

Math Minutes

Present: Brad Thornburg, Will Germain, Dave Sheahn, Steve Proctor, Christy Thelen, Cari Smith, Jen Heinze, Sarah Nevins, Jessica Arnold

It was first noted that the email that was forwarded to the elementary about what was supposed to be discussed at the meeting did not apply to us. We have been working on creating illuminate tests, rather than on creating pacing guides. Last year we created curriculum maps, not pacing guides.

We skipped to the bottom of the page questions. We have noticed major gaps in fluency. There are consistent throughout all grade levels, and we are working hard to fill in those gaps.

We do have common language that is on the curriculum maps that we developed as a part of our vocabulary sections. It is very important to make sure that we use common language because it is activating students' prior knowledge, and remains consistent for the students.

At the elementary level, all members are feeling overwhelmed by the amount of test that we are creating. Creating tests for 4 subject areas, for each of the 4 marking periods means that we are creating 16 tests. We are reinventing the wheel, and we discussed that hopefully we can come up with a better way soon.

The high school all agreed that it seemed like we are being given more work, and that the two schools are not always on the same page, or given the same direction.

We discussed that the curriculum map does lend itself to work with the illuminate test, if we are shown how to give more 'weight' to the questions that are critical standards, and that we labeled as a #1 question in our curriculum map. We thought that when we are given a new program it is important to have professional development on that program. We need an expert to help us navigate through the new program, or staff members that keep helping others should get a slight reimbursement for all of their extra time.

We also talked about upcoming MSTEP, we talked about how well we like Title 1 helping with reading and math.