



Washington State
Board of Education



Working to Raise Student Achievement Dramatically

MATHEMATICS UPDATE

BACKGROUND:

The Board, along with Strategic Teaching, completed its revisions of the K-12 math standards this spring and summer. OSPI has adopted the standards and completed work with its consultant and reviewers on the K-8 math menu curricular review. OSPI will share the review process they used at the Board meeting. In addition they will present recommendations for up to three curricular menus for elementary and middle school from their review. Within two months, the Board is expected to give them comments on their recommendations by statute. The Board has hired Strategic Teaching to assist with the review of these curricular menu recommendations. Strategic Teaching is conducting its own independent review of the top four programs in each elementary and middle school as ranked by OSPI. The Math Panel has met twice this summer on the curricular menu – first with OSPI and then with Strategic Teaching to go over the process that will be used to provide the independent analysis. The Board received all the notes and materials from the August 26 Math Panel meeting. The Math Panel will meet on October 14 to go over Strategic Teaching's findings with the anticipation of a recommendation to the Board at its November meeting. Attached is a one page description of what Strategic Teaching will be doing in its review.

One additional piece that OSPI will share with the Board is its request for information to develop an online curriculum that aligns with the new standards. The legislature asked OSPI to explore this possibility. Bidders will be solicited this fall to provide cost estimates and then OSPI will seek funding for the project during the 2009 session if there is a successful bid. The legislature would like to provide this at no cost to the school districts.

It is important for the Board to examine all the many pieces going on in math and to continue to work with its partners on the Joint Math Action Plan. Attached is a timeline of all the different math requirements the legislature has mandated.

POLICY CONSIDERATION:

None at this point.

EXPECTED ACTION:

The Board will take action at its November meeting on the Strategic Teaching recommendations on the math curricular menus for K-8 and report back to OSPI.