



Cornell University

K-12 Education and Outreach, Mathematics Department

MATH 5080

Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers

406 Malott Hall

March 7, 2009

9:00 am – 2:30 pm

8:45-9:00 Welcome (juice and bagels provided)

9:00-10:30 Math Challenges: Rewriting State Standards in Student-Friendly Language
Steve Zielinski (Teacher on Special Assignment, South Seneca Central School)

In an effort to increase student achievement and to more closely align practices with the Essential Elements of a Standards-Focused Middle Level Program, in the spring of 2003 the South Seneca Central School District in Ovid, NY began a focused transition from a grades 7-8 to a grades 6-8 middle school. The mathematics department at the school took this opportunity to revise the mathematics curriculum to design an integrated three grade level program. One aspect of this involved translating state standards into a format that was friendly to students. As a result of these efforts, students' achievement scores on the grade 8 mathematics assessment increased from a low of 41% of the students achieving levels 3 and 4 in 2001 to over 70% of the students achieving levels 3 and 4 in 2006. Come hear from the leader of this success story!

10:45-12:00 Meeting Every Student's Needs in the Mathematics Classroom
Faith Muirhead (Educational Consultant)

Given the premise that every child can learn, our job as teachers is to figure out how students learn best and then provide them with appropriate learning opportunities. Teaching is difficult enough, but now we're being asked to learn about and use "differentiation" and "formative assessment." What do these terms mean? What do they look like in the classroom? How can we use them to help our students learn mathematics? How can we incorporate these strategies into our teaching and still have time for a life outside school? This session will be an immersion experience that models these strategies while teaching mathematics. Content will be accessible to teachers of all grade levels. Come prepared for hands-on activities that will engage you in mathematical thinking, refresh your pedagogical repertoire, and learn tools that may impact the rest of your teaching career!

12:00-12:30 Lunch (provided)

12:30-2:30 Meeting Every Student's Needs in the Mathematics Classroom (continued)

Contact Mary Ann Huntley by Wednesday, March 4th if you plan to attend.

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