

Oregon Mathematics Education Council
Meeting Notes

Friday, February 2, 2001

Attendees

Michael Boardman, Debra Knapp, Sam Hall, Alice Kaseberg, Marj Enneking, Nicole Miller-Rigelman, Gloria Sica, Kathy Hall, Craig Beier, Winnie Miller, Elizabeth Lundy

Reports

Oregon Department of Education

Linda Samek and Kathy Brown are working around the state to discuss what can be done to assist the mathematics student-teacher supervisors.

TSPC

Sam Hall reported for Linda Samek on the O-QAT (Oregon Quality Assurance in Teaching Program) program. A three-year program funded by a title-II grant.

There was a comment that information needs to be disseminated to all appropriate departments. The ensuing discussion included:

1. One member commented that mathematics education folks should attend OMEC.
2. With the development of the OMEC website, we should also develop a quarterly e-mail newsletter. Note to Kathy Brown: Can she help develop mailing list? Perhaps a "paper mailing" to all interested parties funded by the grant. (Math Depts, Chairs of Math Depts, Schools of ed, CC's, MAA Reps.,). Notice of this website printed publications.
3. We have concerns about the distribution of material (e.g. announcements of grants, etc. compiling e-mail list).

Action Item Mike Boardman will write a draft of a letter to ODE asking for further dissemination of material from ODE.

Distribution of number of licenses in math and science. Sam commented that there is still a shortage of mathematics teachers. Sam estimated the number of licenses on the number of people taking necessary tests and extrapolating for those taking the tests. The numbers distributed by TSPC may include re-affirmations of licenses.

Sam estimates that there were about 80 new teachers at the end of the 1999-2000 school year with approximately 100 leaving the field.

Statistics on the number of teachers misassigned in state was distributed

Mathematics appears to have a significant misassignment problem. The content is such that teachers need to be up on technology, pedagogy, and mathematics itself. It was suggested that this is linked to the undergraduate mathematics preparation of all teachers.

A discussion ensued concentrating on what OMEC could do to help alleviate this problem. Two items pointed out were:

1. OCTM offers free workshops for school districts. (99 Algebra, 00 Statistics, 01 Geometry)
2. TSPC could include a list of available workshops that would help misassigned. This information could also be distributed to ESD's.

Praxis

Draft of letter to Oregon Public Schools (principals?) regarding the availability of the breakout of Praxis test scores. The letter was edited.

OUS

Eisenhower Grants - There may not be any mathematics money available. A comment was made that OUS needs to be represented at OMEC meetings.

Action Item: ***Christine Tell will be contacted about attending OMEC meetings.***

ISTE

ISTE recommendations were distributed and briefly discussed.

OTHER Reports

What about the recommendations for mathematics preparation of future teachers. Kathy Hall commented that Problem Solving and Logic were critical to performance at HP. Alice had contacted Marj about the recommendation from last year. She commented that the MAA has worked up national recommendations. We could simply recommend that departments adopt the national recommendations. Sam suggested that it will be important to get departments to discuss the new CBMS recommendations. There was a discussion that guidelines OMEC endorses should be performance based. This may include guidelines on how to reach this level of performance.

Action Item: ***Elizabeth, Gloria, Nicole, will begin looking at the national recommendations from various agencies on the mathematics preparation of teachers. This group will contact the leadership of OCEPT with regard to funding a teacher-in-residence to work with the group in the same way Walt Hellman developed the recommendations for science preparation.***

Next Meeting - May 12 - LBCC