

Educational Service District 105 – Math 360: Building Academic Language and Content Skills in Mathematics

Project co-directors:

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Target audience:

- 59 teachers and 12 principals in south central Washington. Of these, 48 teachers and 10 principals are from high-need districts.

Partners:

- 5 high-need districts: Royal (5 teachers, 2 principals); Sunnyside (17 teachers, 2 principals); Toppenish (11 teachers, 3 principals); Wahluke (11 teachers, 2 principals); Union Gap (4 teachers, 1 principal)
- 1 other district: West Valley (11 teachers, 2 principals)
- Other partners:
 - Lead partner: Educational Service District 105
 - Central Washington University Mathematics Department
 - Central Washington University Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education
 - University of Washington Tacoma Education Program
 - Yakima Valley Community College

Description:

- This project focuses on increasing the content knowledge of middle school math teachers and their ability to implement effective math instruction, including their ability to use formative assessment. It also aims to increase the ability of middle school principals/assistant principals to recognize effective math instruction and provide teachers with constructive feedback.
- Professional development activities include summer institutes, on-line content learning and reflection options, the establishment or enhancement of professional learning communities, and the development of school-based teacher leaders.

Project evaluation methods:

- Teachers: online content knowledge measures and surveys, observation, interviews, First Steps pedagogy assessment
- Principals: surveys
- Students: curriculum based student diagnostic measures

Significant direct collaboration or synergy with other projects or initiatives:

- This project builds on prior district efforts to establish teacher leaders and communities of practice. It also complements district Leadership for Learning principal groups, which have made mathematics and vocabulary development their focus.