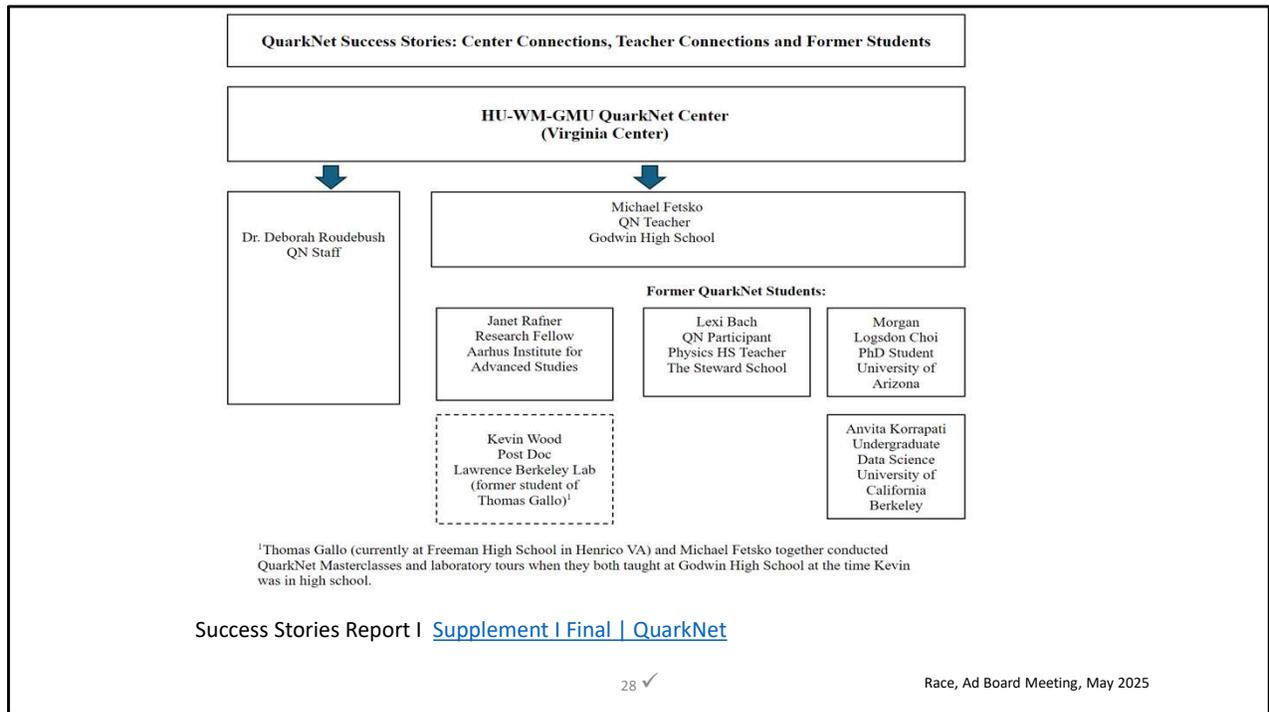


## **Success Stories: Select Case Studies**

**QuarkNet Success Stories: Center Connections, Teacher Connections and Former Students**



Success Stories Report I [Supplement I Final](#) | [QuarkNet](#)



Two former students received a Fullbright.

Two former students received NSF funded REU Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships

One teacher did his doctoral dissertation on QuarkNet’s masterclasses in particle physics.

Numerous presentations and publications authored/coauthored by staff, teachers and former students are highlighted.

QuarkNet teachers have authored/co-authored physics curriculum materials.

Former QuarkNet students include that are now: researchers, a high school teacher, Ph.D. candidates, graduate students pursuing a Ph.D. and undergraduate students pursuing a physics/science education path.



# **Program and Evaluation Recommendations**



## Bringing into the Evaluation

### **Next Steps:**

#### **Acknowledge/Review Additional Data/Sources**

Cosmic Ray studies (data/examples) ✓

Masterclasses (focus on students' collection of data) ✓

Professional Presentations (by QN staff, teachers, and students) ✓

Cosmic Watches – will include as this becomes more established in program