Common Core and the Standards for Mathematical Practice

Volume 1 Issue 2

Web Site Spotlight

HWMath.net

In the past I have been using web sites in addition to Edline to host class-related materials. I created HWMath.net to provide more space and better support for videos and other materials that were possible on Edline. I hope that this web site can be a central point for shared mathematical content. Even when we utilize other web-based resources I hope that the HWMath.net web site can be a directory for quick access. It was created to support the teachers and students of Hamilton-Wenham. Teachers and students from other districts may find helpful resources and links hosted at HWMath.net.

Workshop Summary

Developing Mathematical Practices for Algebra Grades 5-10

- Jim Brenan (Brennanj@Hwschools.net)

This course focused on three of the eight Standards of Mathematical Practice:

MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively

MP7: Look for and make use of structure

MP8: Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

For each one, the "Big Ideas" were presented within the context of a "Low Threshold High Ceiling" activity. The activities were all very well selected given that there were teachers from elementary school, middle school, and high school grade levels. Though each activity involved more than one mathematical practice (MP) each activity help to bring out the big ideas of a specific practice. This helps out significantly when trying to differentiate between the seemingly overlapping practices. Often the big idea within a MP is not evident just by reading the paragraph that defines it, so it really helps to frame this in terms of a specific activity, along with a description of what a student would be doing, and a list of questions that students would be asking themselves (or what teachers may ask them to guide them).

I found that trying to identify resources that would spoon-feed me the big ideas of the other five practices that we did not cover in detail to be a difficult challenge. I took a shot of identifying the big ideas of each practice and framed them in a similar way and compiled a list. I also integrated into the list the observations that will become part of a system used to evaluate teachers (maybe not these exact ones, but these are things to consider).

SMP.html page on HWMath.net

Upcoming Events

Developing Mathematical Practices for Algebra Grades 5-10

Holyoke August 20-24 with some Fall follow-up sessions.
This is the course Jim took this summer which addresses both the content and pedagogy of Algebra.
If focuses on the main Standards of Mathematical Practice
MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively
MP7: Look for and make use of structure
MP8: Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning
This section of the course was intended only for teachers in Holyoke, but they do not have enough teachers able to attend so they have opened this up for everyone. Here is a
Course description
http://www.doe.mass.edu ...math.html?section=1
For additional information contact Kathy Foulser,
kfoulser@gmail.com

There is a Google apps for education summit in Maine coming up this month. This world-wide tour won't be in this area for a while. Check out the web site for more information.
http://ca.gafesummit.com

September Sundays
Sundays, September 23 and 30
Teacher partners and up to three guests are invited to view the Museum's many exhibits and shows at our open house for educators.
Registration begins August 13.

The MOS offers **Saturday workshops** in the Fall to support teachers.
November 17 ***Math Moves!* in the Museum** for Grades 4 - 8
Experience ratio and proportion activities in the Museum's newest exhibit, *Math Moves!* This exhibit encourages algebraic thinking and practice to enrich your math curriculum.