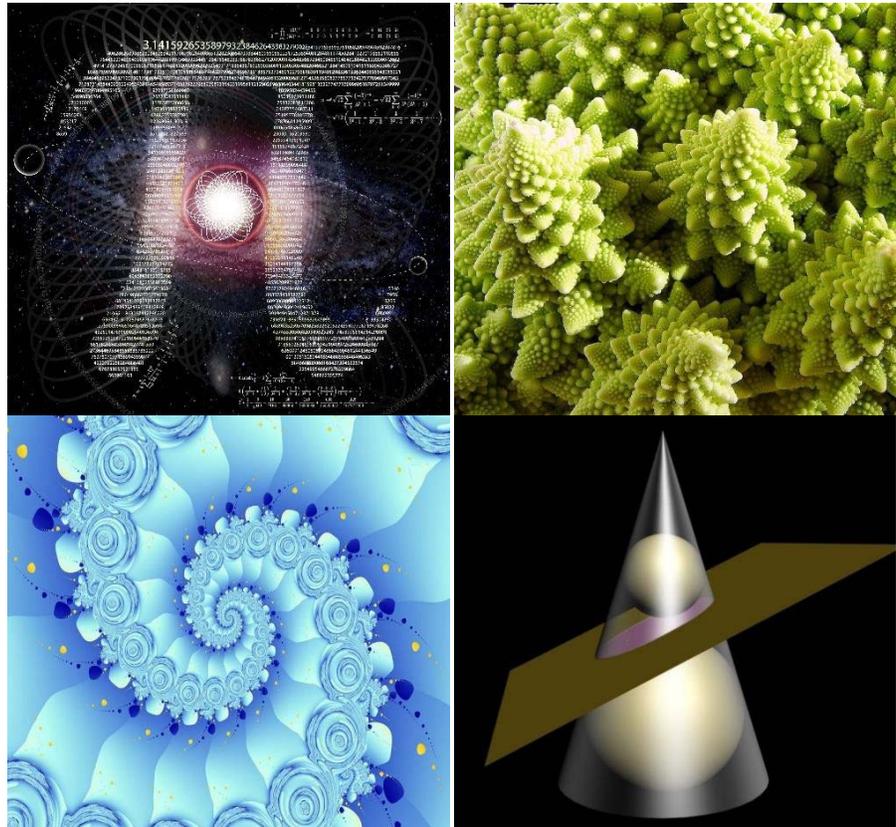




Washington State Bridge to College Mathematics Course



Adapted from Math Ready
A Southern Regional Education Board Transition Course



This course is dedicated to Katy Absten, former Math Specialist at OSPI in Washington State. Katy was one of the first people to work on this project and was a true visionary in its creation and implementation. Her work was instrumental in shaping all components of the course – the curriculum, the professional learning structures, and the partnerships. She believed strongly in empowering math students across the state of Washington to learn mathematics and transform their lives in the process.

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BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

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Course Introduction

During the 2015-16 academic year, over 30,000 Washington state high school graduates from 2014-2015 enrolled in the state's community and technical colleges (ERDC, 2018). Among those, 41% were required to take at least one pre-college course in mathematics (ERDC, 2018). While this overall percentage has decreased over the last few years (from 51% to 41%), there continue to be large gaps in college level placement rates in college level math (between 8 and 18 percent) for female students, historically underserved students of color (students identifying as Black, Hispanic, Native American, or Pacific Islander), first generation students (students who reported that their parent(s) had not finished college), and students receiving need-based aid (SBCTC Research Report 18-2, 2018).

These courses are costly and time-consuming for students. In addition, each pre-college course a student is required to take significantly reduces their likelihood of earning a degree (Martorell and McFarlin, Jr., 2010). By the time students appear on the community or technical college campus, it is too late for the public K-12 system to assist them in developing the skills and abilities they need to succeed in college level mathematics and other courses. As a result, they must take costly pre-college courses and delay their engagement with many other discipline area courses.

With the advent of the Smarter Balanced assessment system in 2014-15, however, students began receiving clearer information regarding their college readiness skills before their senior year. The Smarter Balanced assessment results inform students, families, and teachers of students' relative readiness for college and career. Many students will enter their senior year with the awareness that they are not yet college ready in mathematics. In fact, in the 2016-17 academic year only 26% of the high school juniors who took the assessment scored at or above college-ready (Levels 3 or 4), an improvement from the previous year two years' results but still less than what we would hope to see. However, now that this information is available after the sophomore year, it is possible to serve these students before they attend a college or university and perhaps are required to take remedial classes there. This begs several questions, though. What do these students need? What are the crucial skills and abilities they need to develop in their senior year to be prepared for non-calculus pathway college level mathematics courses and the challenges they will face in their first year of higher education?

In Fall 2013, high school and higher education faculty from Washington state began meeting to answer these questions. They started by identifying what it means to be college ready in mathematics for non-calculus pathway courses. Using previously developed college readiness outcomes, the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and newly generated student profiles of college readiness, faculty from across the K-16 system developed the Bridge to College Mathematics Transition Course Standards which include both content standards and the Standards for Mathematical Practices from the CCSS. Through

multiple conversations with a wide range of participants, these course standards were finalized by Spring 2014.

Having settled on course standards, faculty and curriculum designers from K-12 and higher education started the process of developing the Bridge to College Mathematics curriculum. Participants considered the possibility of building all new curriculum, but since other states and regions had already developed a great deal of successful curriculum, they decided instead to examine the available models. Numerous open resource courses from the Southern Regional Education Board, University of Texas Dana Center, Kentucky Department of Education, Tennessee Board of Regents, Virginia Department of Education and West Virginia Department of Education and the Higher Education Policy Commission were examined, evaluated, and reviewed. The SREB Math Ready curriculum was selected by K-16 educators through a rigorous review process involving a rubric based on the course standards, the Common Core State Standards and the NCTM Mathematics Teaching Practices. (NCTM, 2014).

In the summer of 2014, interested high school teachers and college faculty met to develop a deep understanding of the course and its alignment to the BTCM course standards and NCTM Mathematics Teaching Practices. Project leadership also participated in five days of SREB Math Ready teacher training at the High Schools that Work conference to gain insight into the course as well as the challenges of implementing a college readiness course statewide.

During the 2014-2015 school year, sixteen high school teachers across the state piloted the course in their high school classrooms. In addition, two community college faculty used units from the curriculum in their pre-college mathematics courses. Pilot teachers and students provided extensive feedback on the modules via online forums, face to face regional meetings, and telephone interviews with researchers. In the spring of 2015, a team of pilot teachers, community college faculty and instructional experts reviewed all feedback and revised lessons and units to improve alignment to the BTCM course standards and the NCTM Mathematics Teaching Practices. Additional resources such as curriculum guides, practice sets, and assessment banks were also developed to support teachers in implementing the course.

