

Blue Ribbon Mathematics Partnership Meeting Notes

In affiliation with Doddridge, Hampshire, Harrison, Marion, Mineral, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph, Ritchie, Taylor, Upshur and Wood Counties, Fairmont State College, West Virginia University - Morgantown, and West Virginia University-Parkersburg

4/20/05

Members Present: Melanie Butler, Al Edwards, Brenda Flannigan, Bobbie Gelpi, Debbie Grimes, Lisa Hileman, Boyd Holtan, Lalah Larew, Allan Meck, Laura Pyzdrowski, Joe Riesen, Guests: Dr. Melanie Butler, Dr. Ann Richards and Stephanie Yoho

1. Welcome Dr. Melanie Butler our newest member from the Institute for Math Learning at WVU- Morgantown.
2. The Improving Teacher Quality project, Blue Ribbon Algebraic Learning Communities ITQ-05-WVU2 was funded at a significant cut in budget. The project will provide professional development to 24 mathematics and special educators with the specific goal of improving the quality of teaching algebra. Participant number was reduced from the 30 proposed. Also, the school site visits were removed from the plan. Consultants are Dr. Ann Richards, Murrel Hoover and Laura Pyzdrowski. The award was for \$31, 397. Applications and Announcements are posted on the Blue Ribbon web site. Letters of support were written by Hampshire, Monongalia, Randolph and Wood Counties. Participant teams from those counties will be accepted first at a number based on a percentage of spots requested.(34 spots were requested in the support letters) After May 30, the waiting list will be used taking teachers in collaborative teams before individuals. These wait-listed participants may represent any county. Dr. Ann Richards is the PI and Project Director, Dr. Laura Pyzdrowski is CO-PI and Co-director. The location will either be at WVU Morgantown Mathematics Department or somewhere in Harrison County.
3. There has been no new news with regards to the 5-Year Mathematics Plan in West Virginia. However, WVU at Parkersburg is working on a project to help reduce the number high school students placing into developmental mathematics course upon entering higher education. Fairmont is involved in a project that will work with elementary mathematics teachers. Dr. Susan Goodwin will be invited to speak about this project at our first meeting in the fall. Harrison County is working on an MSP grant that will be similar to the original Blue Ribbon Algebraic Learning Communities Proposal. However, it will have a strong research component.
4. The Higher Education Mathematics Symposium, which was held in March at Flatwoods was a success. Thanks to Melanie Butler, Al Edwards, Joe Riesen, and Laura Pyzdrowski for their involvement. Ways to continue support for the symposium are being explored.
5. It was decided that our next professional development opportunity should be for those who are teaching Statistics. James Lange is a possible contact. In addition, there is still interest in providing some help in content for those teachers who are seeking National Board Certification.
6. Meetings next year will continue to be held at Bridgeport High School. (Thanks Harrison County and Brenda Flannigan) September 14 and October 19 have been selected as meeting dates for the fall. Other dates will be chosen on September 14.
7. Please check the Blue Ribbon Web Site to make sure that member and school information is correct and that links are not broken. Corrections/edits should be submitted to Laura at lpyzdrow@math.wvu.edu

At 5:00: Dr. Melanie Butler presented about the Saturday Math Series sponsored by the Institute for Math Learning, WVU Mathematics Department.

Next meeting to be held at 4:00, September 14 at Bridgeport High School.