

**VERTICAL TEAMING FOR ALL MINUTES
2007-2008**

Content Area: Math Vertical Team

Today's date January 15, 2008 **Recorder** _____

Date/time/place for next meeting: February 29, 2008, Conference Room A

VT Leadership Team members present: Janet Knoll, Sheri Rutar, Dan Holan, Kevin Beneke, Bernie Rolle, Linda Baker, Jonette Tschida, Pat Demarais, Norma Tramm, Mari Walker, Barb Rasmussen, Jenny Merriam, Diane Gurda, Rhonda Juell, Melissa Jongeward, Becky Blissenbach, Ieleen Marshall, Martin Lo and Charlie Eisenreich

Agenda Item: STEM Grant

Summary of discussion:

- *Collaboration with SCSU and the district; also reps from Tech College*
- *Going for a large grant to promote the following initiatives in our district: Teacher staff development, equipment needs and student academic performance via MCAIIs*
- *Collaboration with professors in the Colleges of Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics*
- *Part of the grant will go toward Project Lead the Way*

Task list if appropriate:

- *Martin Lo, SCSU professor, is working on the research proposal*
- *How can Martin support district needs in regards to the STEM grant?*
- *Findings in research show gap between 6th and 7th grade students*
- *Manipulatives and verbal methods are used for students up to grade 6; secondary uses symbolic representation.*
- *Focus on gap from 5th to 7th grade learners.*

Action decision:

- *Martin would like to work with elementary, middle and high school math teachers*
- *Martin would like to go into classrooms to observe learners and teachers, and then help with strategies to narrow the gap.*

Agenda Item: Algebra I - Geometry - Algebra II Alignment

Summary of discussion:

- *Some geometry teachers are wondering if this was the best decision*
- *Students typically had 2 years of algebra before coming to geometry; therefore, they had a better/deeper skill background*
- *It was also brought up that students now have to take 3 years of math so there may be students in that 3^d year of math (Algebra II) that typically would have taken only 2 years of math.*
- *The MCAII test has 11 questions that are geometry-based.*

Action decision:

- *An idea was brought up to take a look at scores this year and then compare scores to see if this track works better or not.*
- *It was also suggested that we could let the students choose which track of math they would like.*

Agenda Item: Advanced Geometry for 8th Grade South Students Go to Tech for Class

Summary of discussion:

- *Tech would like to keep the students*
- *South would like to keep the students at South and use South teacher that is licensed*
- *It was brought up that the Tech teacher possibly could travel to South*
- *Collaboration should happen; it cannot be a 'watered down' curriculum for advanced class.*

Agenda Item: Pre K-12 Resource List

Summary of discussion:

- *Small groups updated resources used for instruction for web site*