After being piloted and refined, both Bridge to College courses (Mathematics and English) were finalized and offered in full during the 2015-16 school year. In that first full year of implementation for the courses there were 74 districts, 114 high schools, and 210 teachers total (106 math) offering the courses, serving almost 4000 students (based on fall enrollment numbers from OSPI). The Bridge to College project completed its fifth full year in the 2019-20 school year. More than 15,000 students statewide have enrolled in Bridge to College Mathematics since the course was developed in 2014. Educators from across the Washington state K-16 system have worked hard to create the opportunity for students to see themselves as college students and, more importantly, develop the skills, abilities, and mindset necessary to succeed when they get to college. To date students and teachers have consistently reported that the course successfully meets these demands, and the Bridge to College Mathematics course continues to be refined through the ongoing work of the teachers and teacher-leaders involved in the course.

While a great deal of work has been done to develop this course and its supporting documents, there is no question that the most important work of this project begins and ends with teachers and students in the classroom. Students may use their grade of “B” or better in Bridge to College for

placement into non-calculus pathway college level math courses at all 34 of Washington state's community and technical colleges as well as at Eastern Washington University, without the need to take a placement test or provide other test scores or documentation. In doing so, the Washington state K-16 system is placing great trust in Bridge to College Mathematics teachers and students.

Teachers will not be alone in their work with this course, however. The Bridge to College project contains the structure for a powerful learning community support system. The BTCM **Communities of Practice** will connect high school teachers, college faculty, and instructional experts in an ongoing, regional partnership to foster authentic learning for all participants. Bridge Course Leaders and local course teachers will meet in regional teams on a regular basis to facilitate learning and provide support for all participants. These communities will provide ongoing support for teachers to improve their craft and increase student achievement of the course outcomes. While the outcomes, principles, and curriculum are powerful, there is no question that the Communities of Practice are the key element in the evolution of the course and the students it serves. The materials contained in the course provide the foundation for teachers in these Communities of Practice, and their students, to engage in complex, meaningful learning that will prepare all students for the college and career challenges they face immediately after high school.

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National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. (2014a). *Principles to actions: Ensuring mathematical success for all*. Reston, VA: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Course Name, Code and Description

Bridge to College Mathematics is a year-long course focusing on the key mathematics readiness standards from Washington State’s K-12 Learning Standards for Mathematics (the Common Core State Standards, CCSS-M) as well as the eight Standards for Mathematical Practices. The course is designed to prepare students for entrance into non-calculus pathway introductory college level mathematics courses. The course addresses key learning standards for high school including Algebra I, statistics, geometry, and Algebra II standards essential for college- and career-readiness.

Course Name and Code: Bridge to College Mathematics - #WA0003

Course Description: The course curriculum emphasizes modeling with mathematics and the Standards for Mathematical Practice found within Washington K-12 Mathematics Learning Standards (the Common Core State Standards, CCSS-M). Topics include building and interpreting functions (linear, quadratic & exponential), writing, solving and reasoning with equations and inequalities, and summarizing, representing, and interpreting data. The course is designed to focus on building conceptual understanding, reasoning and mathematical skills and provides students engaging mathematics that builds flexible thinking and a growth mindset. For seniors who are successful in this course (B or better), the *Bridge to College Mathematics* course offers guaranteed¹ placement into a college-level course when entering college directly after high school.

*This course must be taught using the **Bridge to College Mathematics curricular materials** and the appropriate course name, and course code. It is required that the first seven units are taught during the school year. Unit 8 is recommended, but optional.*

All teachers who are teaching the course for the first time must participate in the year-long professional learning program described later in this document. Teachers returning to the course have ongoing professional learning requirements, also described later in this document.

¹ Due to school and grading disruptions as a result of the pandemic in spring 2020, Fall 2020 placements are at the discretion of individual participating higher education institutions.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Transition Course Standards



This 12th grade math college readiness/transition course is designed for students who score below “college-ready” on the high school Smarter Balanced assessment. The course standards are chosen to prepare them for non-calculus pathway college math classes. The course content of this course includes the following content standards of the CCSS. There is also an expectation that the Standards for Mathematical Practices will be embedded throughout the course.

Mathematical Practices
1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

The Real Number System (N-RN)

Extend the properties of exponents to rational exponents	1. Explain how the definition of the meaning of rational exponents follows from extending the properties of integer exponents to those values, allowing for a notation for radicals in terms of rational exponents. For example, we define $5^{1/3}$ to be the cube root of 5 because we want $(5^{1/3})^3 = 5^{(1/3)3}$ to hold, so $(5^{1/3})^3$ must equal 5.
	2. Rewrite expressions involving radicals and rational exponents using the properties of exponents.

Quantities (N-Q)

Reason quantitatively and use units to solve problems	1. Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays.
	2. Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling.
	3. Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities.

Note: The Grade 6, 7, and 8 standards for Ratios and Proportional Relationships and The Number System should be attended to as well in this course. Some could be reviewed, and others more deeply taught, depending on the needs of the students.

Seeing Structure in Expressions (A-SSE)

Interpret the structure of expressions	1. Interpret expressions that represent a quantity in terms of its context. ★ a. Interpret parts of an expression, such as terms, factors, and coefficients. b. Interpret complicated expressions by viewing one or more of their parts as a single entity. For example, interpret $P(1+r)^n$ as the product of P and a factor not depending on P .
	2. Use the structure of an expression to identify ways to rewrite it. For example, see $x^4 - y^4$ as $(x^2)^2 - (y^2)^2$, thus recognizing it as a difference of squares that can be factored as $(x^2 - y^2)(x^2 + y^2)$.
Write expressions in equivalent forms to solve problems	3. Choose and produce an equivalent form of an expression to reveal and explain properties of the quantity represented by the expression. ★ a. Factor a quadratic expression to reveal the zeros of the function it defines. b. Complete the square in a quadratic expression to reveal the maximum or minimum value of the function it defines. c. Use the properties of exponents to transform expressions for exponential functions. For example the expression 1.15^t can be rewritten as $(1.15^{1/12})^{12t} \approx 1.012^{12t}$ to reveal the approximate equivalent monthly interest rate if the annual rate is 15%.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Transition Course Standards



Arithmetic with Polynomials and Rational Expressions (A-APR)

Perform arithmetic operations on polynomials	1. Understand that polynomials form a system analogous to the integers, namely, they are closed under the operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication; add, subtract, and multiply polynomials.
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Creating Equations (A-CED)

Create equations that describe numbers or relationships	1. Create equations and inequalities in one variable and use them to solve problems. <i>Include equations arising from linear and quadratic functions, and simple rational and exponential functions.</i>
	2. Create equations in two or more variables to represent relationships between quantities; graph equations on coordinate axes with labels and scales.
	3. Represent constraints by equations or inequalities, and by systems of equations and/or inequalities, and interpret solutions as viable or non-viable options in a modeling context. <i>For example, represent inequalities describing nutritional and cost constraints on combinations of different foods.</i>
	4. Rearrange formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations. <i>For example, rearrange Ohm's law $V = IR$ to highlight resistance R.</i>

Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities (A-REI)

