

**Modesto City Schools  
COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

<b>COMMITTEE NAME: Math Study Committee</b>	<b>MEETING DATE: Tuesday, August 27, 2019</b>
Prepared by:  ○ Veronica Davalos 7-12 MCS Math Coach	Phone Number (for questions on notes):  ○ 492-6744

**COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA:**

Ice Breaker	<p>Back-to-School Icebreaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Line up by distance travelled this summer from closest to Modesto to farthest.</li> </ul>
Finalize the Values, Beliefs, Hope and Desires Document	<p>In your groups, review and chart any proposed changes to the document</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is no comment on college acceptance</li> <li>- Change “Have career opportunities and the skills needed to do the job they desire” to “Have college and career opportunities and the skills needed”</li> <li>- Group came to consensus on the change to this statement</li> </ul>
Review and Revise the Problem Statement	<p>In your groups, review and chart any proposed changes to the problem statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Second sentence part of “strong curriculum that does not support a balanced approach to mathematics”. Comments were made that the curriculum itself was not the issue, rather the lack of support, reading level, and lack of teacher knowledge on how to use the curriculum could possibly be factors</li> <li>- Another comment was that if curriculum referred to all ancillary materials or if curriculum could be thought of as encompassing instruction as well as an adopted textbook and that in thinking of it in this way, then absent students miss out on the instruction portion which is difficult to get anywhere else.</li> <li>- It was mentioned that whatever we choose to use and however we choose to present it to the classes, that curriculum should be more student friendly in every aspect</li> <li>- We were referred back to what was discussed in our last two meetings where we had come to a consensus on the meaning of curriculum because of everything that we just discussed.</li> <li>- After the discussion, it was proposed not to change anything in the statement, with the understanding that curriculum refers to everything that was discussed above (instruction, materials, intervention, enrichment, delivery method, etc)</li> <li>- Consensus was reached on this point</li> </ul>
Review and Revise the Interview Questions and Observation Tool	<p>In your groups, review and chart any proposed changes to the Interview Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group 1: Less questions, but deeper discussions about technology and intervention. Add some questions about how intervention is handled</li> <li>- Group 2: What percent of students are A-G ready? What partnerships exist with post-secondary institutions? For teachers, does your PD support developing your pedagogy?</li> </ul>

- Group 3: For administrators, how do you check to see that teachers are being successful with whatever curriculum is being used? For teachers, how do you accommodate students coming in from other districts?
- Group 4: How did common teaching practices become universal in your campus? How do you get the blend of instruction and curriculum to be more effective? What is the availability of tutoring and how do students get the instruction when they are absent?
- Group 5: Is there a common framework for instruction? What are the expectations for instruction and how is feedback given to teachers? Is there a below grade-level math class for freshman or for any other group that needs intervention?
- Big opening question could be: It appears that your students are being successful. What do you attribute this success to?
- Consensus was reached that these questions can be added to the list of questions for site visits

In your groups, review and chart any proposed changes to the Observation Tool

- Format seemed a bit evaluative and would like more room for comments to make it more narrative instead of just checking boxes
- Would like something added for how teachers are checking for understanding
- It was suggested to add how are the students interacting with the curriculum as the class is being taught
- It was asked if the group would be checking for differentiation in terms of Special Ed/Resource/EL
- It was clarified that the intention of this document is to get qualitative data so that the committee can ultimately use it to make recommendations for curriculum and that maybe trying to see beyond that such as IEPs would seem too daunting of a task
- A discussion occurred about what is rigorous, what is good instruction, and what would students be producing during instruction
- One thing that was suggested was to check how teachers adapted to their current curriculum
- It was suggested to focus on what is working instead of focusing on what is different so that we keep in mind that we are looking to improve our district math numbers and just because another curriculum is different does not necessarily mean that it will work for us
- It was commented that the check boxes would help to categorize quantitative data, recognizing that this is not evaluative, as long as there is plenty of importance placed on comments to keep the focus on the narrative while giving the group data that could be used to compare
- It was decided to add a box on instructional strategies and another for what are students producing during class time
- The suggestion came up that this observation tool document should be given to our own high schools in our own district so that we can see how it is to answer these questions from our perspective and this would also be a starting point for comparing ourselves to other schools
- The data collected from this document would be shared and analyzed by the Math Study Committee as a group to continue the work that we have been doing collectively
- Consensus was reached on the changes that would be made to the document

Next Steps

Interview and Site Visit Schedule

- Sanger Unified, Sanger High School, school visit has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 9
- Yuba City Unified, River Valley High School, would like to see the questions that will be asked before allowing visit to be scheduled
- Twin Rivers Unified, Rio Linda High School, have not returned call
- Lodi Unified, Tokay High School, have not returned call
- Hayward Unified, Mt. Eden High School, have not returned call
  
- If school sites would not be able to accommodate our visiting them, then it was suggested to either have a virtual meeting with the site administration so they could tell us more about their school or to send out a survey to these schools that would include information on curriculum being used and the professional development received by the teachers
- This idea of a virtual meeting or survey would still allow us to gather data that would allow us to move forward with a better recommendation to our superintendent

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Committee Member Name	Site/Role or Non-MCS
Amy Chavkin	Modesto High Math Teacher
Anne Whiteside	Johansen Math Teacher
Cameron Guinn	Enochs Resource Teacher
Elias Pew	Downey Math Teacher
Heidi Pagani	Beyer Math Teacher
Jason Skeen	Davis Special Ed Teacher
Karolin Dodds	Enochs Math Teacher
Krystal Hill	Davis Math Teacher
Lori Gaines	Gregori Math Teacher
Mike Cantwell	Gregori Chemistry Teacher
Sally Hammond	Enochs Math Teacher
Steve McEwen	Modesto High Math Teacher
Veronica Davalos	MCS Math Coach
Joe Michelena	MCS Math Coach
Jon Olson	Sylvan Math Teacher
Laura Granger	Sylvan Assistant Superintendent
Kim West	Stanislaus Union Assistant Superintendent
Christina Rubalcava	SCOE Math Project Coordinator
Don Davis	Waterford Superintendent

**NEXT STEPS/ACTION ITEMS:**

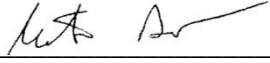
- Check with Mike Rich to set up the logistics of the Sanger High School visit for October 9 and inform those from the committee that will be invited to attend

- Continue to check with the named schools to schedule possible in person visits
- Check with Mike Rich about the possibility of sending out surveys or setting up virtual meetings with the mentioned schools and others
- If more school visits are scheduled, then the next meeting would possibly be changed to accommodate for these visits

**NEXT MEETING DATE: October 22, 2019**

**Approved by:**

INSERT NAME OF COMMITTEE LEAD/APPROVER: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 8/30/19