

# 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

9/14/05

**Present:** Al Edwards, Brenda Flannigan, Susan Goodwin, Debbie Grimes, Lisa Hileman, Boyd Holtan, Allan Meck, Holly Plunkett, Laura Pyzdrowski, Craig Shanholtzer, Sue Steinbeck

1. The Improving Teacher Quality project, Blue Ribbon Algebraic Learning Communities ITQ-05-WVU2 is providing professional development to 16 mathematics and special educators with the specific goal of improving the quality of teaching algebra. Murrel Hoover, N.B.C.T., served as the primary consultant for the week long institute. Dr. Ann Richards, who is the project director, and Dr. Laura Pyzdrowski are participating as consultants for the project. The award was for \$31, 397. Project participant numbers are down, perhaps indicating a need for a change in offerings by the committee, or stronger recruitment techniques and county support in recruiting participants.
2. The WvEB Algebra study using retired ACT tests has shown that high school students enrolled in the web enhanced college algebra course show significant improvement on the math ACT test. Any teacher wishing to learn more about the project is encouraged to contact Laura at lpyzdrow@math.wvu.edu.
3. Most of meeting time was spent discussing the 2005 Improving Teacher Quality Grant Proposal. The content focus of Data Analysis and Probability was chosen last spring. Teachers brought county WESTEST results to support that focus. All counties interested in participating in the project this year are asked to send to Laura the 2004 item analysis summary for Math for Grades 7, 8 and 10 of the WESTEST. In addition, those counties are also asked to send copies of the 5-year county math plans. The following recommendations were made:
  - Teacher participants would be accepted from both middle and high school.
  - James Lange, the Blue Ribbon TI short course consultant from a few years back, should be contacted as a possible consultant.
  - The TI 84 Plus should be the technology of choice for the project.
  - Participants will develop a lesson to be implemented into their classrooms and posted onto the Blue Ribbon site.
  - Participants will develop a two hour in-service presentation to be conducted in their county.
  - County teams should consist of at least one high school teacher with other high school, middle school, pre-service and higher education teachers serving as participants .
  - Teacher change will be documented in part by content and pedagogy assessments
4. Meetings next year will continue to be held at Bridgeport High School. ( Thanks Harrison County and Brenda Flannigan) October 19, February 22, and March 29 have been selected as meeting dates for remainder of the year.
5. 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

Next meeting to be held at 4:00, October 19 at Bridgeport High School.