

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

HEARING TYPE: X INFORMATION/ACTION

DATE: AUGUST 24, 2006

SUBJECT: **DRAFT MATHEMATICS WORK PLAN**

SERVICE UNIT: Edie Harding, Executive Director
 State Board of Education

PRESENTER: Bob Butts
 Former Interim Executive Director

BACKGROUND:

The attached draft work plan was prepared to provide a focus and a process for the State Board's efforts to develop policy recommendations for the Legislature regarding mathematics and to consider the State Board's mathematics graduation requirement. An earlier version was shared with the Executive Committee, and several minor changes were made after the meeting.

At the board meeting, State Board members will discuss the plan and decide whether or not to adopt it.

State Board of Education
**Mathematics Achievement
Work plan**

I. Goal:

Dramatically increase mathematics achievement by identifying short, medium, and longer-term actions that can be taken to improve mathematics instruction in Washington.

II. Major Questions:

- a. Do the mathematics Essential Academic Learning Requirements need more “focus”?
- b. What will take to get at least 90% of students in the classes of 2008/2009/2010 to the mathematics standard? What additional medium and longer-term actions need to be taken?
 - i. Major components/actions?
 - ii. Funding and implementation needs?
- c. Should the current two credit mathematics requirement be increased? Made more specific? Be enforced?
- d. How does the state also ensure that students have the mathematics required to get into college?
 - i. How do we better align expectations and assessments in K-12 and higher education?

III. Process:

- a. Establish a Mathematics Achievement Committee
 - i. Purpose
 1. Convene state-level decision-makers to develop policy recommendations and identify actions needed to improve mathematics instruction
 - ii. Membership
 1. State Board chair selects three State Board members and three state and/or nationally recognized educators
 2. Chair also requests appointees from OSPI, PESB, Governor’s Office, House/Senate Education Committees
 - iii. Meets four times, ½ days, between September and late-November
 1. Analyze current and proposed efforts
 2. Consult with nationally recognized experts in mathematics instruction
 3. Consider policy and instructional options
 - iv. Recommendations

1. Submits draft recommendations to full board at the October meeting and final recommendations to the board in November.
- b. At State Board meetings:
- i. August:
 1. School District representatives discuss what they are doing regarding mathematics instruction
 - ii. September:
 1. OSPI presents its mathematics improvement initiative
 - iii. October:
 1. Subcommittee makes draft recommendations
 - iv. November:
 1. Subcommittee makes final recommendations
 2. State Board agrees on recommendations to the Legislature
 - v. December:
 1. Recommendations presented to House and Senate Education Committees during December committee meetings

IV. Information Needs:

- a. Which schools/districts have been successful in helping students meet standards?
 - i. What actions have they taken?
- b. Why are students not meeting the standard? In which districts? In which schools? By demographic group?
- c. What actions need to be taken in the short, medium, and longer term at the state-level?
 - i. Investigate such things as:
 1. short list of instructional materials
 2. teacher preparation and qualifications
 3. how students sign-up for mathematics beginning in 6th and 7th grade
 4. professional development
 5. accountability
- d. What is the experience in other states when the assessment becomes a graduation requirement? How have other states managed the first few years?
- e. Other as determined by the committee

V. Staffing:

- a. Will need State Board staff to:
 - i. Coordinate the meetings
 - ii. Conduct the research
 - 1. Other states
 - 2. Data analysis

- b. Will also need to work with SPI staff
 - i. What will be needed to improve instruction, identify recommendations, budget requests, etc.

- c. Gates funds will be used to pay meeting expenses, out-of-state experts, State Board staffing