Understand solving equations as a process of reasoning and explain the reasoning	1. Explain each step in solving a simple equation as following from the equality of numbers asserted at the previous step, starting from the assumption that the original equation has a solution. Construct a viable argument to justify a solution method.
Solve equations and inequalities in one variable	3. Solve linear equations and inequalities in one variable, including equations with coefficients represented by letters.
	4. Solve quadratic equations in one variable. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use the method of completing the square to transform any quadratic equation in x into an equation of the form $(x - p)^2 = q$ that has the same solutions. Derive the quadratic formula from this form. Solve quadratic equations by inspection (e.g., for $x^2 = 49$), taking square roots, completing the square, the quadratic formula and factoring, as appropriate to the initial form of the equation.
Solve systems of equations	5. Prove that, given a system of two equations in two variables, replacing one equation by the sum of that equation and a multiple of the other produces a system with the same solutions.
	6. Solve systems of linear equations exactly and approximately (e.g., with graphs), focusing on pairs of linear equations in two variables.
Represent and solve equations and inequalities graphically	10. Understand that the graph of an equation in two variables is the set of all its solutions plotted in the coordinate plane, often forming a curve (which could be a line).
	11. Explain why the x -coordinates of the points where the graphs of the equations $y = f(x)$ and $y = g(x)$ intersect are the solutions of the equation $f(x) = g(x)$; find the solutions approximately, e.g., using technology to graph the functions, make tables of values, or find successive approximations. Include cases where $f(x)$ and/or $g(x)$ are linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions. ★

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Transition Course Standards



Interpreting Functions (F-IF)

Understand the concept of a function and use function notation	1. Understand that a function from one set (called the domain) to another set (called the range) assigns to each element of the domain exactly one element of the range. If f is a function and x is an element of its domain, then $f(x)$ denotes the output of f corresponding to the input x . The graph of f is the graph of the equation $y = f(x)$.
	2. Use function notation, evaluate functions for inputs in their domains, and interpret statements that use function notation in terms of a context.
Interpret functions that arise in applications in terms of the context	4. For a function that models a relationship between two quantities, interpret key features of graphs and tables in terms of the quantities, and sketch graphs showing key features given a verbal description of the relationship. <i>Key features include: intercepts; intervals where the function is increasing, decreasing, positive, or negative; relative maximums and minimums; symmetries; end behavior; and periodicity.</i> ★
	5. Relate the domain of a function to its graph and, where applicable, to the quantitative relationship it describes. <i>For example, if the function $h(n)$ gives the number of person-hours it takes to assemble n engines in a factory, then the positive integers would be an appropriate domain for the function.</i> ★
Analyze functions using different representations	7. Graph functions expressed symbolically and show key features of the graph, by hand in simple cases and using technology for more complicated cases. ★ a. Graph linear and quadratic functions and show intercepts, maxima, and minima. e. Graph exponential and logarithmic functions, showing intercepts and end behavior.
	8. Write a function defined by an expression in different but equivalent forms to reveal and explain different properties of the function. a. Use the process of factoring and completing the square in a quadratic function to show zeros, extreme values, and symmetry of the graph, and interpret these in terms of a context. b. Use the properties of exponents to interpret expressions for exponential functions. <i>For example, identify percent rate of change in functions such as $y = (1.02)^t$, $y = (0.97)^t$, $y = (1.01)^{12t}$, $y = (1.2)^{t/10}$, and classify them as representing exponential growth or decay.</i>
	9. Compare properties of two functions each represented in a different way (algebraically, graphically, numerically in tables, or by verbal descriptions). <i>For example, given a graph of one quadratic function and an algebraic expression for another, say which has the larger maximum.</i>

Building Functions (F-BF)

Build a function that models a relationship between two quantities	1. Write a function that describes a relationship between two quantities. ★ a. Determine an explicit expression, a recursive process, or steps for calculation from a context. b. Combine standard function types using arithmetic operations. <i>For example, build a function that models the temperature of a cooling body by adding a constant function to a decaying exponential, and relate these functions to the model.</i> c. (+) Compose functions. <i>For example, if $T(y)$ is the temperature in the atmosphere as a function of height, and $h(t)$ is the height of a weather balloon as a function of time, then $T(h(t))$ is the temperature at the location of the weather balloon as a function of time.</i>
Build new functions from existing functions	3. Identify the effect on the graph of replacing $f(x)$ by $f(x) + k$, $k f(x)$, $f(kx)$, and $f(x + k)$ for specific values of k (both positive and negative); find the value of k given the graphs. Experiment with cases and illustrate an explanation of the effects on the graph using technology. <i>Include recognizing even and odd functions from their graphs and algebraic expressions for them.</i>
	4. Find inverse functions. a. Solve an equation of the form $f(x) = c$ for a simple function f that has an inverse and write an expression for the inverse. b. (+) Verify by composition that one function is the inverse of another.
	5. (+) Understand the inverse relationship between exponents and logarithms and use this relationship to solve problems involving logarithms and exponents.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Transition Course Standards



BRIDGE to COLLEGE

Linear, Quadratic, and Exponential Models (F-LE)

Construct and compare linear, quadratic, and exponential models and solve problems	1. Distinguish between situations that can be modeled with linear functions and with exponential functions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prove that linear functions grow by equal differences over equal intervals, and that exponential functions grow by equal factors over equal intervals. Recognize situations in which one quantity changes at a constant rate per unit interval relative to another. Recognize situations in which a quantity grows or decays by a constant percent rate per unit interval relative to another.
	2. Construct linear and exponential functions, given a graph, a description of a relationship, or two input-output pairs (include reading these from a table).
	3. Observe using graphs and tables that a quantity increasing exponentially eventually exceeds a quantity increasing linearly, quadratically, or (more generally) as a polynomial function.
	4. For exponential models, express as a logarithm the solution to $ab^{ct}=d$ where a , c , and d are numbers and the base b is 2, 10, or e ; evaluate the logarithm using technology.
Interpret expressions for functions in terms of the situation they model	5. Interpret the parameters in a linear or exponential function in terms of a context.

Interpreting Categorical and Quantitative Data (S-ID)

Summarize, represent, and interpret data on a single count or measurement variable	1. Represent data with plots on the real number line (dot plots, histograms, and box plots).
	2. Use statistics appropriate to the shape of the data distribution to compare center (median, mean) and spread (interquartile range, standard deviation) of two or more different data sets.
	3. Interpret differences in shape, center, and spread in the context of the data sets, accounting for possible effects of extreme data points (outliers).
	4. Use the mean and standard deviation of a data set to fit it to a normal distribution and to estimate population percentages. Recognize that there are data sets for which such a procedure is not appropriate. Use calculators, spreadsheets, and tables to estimate areas under the normal curve.
Summarize, represent, and interpret data on two categorical and quantitative variables	5. Summarize categorical data for two categories in two-way frequency tables. Interpret relative frequencies in the context of the data (including joint, marginal, and conditional relative frequencies). Recognize possible associations and trends in the data.
	6. Represent data on two quantitative variables on a scatter plot, and describe how the variables are related. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fit a function to the data; use functions fitted to data to solve problems in the context of the data. <i>Use given functions or choose a function suggested by the context. Emphasize linear, quadratic, and exponential models.</i> Informally assess the fit of a function by plotting and analyzing residuals. Fit a linear function for a scatter plot that suggests a linear association.
Interpret linear models	7. Interpret the slope (rate of change) and the intercept (constant term) of a linear model in the context of the data.
	8. Compute (using technology) and interpret the correlation coefficient of a linear fit.
	9. Distinguish between correlation and causation.

