

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

9/15/04

Members Present: Gale Boden, Toni DeVore, Al Edwards, Brenda Flanigan, Debbie Grimes, Bobbie Gelpi, Lisa Hileman, Boyd Holtan, Allan Meck, Laura Pyzdrowski, Holly Plunkett, Cheryl Reger, Joe Riesen, Sue Steinbeck,
Guest: Robert Mayes

1. Welcome Lisa Hileman our newest member from Preston County
2. The Improving Teacher Quality project, Blue Ribbon Applied Geometry ITQ-04-WVU2 is going well. The project is providing professional development to 23 mathematics and special educators with the specific goal of improving the quality of teaching geometry to students with special needs. Three participants withdrew applications shortly before the workshop began and the slots were unable to be filled at the last minute. Consultants are Dr. Ann Richards, Amy Rice, Laura Pyzdrowski and Oran Pale who is a Key Curriculum Press Consultant. The two follow up sessions have a focus on lesson study groups focusing on student work. The award was for \$32,394.
3. A modified repeat of portions of the Blue Ribbon Applied Algebra project was offered in Harrison County. One goal was to provide professional development to mathematics and special educators with the specific goal of improving the quality of teaching algebra. The Blue Ribbon NASA mini grant that was to supplement this project was declined.
4. The Blue Ribbon Origami project funded by a NASA mini grant is to be held on October 16. A national consultant will be supplied by Key Curriculum Press. The workshop will be held at WU-Morgantown from 8:30 - 4:30. At this time there are 20 of 25 slots filled. Participants will pay \$10 the day of the event to help cover the cost of food. Key Curriculum will provide workshop materials.
4. Since a state MSP grant was awarded to fund a National Board project for mathematics teachers, the group decided not to submit the Blue Ribbon proposal. Instead a project was discussed that would continue the teaming of special and mathematics educators with the primary goal of developing productive learning communities. Dr. Ann Richards from the WU Special Education Department will serve as PI and will work with Laura to take forward this initiative. It is expected that only a few of the Blue Ribbon Counties will participate in this more regional/school based project. Also, Laura Pyzdrowski and Mike Mays, who work with the WvEB Algebra and Trig project, hope the WvEB project will grow by adding more research components and more sites (both from higher education and high school). The possibility of developing calculus materials, which would be offered for use to Advanced Placement Teachers in addition to serving as a foundation to develop a WvEB Calc course, was discussed. Concerns that this calculus project would compete and/or duplicate the objectives of the AP calculus initiative were voiced.
5. The Blue Ribbon Web Site has been updated. Please check to make sure that member and school information is correct and that links are not broken. Corrections/edits should be submitted to Laura.

Thanks to Brenda Flanigan for hosting the meeting.

At 5:00: Dr. Robert Mayes from the Institute of Math Learning at WVU presented Course and Program Opportunities for Math Teachers

Next meeting to be held at 4:00, October 13 at Bridgeport High School. The West Virginia 5-Year Mathematics Plan will be presented by Larry Lamb, the West Virginia Mathematics Coordinator. Guests may be invited to attend this meeting; please give Laura a headcount for pizza.