

## MIT Women's Initiative Coming to ASD

Anchorage School District received exciting news recently. Our district has been selected from hundreds of applicants nationwide to be one of the select few chosen to host the MIT Women's Initiative Program for 2012.

This highly competitive program, which is in its tenth year, is aimed at persuading high school and middle school girls to pursue careers in engineering, math, science, and technology.

Throughout the week of January 23-27, two representatives from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) School of Engineering will visit our ten middle schools. At each site the presenters will share their unique insights, describe professional opportunities, and facilitate hands-on building projects designed to inspire self-confidence and self-awareness.

Mary Anito, MIT graduate and program coordinator states, "All too often we find that girls begin to turn away from engineering and other related fields during their high school years. For some reason, they stop believing that they have what it takes to succeed. We have found that, by showing girls how exciting, fulfilling, and attainable these careers are for women, we can help them aspire to reach for degrees in these highly rewarding fields."

For more information about the MIT Women's Initiative, you can visit their website: <u>http://web.mit.edu/wi/schools/</u>