Making Inferences and Justifying Conclusions (S-IC)

Understand and evaluate random processes underlying statistical experiments	1. Understand statistics as a process for making inferences about population parameters based on a random sample from that population.
	2. Decide if a specified model is consistent with results from a given data-generating process, e.g., using simulation. For example, a model says a spinning coin falls heads up with probability 0.5. Would a result of 5 tails in a row cause you to question the model?
Make inferences and justify conclusions from sample surveys, experiments, and observational studies	6. Evaluate reports based on data.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Course Overview

The Bridge to College Mathematics course focuses on the key readiness standards from the Common Core as well as the eight Standards of Mathematical Practices needed for students to be ready to undertake postsecondary academic or career preparation in non-STEM fields or majors. The course addresses standards throughout high school and even earlier, including Algebra I, statistics and geometry, and the Algebra II standards agreed to as essential college- and career-readiness standards for all students, regardless of their intended degree or career path. The full range of content standards found in Algebra II is not addressed because some are not seen as essential college- and career-readiness standards for non-calculus pathway math courses. The course consists of eight units: algebraic expressions, equations, measurement and proportional reasoning, linear functions, linear systems of equations, exponential functions, quadratic functions, and summarizing and interpreting statistical data. While this course covers the basics in math practices and reviews the procedural steps needed to be successful in math, it is designed to be taught in an engaging way based heavily on conceptual teaching and learning. Each unit includes a “hook” at the beginning to engage students and pre-assess prior math experiences and understandings. The hook is followed by several days of tasks that delve deeply into math found in the Standards for Mathematical Practice and the lead headers of the Common Core: focus, coherence and rigor. Each unit also includes at least one formative assessment lesson, allowing the teacher to adapt instruction and learning during the remainder of the unit.

Unit # & Title	Unit Description	Est. # class periods *
Unit 0: Building a Culture of Learning	This unit is designed to build an environment of curiosity, participation, positive interaction with others, group interdependence and mathematical inspiration. The mathematics contained in the problems is intended to be accessible by students at this level and provides multiple points of entry. The outcome of this unit is intended to be a set of attitudes for operating this classroom space as well as an increased sense of efficacy and competence for the students, not the mastery of specific math concepts.	6
Unit 1: Algebraic Expressions	The algebraic expressions unit is designed to solidify student understanding of expressions while providing the students with an opportunity to have success early in the course. The recurring theme integrated in this unit focuses on engaging students using and expanding the concepts found within purposefully chosen activities. Through guided lessons, students will manipulate, create and analyze algebraic expressions and look at the idea of whether different sets of numbers are closed under certain operations. The writing team selected content familiar to the students in this unit to build student confidence and to acclimate students to the course’s intended approach to instruction.	14
Unit 2: Equations	The equations unit calls for students to construct and evaluate problems that involve one or two steps while seeking understanding of how and why equations and inequalities are used in their daily lives. Students are also asked to use the structure of word problems and equations to rewrite and solve equations in different forms revealing different relationships.	13

Unit 3: Measurement and Proportional Reasoning	The measurement and proportional reasoning unit first revisits multiple methods experienced during middle school (including ratio tables, double number lines, graphs, equations, and unit rates). These methods are then utilized and built upon in addressing concepts that include unit conversions, using proportions for scaling, and area and volume. The unit requires higher-order thinking and number sense in order to get to the true intent of the standards covered.	12
Unit 4: Linear Functions	The linear functions unit takes students back to the foundation of all high school mathematics; an in-depth study of linear functions. Along with allowing students to differentiate between relations that are functions and those that are not, the unit helps students specifically examine characteristics of linear functions. By looking closely at linear functions in multiple forms, students are expected to graph and write equations, as well as interpret their meaning in context of the slope and y-intercept. Students conclude with a project allowing them to collect their own data and write a line of best fit from that data.	14
Unit 5: Linear Systems of Equations	The systems unit deals with solving systems of linear equations. This involves helping students classify solutions (one, none or infinitely many), as well as set up and solve problems using systems of equations. This unit also asks students to choose the best way to solve a system of equations and be able to explain their solutions.	11
Unit 6: Exponential Functions and Introduction to Logarithms	The exponential unit develops fluency in exponential functions through varying real-life financial applications/inquiries. The unit builds student understanding of these higher-level functions and gives them the opportunity to reflect upon the ramifications of their future financial choices. Basic logarithmic operations are included as a means to solving exponential equations.	18
Unit 7: Quadratic Functions	This unit is an expansive look at quadratic functions: their graphs, tables and algebraic functions. It stresses multiple approaches to graphing, solving and understanding quadratics, as students explore, make conjectures and draw conclusions in group-work settings. The unit assumes students have seen quadratics before but may not have a concrete, transferrable understanding of quadratic functions. The unit does not cover algebraic manipulations (multiplying and factoring), as these are in earlier units.	27
Unit 8: Summarizing and Interpreting Statistical Data	In the statistics unit students further develop skills to read, analyze, and communicate (using words, tables, and graphs) relationships and patterns found in data sets of one or more variables. Learning how to choose the appropriate statistical tools and measurements to assist in the analysis, being able to clearly communicate results either in words, graphs, or tables, and being able to read and interpret graphs, measurements, and formulas are crucial skills to have in a world overflowing with data. Students explore these concepts while modeling real contexts based on data they collect.	26
Total Estimated Class Periods		141

* Estimated number of class periods is based on a 50 minute class period, and may need to be adjusted to fit time available per day. Teachers should use ongoing formative assessment to decide how much time should be spent on each lesson in a unit and where, in each unit, additional practice time may be necessary.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Recommended Priority for Student Enrollment

The *Bridge to College Mathematics (BtCM)* Course is a math course designed for seniors who scored at Level 2 on the Smarter Balanced high school assessment and just need some additional work to be prepared for college-level coursework in math. Enrollment priority should be given to:

- Seniors who have taken a 3rd-year math course (Algebra 2, Integrated III, or other algebra-based 3rd credit alternative) and benefit from additional math intervention to be prepared for college math
- Seniors who are recommended by high school instructors based on other factors such as readiness and their high school and beyond plans.

