

Ad Hoc Curriculum Committee/Secondary Mathematics

Minutes

January 11, 2018

At 11:35 a.m. Mike Nelson called the meeting to order.

Attendance:

Kristen Baldrige

Matt Werner

Ryan Gillespie

Liza McNamee

Adam Hanan

Kirk Dunkel (observing)

Katrina Zepeda

Sam Hunter

Chris Shipley (Ex-Officio)

Jason Droesch

Trina Caudle

Tambra Pickford (Ex-Officio)

Approve Agenda:

Trina Caudle moved to amend the agenda to include a discussion about nominating and appointing a committee chairperson, second by Sam Hunter. Motion passed 8-0-1; Jason Droesch abstained.

Sam Hunter moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Kristen Baldrige. Motion passed 8-0-1; Jason Droesch abstained.

Approve Minutes:

Sam Hunter moved to approve the minutes of December 12, 2017, second by Katrina Zepeda. Motion passed 9-0.

Discussion Regarding Committee Chair

- Board procedure 1250P calls for the committee to select its own chair. The chairperson would guide discussions, present updates to the Board, and delegate as needed.
- Katrina Zepeda moved to table discussion of a committee chair until the end of the meeting, second by Jason Droesch, motion passed 9-0.

General Discussion and Feedback

- The feedback received electronically was shared with the group, and additional feedback was collected regarding changes/enhancement, goals and assessments, and the timeline involved.
- Briefly discussed the proposal from last spring, and that one of the issues was that there was not enough professional development in place to move forward.
- One of the reasons to switch to an integrated curriculum is that it is often the catalyst that causes teachers to teach differently.
- Is there an underlying mindset about math that needs to change?
- PD shift, curriculum shift, and other shifts could potentially become the catalyst for a mindset change.
- Curriculum, assessment, and instruction all need to work together cohesively.

Curriculum Discussion

- Some geometry topics have been added to district curriculum for 2017/2018.
- If teachers feel compelled to cover the entire textbook, it is sometimes a roadblock to mindset change.
- Topics need not be taught in isolation, specifically algebra and geometry. K-8 math is fully integrated since the implementation of new core standards in 2013/2014; the first cohort receiving only core standards is our current 5th grade class.
- Open source materials sometimes have more expenses than appear on the surface.
- Additional curricular materials will likely continue to be developed in future years.
- Next math curriculum adoption is scheduled in SY2021 based on our current cycle.

Assessments

- Discussed the implications of Idaho's practice of testing all students rather than allowing students to self-select to take the SAT.
- Assessments should not dictate instruction.
- Can we use assessments along with curriculum changes in a predictive way to guide further changes?
- Is there an over-emphasis on assessment?
- Sometimes having a common assessment where skills can be paced and met can be liberating and create opportunity to explore other mathematical topics and instructional techniques.
- Changes made in 9th grade need to be measured before the 11th grade SAT.
- Flexibility is needed for teachers to develop formative assessments, e.g. could meet in March to develop.
- What would a consistent common assessment schedule look like? Each quarter, semester, more frequently?

Timeline Discussion

- What are the appropriate steps for next year?
- It would be good to research and reach out to districts that are ahead about what worked, and what didn't.
- Common assessments could be impetus to help identify curriculum needs.
- Do we keep textbooks, go to Math 1, Math 2, Math 3, and roll in Math 1 with common assessments?
- Where are we based on the past math integration proposal? Feedback then was that it was too fast, and it didn't have enough community feedback.
- A solid plan and buy-in is the only way to move forward, but there is a sense that we're sitting still at present.

Motions

Adam Hanan moved to recommend to the Board an integrated high school mathematics plan similar to what was presented in SY2017, second by Jason Droesch.

Discussion: Without a complete plan for implementation it will not be enough. This plan could be a framework to build a complete plan on.

Adam Hanan amended his motion to state that the committee would discuss an integrated approach to high school mathematics and make a plan to present to the Board, second by Sam Hunter. Motion passed 9-0.

Sam Hunter moved to table discussion of chair until the next meeting, second by Jason Droesch. Motion passed 9-0.

Next Meeting

Mike Nelson will poll the committee for the next date to meet.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Submitted by: Nicole Olson