

Blue Ribbon Mathematics Partnership Meeting Notes

In affiliation with Doddridge, Hampshire, Harrison, Marion, Mineral, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph, Ritchie, Taylor, Upshur and Wood Counties, Alderson-Broadus College, ERC NASA, Davis and Elkins College, Fairmont State, Ohio Valley University, West Virginia University - Morgantown, West Virginia University-Parkersburg, West Virginia Wesleyan College and the NASA Education Resource Center in Fairmont

4/18/07

Present: Marjorie Darrah, Jennifer Ellison, Susan Goodwin, Don Kenyon, Lalah Larew, Allen Meck, Holly Plunkett, Laura Pyzdrowski, Marcie Rice, Donna Trulik

1. Ideas for professional development opportunities were discussed. A concern was raised about the reviewer comment on the last proposal with regard to focusing projects across counties instead of primarily within a few counties. Providing networking opportunities across counties is a primary objective of the partnership as is providing opportunities for those seeking graduate credit in mathematics to teachers in all of the Blue Ribbon Counties. It is believed that our projects have impacted teachers and students in the region while working within several counties by upholding a long term commitment to quality projects, thus providing sustainability for initiatives. None the less, in order to be competitive in the next round, the Blue Ribbon Proposal will develop a project by not only choosing content based on performing a needs assessment, but also by servicing at a level where there are too few teachers in each county to make a one or two county project unrealistic. Calculus, Algebra III and statistics were discussed as possible choices. In the end, it was decided that statistics, at a more advanced level, seemed to be the most needed content area. Laura will call Dr. Stotler at the Higher Education Policy Commission to determine if such a project fits with the most recent constraints set by the reviewers.

2. Anyone interested in beginning a section of WvEB Algebra or WvEB Trig is welcome to contact Laura for more information. There is a strong probability that grant funds will become available to increase stipends for those offering the course for the first time. In addition, there is a possibility that funding will be made available to higher education institutions to customize the course and become a part of the WvEB franchise. More will be known toward the end of Summer.

3. Blue Ribbon members were actively engaged in developing the new Algebra III and Calculus Content Standards and Performance Descriptors. WvEB Algebra will be made available to high schools who offer Algebra III as a possible way for students to earn College Algebra credit and Algebra III credit at the same time.

4. Margie Darrah will check into the continued hosting of Blue Ribbon Meetings at the I-79 Technology Park Research Center. Members decided that this is a good location for meeting. Other options would be the Caperton Center in Fairmont, or a school in Harrison County.

Dates for next meetings are September 26 and October 24.