Important Notes:

1. BtCM qualifies as one of the designated options for the “multiple pathways to graduation” component of the high school graduation requirements as defined by the 2019 Legislature (<https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/graduation/graduation-requirements/hb-1599-multiple-pathways-graduation>).
2. BtCM **can qualify** as a **3rd credit of math** if the student has already attempted Algebra 2 or is credit-deficient.
3. Currently, the Bridge to College Mathematics Course does not qualify for NCAA. It should be noted that the course is intended as a senior-level, 4th-year course in mathematics but the NCAA only requires 3 years of math, so not qualifying as a 'core course' for the NCAA should not be a problem for most students.
4. **Baccalaureate Requirements:** To meet the minimum admissions requirements for state baccalaureate institutions, students need to pass Algebra 2 for their 3rd credit of math. The Bridge to College Mathematics Course does meet the baccalaureate senior year requirement for a math or quantitative reasoning course as determined by the Washington Student Achievement Council (College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR), 2014).

Student Profile

The table on the following page provides specific descriptors of what college-ready (Level 3) and not-quite college ready (Level 2) would look like in each domain of the Washington State High School Mathematics Learning Standards.

Note: these descriptions are from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium “threshold” Achievement Level Descriptors—see <https://portal.smarterbalanced.org/library/en/mathematics-alds-and-college-content-readiness-policy.pdf> for details.

Level 3: The student has met the achievement standard and demonstrates progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills in mathematics needed for likely success in entry-level credit-bearing college coursework after completing high school coursework.

Level 2: The student has nearly met the achievement standard and may require further development to demonstrate the knowledge and skills in mathematics needed for likely success in entry-level credit-bearing college coursework after high school.

Students just entering level 2 should be able to:	Students just entering level 3 should be able to:
<p>Algebra Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use linear equations in one and two variables and inequalities in one variable to model a familiar situation and to solve a familiar problem. ● Explain solution steps for solving linear equations and solve a simple radical equation ● Use properties of exponents to expand a single variable (coefficient of 1) repeated up to two times with a nonnegative integer exponent into an equivalent form and vice versa, e.g., $x^2x^3 = xxxxx = x^2+3$. ● Solve one-step linear equations and inequalities in one variable and understand the solution steps as a process of reasoning. ● Represent linear equations and quadratic equations with integer coefficients in one and two variables graphically on a coordinate plane. Recognize equivalent forms of linear expressions and write a quadratic expression with integer-leading coefficients in an equivalent form by factoring ● Add multi-variable polynomials made up of monomials of degree 2 or less. ● Graph and estimate the solution of systems of linear equations. 	<p>Algebra Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create and use quadratic inequalities in two variables to model a situation and to solve a problem. ● Write a quadratic expression in one variable with rational coefficients in an equivalent form by factoring, identify its zeros, and explain the solution steps as a process of reasoning. ● Use properties of exponents to write equivalent forms of exponential functions with one or more variables with integer coefficients with nonnegative integer exponents involving operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication without requiring distribution of an exponent across parentheses. ● Solve a quadratic equation with integer roots in standard form. ● Represent polynomial and exponential functions graphically and estimate the solution of systems of equations displayed graphically. ● Understand that the plotted line, curve, or region represents the solution set to an equation or inequality. ● Add and subtract multi-variable polynomials of any degree and understand that polynomials are closed under subtraction.
<p>Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand the concept of a function in order to distinguish a relation as a function or not a functions ● Interpret quadratic functions in context, and given the key features of a graph, the student should be able to identify the appropriate graph. ● Graph quadratic functions by hand or by using technology. ● Identify properties of two linear or two quadratic functions. ● Understand equivalent forms of linear and quadratic functions. ● Build an explicit function to describe or model a relationship between two quantities. ● Add, subtract, and multiply linear functions. 	<p>Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the domain and range of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions presented in any form. ● Use function notation to evaluate a function for numerical or monomial inputs. ● Appropriately graph and interpret key features of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions in familiar or scaffolded contexts and specify the average rate of change of a function on a given domain from its equation or approximate the average rate of change of a function from its graph. ● Graph linear, quadratic, logarithmic, and exponential functions by hand and by using technology. ● Analyze and compare properties of a linear function to properties of another function of any type. ● Build a recursive function to describe or model a relationship between two quantities. ● Divide linear functions

Students just entering level 2 should be able to:	Students just entering level 3 should be able to:
<p>Statistics and Probability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the differences in shape, center, and spread of two or more different data sets representing familiar contexts. 	<p>Statistics and Probability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select the appropriate choice of spread as interquartile range or standard deviation based on the selection of the measure of center.
<p>Quantities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose and interpret the correct units in a formula given in a familiar context, including making measurement conversions between simple units. 	<p>Quantities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reason quantitatively to choose and interpret the units in a formula given in an unfamiliar context, including making compound measurement conversions. Define appropriate quantities or measurements in familiar contexts with some scaffolding to construct a model. Choose the scale and origin of a graph or data display
<p>Number and Quantity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend the properties of integer exponents to multiply expressions with rational exponents that have common denominators. Perform operations on rational numbers and familiar irrational numbers. Understand that rational numbers are closed under addition and multiplication. 	<p>Number and Quantity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply all laws of exponents on expressions with exponents that have common denominators. Rewrite expressions with rational exponents of the form (m/n) to radical form and vice versa. Use repeated reasoning to recognize that the sums and products of a rational number and a nonzero irrational number are irrational.

Smarter Balanced Assessment Claims

Students just entering level 2 should be able to:	Students just entering level 3 should be able to:
<p>Claims 2 and 4*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Select tools to solve a familiar and moderately scaffolded problem and apply them with partial accuracy. ● Use the necessary elements given in a problem situation to solve a problem. ● Apply mathematics to propose solutions by identifying important quantities and by locating missing information from relevant external resources. <p>Claim 3*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Find and identify the flaw in an argument. 	<p>Claims 2 and 4*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use appropriate tools to accurately solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. ● Apply mathematics to solve problems by identifying important quantities and mapping their relationship and by stating and using logical assumptions. <p>Claim 3*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use stated assumptions, definitions, and previously established results and examples to identify and repair a flawed argument. ● Use previous information to support his or her own reasoning on a routine problem.

* Specific “claims” assessed by the Smarter Balanced mathematics assessment

The content areas noted above—algebra, functions, etc.—are all included as part of Claim 1.

Claim 1: Students can explain and apply mathematical concepts and carry out mathematical procedures with precision and fluency.

Claim 2: Students can solve a range of complex, well-posed problems in pure and applied mathematics, making productive use of knowledge and problem-solving strategies.

Claim 3: Students can clearly and precisely construct viable arguments to support their own reasoning and to critique the reasoning of others.

Claim 4: Students can analyze complex, real-world scenarios and can construct and use mathematical models to interpret and solve problems.

Washington State Automatic Placement Agreement for High School Students

As part of the implementation of the Washington State Learning Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessment, the Washington community and technical college system has approved an automatic placement agreement for high school students. All 34 colleges in the system offer high school students the opportunity to use their scores on the high school Smarter Balanced assessment to establish their readiness for college-level coursework.

The goal of the agreement is to increase the number of students enrolling directly into college courses without remediation by

- a) offering students an early opportunity to know whether they are ready for college-level academic work;
- b) providing an incentive for achieving the Common Core standards as reflected in the Smarter Balanced assessment; and
- c) creating alternatives for students, if necessary, to use their last two years of high school more effectively in getting ready for college-level work.

