

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

09/10/03

Members Present: Gale Boden, Toni DeVore, Al Edwards, Brenda Flanigan, Bobbie Gelpi, Don Kenyon, Kathy Marino, Allan Meck, Holly Plunkett, Laura Pyzdrowski, Lalah Larew, Cheryl Reger, Joe Riesen, Sue Steinbeck

1. The Blue Ribbon committee will submit at least one proposal for an Improving Teacher Quality Grant. Based on previous discussions, the group intends to submit a proposal to provide professional development to mathematics and special educators with the specific goal of improving the quality of teaching geometry to special needs students. Consultants were recommended and Laura will make contacts to find out who might be interested. It is also possible that funds will be requested to repeat the Blue Ribbon Applied Algebra Project. Feedback has been good and there is significant interest in a repeat offering. Harrison County teachers are especially interested in attending, so we need to make sure that those who want to participate are accommodated. Also, teachers from Trinity, a private school, are interested in participating in our professional development opportunities. Laura will send out information about both proposals so that Blue Ribbon members can begin to get letters of support from the appropriate county representatives.

2. NASA Mini Grant - The group discussed requesting funds through NASA mini grants to provide follow-up sessions to the geometry and algebra workshops. A session using the GPS and one using TI interactive were thought to be appropriate. Joe believes that NASA IV & V may have class sets of the GPS available for use by teachers. Also, some schools already have class sets. Some of the participants of the last TI-interactive workshop requested a follow-up session.

3. MERIT Workshop for Secondary Teachers - Discussions were begun about hosting a Standards Based Workshop for high school faculty and administrators. Ideas included having sessions about the Number and Operations, Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, and Data Analysis and Probability strands found in the NCTM content Standards. Presentations would focus on Standards Based Mathematics. Presenters could be West Virginia teachers who use standards based materials in their classrooms. If necessary, we can go outside WV for presenters. Because of its central location for Blue Ribbon Counties, the 1 day workshop will be held in Harrison County. Bobbie and Lalah made recommendations for locations. This discussion will be continued at our next meeting.

4. Toni DeVore, Bobbie Gelpi, Boyd Holtan, Allan Meck, and Laura Pyzdrowski will meet to develop a long term plan for the Committee. Diane Furman will be contacted and asked to participate in the planning. Other members are welcome to participate and should email Laura. The group will report during the last meeting.

5. Next meetings: October 22, March 10 and April 28. Thanks to Brenda Flanigan for hosting the meeting and we welcome her to our group. We can continue to meet at Bridgeport High School.

At 5:00: Sue Steinbeck presented information and gave some first hand experiences about applying for National Board Certification

Next meeting to be held at 4:00 at Bridgeport High School. Allan Meck will present about the high school course Conceptual Mathematics.