



Math Minutes Memo

October 2014

Standards Update

The current Sequence of Instruction documents have been updated with “Student will...” statements that break down the written standards. Grades 6-8 are complete and are posted to the district math website with Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II following soon. Curriculum alignment meetings will continue next month and you will be receiving a meeting invite.

Curriculum alignment notes:

- Sequence of Instruction: Those in attendance provided feedback and suggestions for the current sequence of instruction documents for 6th, 7th, 8th, and Algebra I. Conversations also included how different departments are adjusting the curriculum to meet their school’s needs. We will revisit the documents at the next meeting as well to be sure we are maintaining equity across the district for the different content areas.
- Grading Policy: A consistent grading policy for the district was discussed with representation from Oliver (OMS) and the High School. Sequoyah (SMS) provided percentage breakdown previous to the meeting.
 - OMS:
 - 6th: 40% assessments, 60% homework
 - 7th: 35% assessments, 55% homework, 10%: semester test
 - 8th: 40% assessments, 50% homework, 10%: semester test
 - SMS:
 - All grades: 50% assessments, 20% daily tasks, 15% projects, 5% homework, 10% semester test
 - High School:
 - Geometry & Algebra II: 64% assessments, 20% homework, 16% semester test
- It was agreed that Accelerated or Pre-AP courses will need to implement a more rigorous grading scale than that of the on-level course. Also mentioned was the assessment category could include: formative assessments, quizzes, and summative assessments. We will revisit this topic with hopes of having a district percentage format in place for next year.

Resources: Our teachers are hard at work creating great learning experiences for our kids. The following are a few of the resources that have been recommended.

Lesson Planning:

- Algebra 4 All Social Network, <http://a4a.learnport.org/page/project-prime-documents>, offers a collection of activities created from educators that participated in Project Prime professional development. Links to additional resources are also accessible.
- Open Curriculum, <http://opencurriculum.org/browse/common-core/mathematics/>, has a menu of lesson plans and activities for middle school and high school content published by various educators.

-Interactive Notebooks:

- Math = Love, <http://mathequalslove.blogspot.com/p/foldables-templates-graphic-organizers.html>, is a blog from an Oklahoma math teacher who has put together different types of foldables and activities for an interactive notebook. Several of these resources could be used to introduce or reinforce concepts.
- Mrs. Hester's Classroom, <http://mrshester.blogspot.com/>, focuses mainly on providing interactive resources for algebraic concepts of all levels.

Student Collaboration:

- University of the Sciences, <http://www.usciences.edu/teaching/tips/spal.shtml>, provided a collection of suggestions for implementing student collaboration in the classroom to promote active student learning. The strategies focus on the role of the teacher as well as student responsibilities in the student-centered approach.
- Discovering the Art of Mathematics: Mathematical Inquiry in the Liberal Arts, <http://www.artofmathematics.org/>, is a web based resource that offers suggestions and strategies for supporting inquiry-based instruction in the mathematics classroom. There is also access to activities to use for instructions and student practice.

Announcements

STEM Night!

Oliver Middle School is hosting a first annual STEM Night on Thursday, November 6th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Classrooms throughout the building as well as the gym will provide opportunities for parents and students to have science and math learning come to life.

Technology

Join the BA Instructional Specialist Facebook page to have access to resources available for anything from technology to curriculum. Please continue to send along different resources to post and share.