

4-6 Mathematics Improvement Initiative Agenda (HB 181, 2006)

Lois Richins welcomed the group including those participating via polycom. She stated the purpose of this meeting came about at the last SMECC meeting when so many people had questions and concerns to regarding the 4-6 Mathematics Initiative. She explained that people indicated they wanted to get together and talk about their concerns and questions.

Update on status of 4-6 Math Initiative

Lois explained that this is the 3rd year of the initiative that began in 2006. At this point in time, the funding is available for the 3rd year. The procedure to retrieve funds is different than in years past. Reimbursement will come funds are spent rather than when the grant is approved.

Most of the grants include a combination of professional development and incentives. However, one is professional development only and another is incentive only. The incentives vary but most are tied to student achievement and CRT score improvement. There was a question on how the district can be reimbursed when the CRT scores don't come until June. Lois explained that requests for reimbursement can be done up to December 1, 2009.

Reimbursement Process

Mary Bergener, Accounting Specialist, explained that in previous years the grants were funded using a flow-through method, where a check was sent for the amount of the grant to the school district. In anticipation of a budget shortfall, the procedure now will be that each school district will be allocated funding, however, reimbursement will be made for the amount of funding actually spent. Carry-over funds are to be spent first.

District accounting people will probably know how to fill out a C-20. Mary explained that when they fill out the form they should click on "*To Indicate Funding Source*" box, where a drop down menu appears. Next choose "*OTHER-Please Specify.*" Then to the side, type in "*4-6 Mathematics Improvement Initiative.*" In the "*Return Form to*" box (at bottom left) another name will come up which must be changed to "Mary Bergener," and insert her e-mail address: mary.bergener@schools.utah.gov. Her phone is 801 538-7795, fax 801 538-7769. The form is found at: www.schools.utah.gov > No Child Left Behind > Budget Info > Request for Reimbursement (excel spreadsheet).

Questions asked:

Is there a way to find out what we currently have (carry over) what we will have for reimbursement: Mary explained that you will receive a letter saying how much you will be receiving this year and what your total amount is.

Future Presentations

Lynne Greenwood asked about a presentation to show how the grant is working. Most districts did not expect to see a positive effect until the end of the 3 years, however many have seen improvement now. She asked if the districts had any information about the effect of the initiative to report and to think in terms of a presentation, to Curriculum Directors, the Mathematics Steering Committee, Mathematics

Leadership, and all other interested parties. The group decided the presentation should be about 30-40 minutes.

Barbara Kuehl explained that she had recently done a presentation for her school board. She will send everyone involved the power-point and each district can insert two slides, one slide about the initiative and for data. The information should be sent back to Barbara Kuehl (Barbara.kuehl@slc.k12.ut.us) by Tuesday, April 14.

Video clips of a classroom visit and a quote from a teacher who learned a great deal from a professional development would be powerful components to this presentation. The last slide should include what was learned.

Each district can prepare a handout if they'd like. Give that to Lois Richins (lois.richins@schools.utah.gov) by April 14 to include in Curriculum Director's packet. Not everyone needs to come to the Curriculum Director's Meeting, just make sure Barbara and Lois have the information.