This updated agreement took effect beginning with students who took the high school assessment in spring 2018 and is in effect for the high school graduating classes through the Class of 2022. It will be reviewed and renewed or revised formally by winter 2021 based on relevant data gathered on the Smarter Balanced assessment, including a) correlations with SAT/ACT scores, b) grade 12 student performance, and c) student performance on placement tests into and success in entry college-level courses, especially math and English.

Automatic Math Placement Options Available to Students Entering Directly from High School:

MATH

➤ For placement into **Math& 107 (Math in Society)**, **Math& 146 (Statistics)**, or their equivalents:

1) Level 3 or 4 score on high school Smarter Balanced assessment plus

- a) B or better in Algebra 2, and
- b) successful completion (passing grade) of one math course in the junior or senior year

OR

2) B or better grade in designated *Bridge to College Math* class as a senior

➤ For placement into **other entry-level math courses (including pre-calculus):**

Requires Smarter Balanced Level 3 or 4 **plus**
B or better in a high school pre-calculus or higher course

NOTES:

1. Students interested in enrolling in **dual-credit courses** (Running Start, College in the High School) as juniors can use their discipline-appropriate Smarter Balance scores to enroll in **Math& 107** (*Math in Society*), **Math& 146** (*Statistics*), or their equivalents (requires score **plus B** or better in Algebra 2) or an **entry college-level** English course (including but not limited to English Composition or its equivalent).
2. For all score levels in math, placement into more advanced courses than designated in the agreement will depend on additional local institutional placement processes (transcript, high school GPA, additional testing, etc.).
3. The agreements apply **only** to placement considerations for high school students with Smarter Balanced high school assessment scores admitted to and enrolling in the academic year (for math, fall quarter only) immediately following high school graduation or students enrolling in dual-credit courses in the academic year after taking the assessment. Local colleges may extend the time period for honoring the scores for placement.
4. The Bridge to College courses are not currently available statewide; for a list of schools/districts offering the courses see the Bridge to College page (<https://www.sbctc.edu/about/agency/initiatives-projects/bridge-to-college.aspx>) on the State Board for Community and Technical College web site. On student transcripts the courses can be identified by their common course codes (WA0001 for English, WA0003 for math).

Special Note for 2020-21 re Pandemic Impact

The Bridge to College leadership team worked within the framework of the detailed guidance OSPI provided to schools ([Continuous Learning 2020](#)) with respect to the impact of long-term school closures on teachers and students as well as their specific guidance regarding [student learning and grading](#); for additional resources related to shifting courses online (organized by content areas), see [OSPI’s resource page on “continuous learning.”](#):

- Teachers were encouraged to focus on completing the course through **Unit 6** (Exponentials) by the end of the year.
- Within the framework defined by OSPI in the statewide guidance regarding [student learning and grading](#), Bridge to College Math teachers were asked to assign final grades for students following the specific guidelines established by the local district or school for all courses.
- Due to the range of variations in district grading policies in the spring of 2020 in response to the Covid-19 crisis, local colleges may opt to use a B or better for placement but will be advised that they can use additional considerations in their placement decisions.
- Students need to earn credit for the class to earn the graduation pathway.

Please contact Bill Moore (360-704-4346, bmoore@sbctc.edu) if you have any specific questions.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Assessment Practices and Resources

As part of the placement agreement with the Washington community and technical college system (and Eastern Washington University), a student who receives a B or higher in the Bridge to College Math transition course in their senior year of high school will be entitled to placement into entry level college math courses that are not on the calculus pathway (such as MATH&107 Math in Society and MATH&146 Statistics). The automatic² agreement only applies if they enroll at a participating institution in the fall quarter immediately following graduation from high school (some colleges may choose to extend that timeframe). In order to qualify for the placement, the student must complete the full year-long course and must earn a B or higher in the second semester of Bridge to College Mathematics.

A “B” in this course should represent a student’s understanding of the mathematics of the course as identified by the standards, including the Standards for Mathematical Practices. Overall grades in the course can be determined by many components (homework, participation, group exercises, writing, online practice, etc.), but a significant portion of the overall grade should come from assessments (such as quizzes and tests) which are aligned to these standards. Bridge to College Mathematics instructors are expected to give summative in-class assessments taken by individual students for each unit of the course as well as comprehensive semester exams. A bank of assessment items for each unit is provided which instructors are welcome to use in creating these assessments. These assessment banks are not intended to be used in their entirety as a summative assessment but rather they are designed as a resource for creating appropriate end of unit assessments.

Each teacher is assigned to a Regional Bridge Team with other instructors who are teaching the course. They will have three days to meet as a “Community of Practice” (CoP) throughout the school year, and each time will collaboratively choose at least one common assessment item to give their students prior to coming together. Every CoP meeting will include a time where teachers work through a protocol of looking at student work from this problem and discussing which examples represent B level students and which do not. Past results of these discussions have been analyzed and used to create assessment rubrics and anchor tasks that are included in the teacher resources. This collection of student work will be revised as CoPs continue to have these conversations about college readiness. The outcomes of the CoPs will continue to be shared with the Bridge to College Mathematics community, which includes faculty partners at Washington state community and technical colleges, as well as some four- year institutions.

Grading is a complex and difficult endeavor, and practices vary dramatically between classrooms, schools, and districts. There is not a required specific assessment for all students in the course across the state, but teachers are expected to assess their students appropriately throughout the year on the course standards. Students who earn a grade of B or higher in the course should be prepared for the previously mentioned non-calculus pathway college level math courses. Higher education faculty partners across the state are available to serve as consultants in this process in order to increase the chance that a student is successful in this transition.

² See previous page for clarifying note regarding placement for Fall 2020; Fall 2021 will be determined based on what happens in the 2020-21 school year.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Course Supplies

The Bridge to College Mathematics course is designed to be taught in an engaging way based heavily on conceptual teaching and learning. This type of course requires that classrooms be equipped with supplies and materials that may not be normally purchased for a high school mathematics classroom.

Classroom Supplies List

This list includes special materials that might not normally be found in a high school mathematics classroom. It does not list materials such as graph paper, calculators, rulers, etc., as it is assumed these are part of a normal high school mathematics class. It also does not include any student handouts from the student or teacher manual that may need to be printed, according to individual teacher preference.

