

Center of Excellence
Mathematics and Social Studies Curriculum Development Projects
Partner Districts

Minutes of Meeting
Pee Dee Education Center Conference Room
October 14 & 15, 2005

<u>Grade</u>	<u>SS Participants</u>	<u>Math Participants</u>
Kindergarten	Maria Williams Kay Lewis Debbie Purvis	Linda Rankin Genetta McManus Lisa Gleason
First	Paulette Latta Mary Howell Donna M ^o Millan	Julia Richburg Cindy Huggins Susie Hill
Second	Elise Leach Royetta Moore Kasandra Durant	Melody Haigler Mary Frances M ^o Millan Linda Steagall
Third	Sharon Byram Stacie Kirby Emily Creel Judy Davis	Barbara Baker Rosemary Young Cindy Dawsey Ginger Baggette
Fourth	Mary Gettys Kim Wilson	Patricia Page Patricia Grant
Fifth	Gregory Hill Nancy Stone Matthew Pearce	Jessica Merritt Shelly Flud Karen Reynolds
Sixth	Al Grantham Susan Bruton Kim James	Gloria Frierson Wendy Pace Dixie Drew
Seventh	Jean Shaw Laurie Lautares Toni Brandt	David Bailey Brian Richardson Jackie Weaver
Eighth	Lillian Williams Letha Dixon Cathy Johnson	Crystal Kelly Janetha Dixon Sylvia Rowell

Staff

Tammy Pawloski
Markey Bee
Ashley Walters
Nadia Jones

Guests

Lorin Anderson
Ron Faulkenberry
Bill Fox
John Holton
Andrea Keim
Janis McWayne
Pat Mohr
Larry Nelson
Mary Ruzga
Tom Sawyer
Rich West
Bill Whitmire

Friday, October 14, 2005

3:30-5:00 pm

1. Introductions and Welcome

The Director of the Center of Excellence, Dr. Tammy Pawloski, welcomed the Social Studies and Math Curriculum Development Project participants. She introduced them to the project leader, Dr. Lorin Anderson. She also introduced Mary Ruzga, State Department of Education and Math Content Coordinator, Dr. Ron Faulkenberry, Dean of the FMU School of Education, Dr. Tom Sawyer, FMU faculty and Social Studies Reviewer, Dr. Larry Nelson, FMU faculty and Social Studies Reviewer, Dr. Bill Fox, FMU faculty and Mathematics Reviewer, Dr. Rich West, FMU faculty and Mathematics Reviewer, Dr. John Holton, State Department of Education Mathematics and Science Unit Coordinator, Dr. Janis McWayne, FMU faculty and Coordinator of Health Programs, Markey Bee, Project Manager of the COE, and Ashley Walters and Nadia Jones, FMU Student Assistants. The Curriculum Development Project participants introduced themselves to the group.

Dr. Pawloski congratulated the teachers on their nomination by the partner districts to participate in the curriculum development project. In addition to the opportunity to enhance their professional development, she informed the teachers that they will receive a \$2,000 honorarium for their contribution.

After a brief description of the COE grant, including the five key goals, Dr. Pawloski noted that the Social Studies and Mathematics Curriculum Development Project is an activity directly related to goal #2, In Service Teacher Development. During the year – long curriculum development project, the teachers will have an opportunity to work closely with Dr. Anderson (Social Studies) and Ms. Ruzga (Mathematics) to develop comprehensive kindergarten through eighth grade curriculum units. After thanking the teachers again for their participation, Dr. Pawloski turned the meeting over to Dr. Anderson.

2. Educating Children of Poverty in a Standards-Based World

Dr. Anderson gave a brief description of his background and current work. As a graduate student of Dr. Benjamin Bloom and lead author in the revision of Bloom's Taxonomy, upon which the newly released Social Studies standards are based, Dr. Anderson works with South Carolina teachers helping them understand the standards in relation to the revised taxonomy. He also works with the State Department of Education assisting with the alignment of the standards with assessment and instruction.

Using a power point presentation, "Educating Children of Poverty in a Standards-Based World", Dr. Anderson discussed the topic of standards, knowledge, and instruction. He addressed the need for a common language and framework to improve communication between teachers, students, and administrators. He gave a detailed description of the Taxonomy Table, which had been adopted by the SC State Department of Education. (Dr. Anderson's power point presentation, "Educating Children of Poverty in a Standards-Based World" can be found at the "Resources" link of the Center of Excellence website.)

After the power point presentation, the large group was divided into two smaller groups: Social Studies and Mathematics. Each group was further divided into teams according to grade level. (See the list of attendees for the specific grade team members.) Once the teams were identified, Dr. Anderson informed the participants that they would meet in the morning as a whole group to discuss in more detail the development of curriculum units before splitting up into their teams.

Saturday, October 15, 2005 9:00-3:30

3. Building Units: Curriculum Design as Staff Development

The Curriculum Development Project members met together Saturday morning as a large group as Dr. Anderson presented a power point presentation, "Building Units: Curriculum Design as Staff Development". He discussed the challenges of improving teacher quality. One of the challenges he mentioned is the isolation of teachers. He explained that the curriculum development project is an effort to provide teachers from different districts an opportunity to work together.

During the power point presentation, he also described the ten characteristics of curriculum units, some of which are: 1) units are organized around topics of appropriate related standards; 2) units balance direct instruction with student activity and exploration; and 3) must include at least one formal comprehensive assessment. He asked the members to consider the characteristics as they develop their units. (Dr. Anderson's power point presentation "Building Units: Curriculum Design as Staff Development" can be found at the "Resources" link of the Center of Excellence website.)

Before breaking into teams, each team received a notebook specific to their grade level which included the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy and eight different unit topics, each with standards and indicators. They were asked to begin with Units 5 and 6. Each team spent the remainder of the morning working together.

Lunch at The Cottage 11:45am-1245pm

4. Afternoon Session

The group returned from lunch and continued to work on their units during the afternoon. As they worked on their units, the members used the internet for resources and consulted with Dr. Anderson, Ms. Ruzga, the FMU faculty, and State Department Consultants.

5. Closing Comments

Before departure, the whole group was assembled together for closing comments. They were asked to complete an evaluation form and were given a Unit Development Schedule with deadlines, along with a list of participants and their email addresses. Each team will determine their own work schedule. The members were instructed to submit Units 5 and 6 electronically to either Dr. Anderson (Social Studies) or Ms. Mary Ruzga (Mathematics) by November 15, 2005. In January, members will meet again for a one day work session. Dr. Pawloski and Dr. Anderson thanked the members for their hard work and dedication to the curriculum development project.