

Mathematics Steering Committee
March 31, 2009
Utah State Office of Education

Welcome and Introduction:

Lynne Greenwood welcomed the committee and explained the goals for today's meeting.

- Agreeing on a common vision: *A plan to support the opportunity for all Utah citizens to reach their academic and career potential while increasing Utah's economy by providing graduates who are mathematically well prepared to compete in today's high-tech, complex, and competitive world.*
- Examining the mathematics needs of business and industry
- Creating initial proposals for steering committee recommendations

Mary Shumway; Career, Technical, and Adult Education Director; addressed the committee regarding job outlook and training, math skills in business and industry, the needs of industry in our state, and closing the high school to college career gap. (Her presentation is attached)

At the conclusion of her presentation, she introduced panel members: Lloyd McCaffrey, Williams International, Paul Jackson, Intermountain Health Care, and Rich Thorn, Associated General Contractors, to discuss skills that are needed in their industry's workforce.

Some comments made during these presentations included:

- We need to pull together (education and industry) to frame courses and information needed by the industry workforce.
- We must build trusting relationships so we can work together for children and the State of Utah.
- We must help children know how they will apply the math they are learning in the classroom to work they can do when they graduate, and in everyday life.
- Industry should be engaged in the structure of how math is taught so children can go from school to the workforce, if that's what they desire.
- We must prioritize what we are teaching in the classroom so that students can be productive after graduation.
- Important skills include problem solving, clear thinking, and tenacity.
- Mathematics courses should build on a core foundation of understanding math and its purpose.