Unit 0

- 4-6 Nylon Tuffies, a Koosh® ball or Nerf® ball, small stuffed animals etc.
- Roll of brightly colored twine, string, or yarn
- Marshmallow Challenge kits: 20 sticks of spaghetti, 1 yd masking tape, 1 yd string, 1 marshmallow.
- Measuring tape
- Timing device
- Internet to access videos and website

Unit 1

- Chart paper & markers
- Square color tiles (optional)
- 6-sided die
- Mini whiteboards (optional, but recommended for the entire course)
- 2 sets “I have/Who has” cards

Unit 2

- 1 set of 6 Equation Cards & 12 index cards per group
- 1 *Card Set: Always, Sometimes, or Never True?* per group
- Chart paper & markers
- Mini-whiteboards
- Colored Pencils

Unit 3

- Chart Paper & markers
- Book: *If You Hopped Like a Frog* (ISBN-13: 978-0590098571)
- Either Internet-accessible devices or tables for Alternative Option for Heartbeat Hypothesis Activity, cut out
- Set of “If You Hopped Like a Frog” statement cards, cut out
- Sticky Notes
- Rulers
- Random items to use as a non-standard measurement unit
- Greeting card with grid drawn in and cut into squares
- Heart Rate Problem Cards
- Clock or stop watch to measure pulse rate

Unit 4

- Function/Not Function cards (1 set per pair of students)
- Matching Equations cards (1 set per pair of students)
- Graphing Linear Equation in Context cards (2 sets per class)
- Activity Cards (1 set per four students)
- Materials for activity: Water balloons, rubber bands (same size), measuring device (tape measure), masking tape
- Access to internet for videos

Unit 5

- Materials for lesson 1 depend on implementation style but may include chart paper, markers, yard sticks, different colors of yarn, and/or masking tape
- 1 copy of *Card Set A: Equations, Tables & Graphs* and two cut up copies of *Card Set B: Arrows* per group
- Poster board

Unit 6

- Access to internet for student research
- 1 copy of *Card Set: Investment Plans* per group
- 1 copy of *Card Set: Formulas* per group
- 1 copy of *Card Set: Graphs* per group
- 1 copy of *Card Set: Tables* per group
- 1 copy of *Card Set: Statements* per group
- 1 copy of *Card Set: WAR* per pair
- Poster paper & markers

Unit 7

- Lesson 1: Each group should have access to the following supplies: tongue depressors, gummy bears, rubber bands (same size), index cards, chart paper and markers
- Mini-whiteboards and markers
- Domino Cards
- Algebra tiles
- Marshmallows
- Timing device
- Internet to access videos and website

Unit 8

- 1 copy of Card Sets: *Frequency Graphs* and *Interpretations* per group
- Internet to access website

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Online Course Resources and Support

The Bridge to College Mathematics course uses CANVAS as a platform for distributing course materials and building a network of virtual support for teachers, team leaders, and course trainers. All Bridge to College Mathematics teachers should be automatically enrolled in the [CANVAS course](#) in August 2020.

Course Materials

Printable copies of all course materials updated for 2020-21 are posted on CANVAS for teachers to download and use to create student workbooks, handouts, Power Points, etc. Unit level instructional materials include:

- Curriculum Guide
- Teacher Manual
- Student Manual
- Assessment Bank
- Assessment Bank Answer Key
- Rubrics and Anchor Tasks for selected tasks

In addition, the introductory materials contained within the binder provided to all new teachers in August 2020 will be available on CANVAS.

Curriculum Updates as of August 2020

Virtual Network

To facilitate the development of a network of virtual support for course teachers, team leaders, and course trainers, you will find discussion forums on CANVAS. In addition, the Bridge Course Leadership Team has developed various methods of virtual collaboration for BTC teachers in 2019-20, including summer and school year trainings and a community of practice.

Other Resources

Each Bridge Course teacher is entitled to download a copy of the pdf of NCTM's Principles to Actions: Ensuring Mathematical Success for All which is posted in CANVAS. Please note that while the e-books remain the property of the participants to whom they are distributed, they are not to be shared further as a matter of both copyright and common courtesy.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Professional Learning and Support System: New Teachers

It is critical that all teachers and leaders involved in providing the Bridge to College Math course to students are well prepared in the course content, delivery expectations, and regional support network available. To support a strong statewide implementation, each new teacher is required to participate in the equivalent of 7 days—for 2020-21 school year, all held virtually due to the pandemic—of professional learning and networking over the course of the year (2 in the summer, 5 during the year).

All new teachers will attend an initial 2-day summer institute. The goals of the summer institute:

- Understand the goals of the course and the expectations of teaching the course
- Understand the depth of the mathematics in the curriculum and the three aspects of each unit: hook lessons, tasks, and formative assessment lessons
- Gain a deeper understanding of Units 1-3 in preparation for implementation in the fall.
- Make connections to the CCSS-M SMPs, where it makes sense (teaching practices, college readiness, etc.)
- Understand the 8 Mathematics Teaching Practices; focus and reflect on school & individual practices related to facilitating meaningful mathematical discourse and supporting productive struggle.
- Access the Bridge to College Math Canvas site & become a member of the statewide network.

New teachers are then organized into **Communities of Practice (CoPs)** to engage in 5 additional days of professional learning:

- Each team meets with their **Bridge Course Leader** once each semester (2 days total) to participate in content-based professional learning focused on upcoming units.
- The **CoPs** will meet 3 additional days (or at least 15 hours) during the school year to support each other and focus on a strong implementation of the course statewide, at a location convenient to team members.

The table shows the recommended pattern of **CoP** meetings each new teacher will participate in during the school year.

Date	Description
October	Community of Practice Meeting
November-December	Content Training: Upcoming units with Bridge Course Leader
January	Community of Practice Meeting
February-March	Content Training: Upcoming units with Bridge Course Leader
April	Community of Practice Meeting

Professional Learning and Support System: Returning Teachers

Each returning teacher is required to choose one of several provided options of professional learning that is equivalent to one day. Options will be communicated as they are scheduled and made available. Some options are in-person and some are virtual.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

Community of Practice Core Activities

Each meeting should include the three Community of Practice Core Activities listed below.

- ❖ **Share successes & challenges of implementation:**
 - Support each other in implementing the Bridge to College Math course
 - Share with Bridge Course Trainers and state to inform ongoing curriculum & professional learning planning

- ❖ **Reflect on Instructional Practice:**
 - Focus on strategies for facilitating mathematical reasoning, classroom discourse, and a culture of productive student struggle and learning from mistakes.
 - Use video (from video library or team members classroom) or classroom visits to identify and implement instructional strategies

- ❖ **Define & Calibrate: What is College Ready? (What is a B?)**
 - Select & administer common assessment items
 - Examine student work together
 - Capture “B”/”not B” language and student work samples to inform statewide standard setting

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE MATHEMATICS

School-Year Community of Practice Meetings

Bridge to College supports three full-day *Community of Practice* meetings during the school year, generally in October, January, and April. The *Communities of Practice* hold meetings within the following parameters:

- Meet at least 15 hours over the course of the school year, with a final meeting no earlier than April.
- Engage in each of the three **Community of Practice Core Activities** (Share Successes & Challenges, Reflect on Instructional Practice, Define & Calibrate) at least three times during the course of the year.
- Post reports on CANVAS as requested in the protocols.

Community of Practice Meeting agendas are planned by Bridge Course Leaders in collaboration with team members. The following agenda provides guidelines for the equivalent of a typical full day meeting that includes the three **Community of Practice Core Activities**; the team can determine whether to extend any of the core activities or to engage in additional activities. [NOTE: For 2020-21 these meetings/discussions will be virtual and spread over multiple days in shorter blocks of time.]

