

OMEC Meeting June 6, 2009

attending: Phyllis Leonard, Nicole Rigelman, Laura Lethe, Linda Samek, Klay Kruczek, Ann McMahon, Kathy Hall (Senior Electrical Engineer at HP)

HS Standards should pass the School Board on the 18th and 19th of June. We assume this includes the Advance Standards. (Discrete Math, etc).

State Math Contest was last week at the U. of O. The contest should be at OSU next year.

OMLI funding is over now, so PRISM is one of the outcomes OMLI says that some of the courses that were created for this grant are being taught at various districts. Woodburn and Crook County will take the Algebraic Structures class. So the content committees have been busy writing so that some of the courses can be delivered in various places. The audience is K-12. It was developed to deepen teacher's knowledge in that area... the properties that are the foundation of Algebra. They are trying to use student work and connect Geometry with Algebra, justification, generalizations, equivalence. This is a huge course that was delivered in three weeks with OMLI and now it is a 5 day class.

Kathy Hall – She is developing a class to be taught at OSU with Tom Dick. about observational data used for decision making. She is reading Change Leadership and The Global Achievement Gap by Tony Wagner. The goal is: improved instruction. The keys to teaching almost anything are rigor, relevance and respect. He has great arguments against standardized testing.

Chalkboard did a piece that showcased Sherwood. Basic message was: you improve teachers and you improve learning. Sherwood got a grant from Chalkboard and they have a number of initiatives going on. They are partnering with George Fox with teachers who will be working on Reading Endorsements. Tillamook and Forest Grove will also be working with the Chalkboard project.

MMEF (Moving Math Education Forward) – the ODE course on the new standards and how to go deeper
Linda, Patty, Nicole originally gave feedback over Christmas break

Original content of this came from Beyond Mathematics (original Health model). Feedback from the pilot: not enough math in this workshop, so it is being rewritten. The PDC from OCTM is helping with this on a volunteer basis, which includes facilitating the math portion of the workshop.

Coaching Institute in August

Partnership with NOISE Foundation in Silicone Valley so that this institute would be sustainable.

MARS – will be lots of math, specific grade level work, coaching component

It's not all for coaches, it's also for a team of teachers. But it will help develop a culture for coaching and math team building.

Laura will be attending with a group of Salem teachers

Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel (3 year commitment) – is being delayed by the state, as reported by Linda and Kathy. There are no content people from ODE in this group. It's been a discouraging process because nobody listens when you say that the OAKS test is not an assessment of math problem solving. The focus revolves around meeting the letter of the law for students to graduate from high school. To meet AYP as a district, you have to have 95% of kids taking the OAKS test or you get no federal money. It becomes very clear that the state's goal is to come up with the minimum score to squeak people through so that they graduate. This way, students don't have to go a fifth year, which counts against AYP. They are looking for alternative assessments for kids who don't pass the OAKS. Teachers must have 30 graduate hours in mathematics to be able to teach high school (a dual class that transfers when a student goes to college) or community college math. MAT programs are not the ideal way to prepare teachers to teach mathematics.

OMEC council needs some new members:

High school teacher

Community college person

Private schools

Industry person

ESD representative

Next meeting will be October 30th, Friday, at 9am, at George Fox campus in Salem. right on Hyacinth, right on 25th (old State Farm building).