



Math Minutes Memo

September 2014

Standards Update

In light of the latest development with standards from the State Department, our district has decided to remain on course with the curriculum framework that was created through our curriculum alignment meetings this past spring. As a district, we are striving to continue preparing our students for a more rigorous curriculum and promoting a culture of effective problem solving individuals.

I have been visiting sites in the district to meet with our math teams with any questions or concerns about the new documents. Please keep in mind that these are **working** documents and your input is essential in order for us to continue growing. We will continually revisit our curriculum format to ensure that we are providing the best learning experiences for our kids.

The new updated Sequence of Instruction documents will be posted to the district math website soon. Curriculum alignment meetings will begin next month and you will be receiving a meeting invite.

State Department Update:

Testing:

- The state department has not established a testing vendor for winter or spring testing as some of may have heard. However, it is anticipated that the testing format will be structured as it has in the past consisting of multiple choice questions with supplemental probe questions as well.
- The calculator policy will be the same as it was this previous school year.
- The most resent bank of item blueprints are available at <http://ok.gov/sde/documents/2013-09-05/blue-prints-plds-item-specs>.

Standards Committee:

The State Department is still accepting applications for placement on the standards revision committee. Details are available on the state website at <http://ok.gov/sde/standards-committees> or <http://ok.gov/sde/newstandards>.

Resources

Lesson Planning:

- The Minnesota STEM Teacher Center, <http://www.scimathmn.org/stemtc/>, offers resources developed to help teachers translate Minnesota state standards into classroom practice and assist in student achievement. Although they are aligned for Minnesota's standards, the resources could still be useful for Oklahoma teachers. Click on the grade of interest in the Math Frameworks and narrow the search by clicking the boxes that correspond with math domains. Each topic has tabs that provide an overview, common misconceptions, a vignette of example lessons, resources or possible activities, assessment tools, differentiation suggestions, and explanations for administrators and parents.

- SchoolNet has been updated with math standards for use in identifying item specs for standards and creating common assessments.
- Cybrary Man's Educational Web Sites offers a collection of resources to fit all levels of each discipline area. The different links provide access to anything content specific activities and strategies to use in the classroom to tips for new teachers. The following link will take you directly to the educator resource page, http://cybraryman.com/0_teachers1.htm.
- CTQ (Center for Teaching Quality) is a collection of different posts from classroom teachers sharing strategies and ideas for the mathematics classroom. The following link, <http://www.teachingquality.org/content/teaching-secrets-making-math-meaningful-all>, provides one of the accessible topics along with several other options.

Announcements

Tech Tuesdays:

Tech Tuesday sessions are back for the Fall! The schedule is attached which provides descriptions of available sessions that apply to all experience levels and offer a wide variety of topics. Take advantage of this great opportunity!

Student Workshop Opportunity:

The Tulsa Girl's Math Circle is having an open house to introduce the math circle idea on Oct 7 at 6:00 pm at TU, Keplinger Hall.

This opportunity will be for girls in grades 6, 7, and 8. They will solve problems and work on math concepts generally outside the normal school curriculum. They are looking for curious, well-prepared girls who are ready for a challenge. The goal is to motivate our young, ambitious girls to pursue math in high school and beyond. You can access the information here.