Share successes & challenges of implementation (40-75 minutes)
<p>Communities of Practice share successes & troubleshoot challenges with each other to improve course implementation</p> <p>Use Sharing Protocol at each meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual time to reflect & write @ successes & challenges • Open or structured sharing • Opportunity to inform Bridge Course trainer and state planning
Reflect on Instructional Practice (75-125 minutes)
<p>Communities of Practice observe and reflect on instructional practice together.</p> <p>Observation options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school classroom video provided by NCTM or other source • Teacher's Bridge classroom video clips reflecting discourse, productive struggle • Live visit in a Bridge teacher's classroom together <p>Use Practice Reflection Protocols at each meeting; select your focus of reflection and action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate Meaningful Mathematical Discourse • Support Productive Struggle in Mathematics

Define & Calibrate: What is College Ready?(What is a B?) (60-100 minutes)

Communities of Practice use common assessment items to calibrate team thinking about college readiness.

- OSPI/SBCTC provides assessment banks for each unit with 4-5 starred tasks
- CoP selects at least 1 starred task per unit that all teachers will include in a unit assessment
- OSPI/SBCTC collects “B” language & samples to provide resources to inform calibration with Community College.

Use Student Work Protocol at each meeting

- All teachers bring common student work to each meeting & use the protocol to refine college ready expectations.
- Share task specific language for level 3 (ready/B) and level 2 (not ready/not B). Post 1 student work sample for each level.

Share Successes & Challenges of Implementation

Communities of Practice share successes & troubleshoot challenges with each other to improve course implementation

Sharing Protocol

Reflect & Write ~10-15 min	<p>Provide individual time to reflect & write about their successes & challenges in implementing the Bridge to College Math course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review your personal commitments for practices you were planning to incorporate from the last meeting and reflect on the successes and challenges with your students. <p><i>Additional specific prompts for each meeting will be provided on CANVAS.</i></p>
Sharing & troubleshooting ~20-40 min	<p>Facilitate sharing using a mini-protocol that fits the norms of your team. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner share; then each pair shares one success & one challenge to troubleshoot with whole group. Round robin all share—start with successes, then move to challenges & troubleshooting.
Reporting ~10-20 min	<p>CANVAS report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capture highlights of the discussion, focusing on topics that will inform your Bridge Course Trainer’s planning and/or statewide implementation support planning. Organize the challenges by specific unit, when appropriate.

Reflect on Instructional Practice

Communities of Practice examine and reflect on instructional practice together

Practice Reflection Protocol

Mathematics Teaching Practice: Facilitate meaningful mathematical discourse

Prior to the meeting:

- Identify a teacher who will bring a video clip of whole class discourse in their Bridge to College Math classroom. Or select a video clip from the video resources on CANVAS.
- Teachers should read Principles to Actions (p. 29-35): Facilitate meaningful mathematical discourse. Additional reading selections are available on CANVAS for deeper investigation into practices that support student discourse.

Discussion of the Reading ~15-30 min	<p>Allow 5-10 minutes for individuals to review the reading and select 2-3 key ideas that were important to them in their own classroom.</p> <p>Share out key ideas, giving each participant time to share at least one of their selected ideas and explain its importance to their practice.</p>
Levels of Classroom Discourse ~15-20 min	<p><i>Review the 5 components for moving toward a classroom community centered on discourse (p 31) and Figure 11: Levels of Classroom Discourse.</i></p> <p>Allow 5-10 min for individuals to reflect on their own practice and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place themselves (Level 0 – Level 3) in each component. • Identify one or two components of personal growth. <p>Share out: Depending on comfort level of group, either ask for volunteers to share or ask each person to briefly share.</p>
Preparing to observe the lesson ~15-25 min	<p>Do the math task that is featured in the lesson you will be observing together. Discuss the mathematical goals of the lesson.</p> <p>Anticipate student responses to the task; misconceptions, levels of prior knowledge. Anticipate teacher facilitation of mathematical discourse of the specific task, discussing all 5 components of the levels of classroom discourse rubric. Do you expect to see evidence of all 5 in this video?</p>
Observe and discuss lesson 20-30 min (depending on observation length)	<p><i>Review norms regarding observing and reflecting on classroom practice: inquiry stance. Appreciation for the gift of this example of practice that allows us all to reflect and improve.</i></p> <p>Watch video or observe in classroom, paying attention to the ways in which the teacher facilitates discourse. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the teacher support students to share and defend their own ideas? • How does the teacher provide students with the opportunity to clarify understandings? • How does the teacher provide students with the opportunity to develop convincing arguments? <p>Allow 5-10 minutes after the observation for participants to gather their thoughts before discussing as a whole group.</p>
Reflect on own practice & commit ~5-10 min	<p>Allow time for individuals to Reflect & Write:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What ideas do I take back to my practice? • What specific things will I try in the coming months to facilitate discourse more effectively? • What resources do I need to help me be successful?

Reflect on Instructional Practice

Communities of Practice examine and reflect on instructional practice together

Video Review Protocol

Mathematics Teaching Practice: Varies depending on participants' choices.

Prior to the meeting:

- Identify a teacher who will bring a video clip from their Bridge to College Math classroom. Or select a video clip from the video resources on CANVAS.

<p>Greeting</p> <p>~5 minutes</p>	<p>Thank everyone for coming and remind everyone how video protocol works.</p> <p>Specifically, say something like: <i>Thank you all for engaging in a conversation about practice from teacher's video. <u>Teacher</u> (insert the teacher's name here and wherever you see <u>T</u>), thank you very much for the gift of bringing us a video of your teaching. We are going to engage in a protocol together about the video. Throughout this process, we all need to remember that <u>T</u> is giving us a gift in sharing their practice. We are not here to "fix" this teacher or share everything we notice. We are here to focus on the question <u>T</u> asks us to focus on, and share our noticings and wonderings.</i></p> <p>Briefly describe the steps of the protocol.</p>
<p>Setting the Stage and Creating a Safe Space</p> <p>~10 minutes</p>	<p>Say: <i><u>T</u>, thanks again for bringing this video. We really appreciate this opportunity to learn together. <u>T</u>, can you please tell us the mathematics and the context of the day?</i></p> <p>RESPONSE – This is not a pre-telling of everything that happens in the video – just a brief description.</p> <p><i>Thank you. What would you like us to focus on as we watch this video? What do you want us to be watching for?</i></p> <p>Ask <u>T</u> to provide 1 or 2 focus questions for us all to pay attention to. It might be helpful to post the questions and/or to record them on a chart paper or whiteboard.</p>
<p>Watching the Video: Noticing and Wondering</p> <p>~10-30 minutes depending on video length</p>	<p>Considering handing out the Participant Worksheet at the end of this protocol. Say: <i>As we watch this video, we suggest you take notes in a two-column format. In the first column, record what you notice students and the teacher doing. In the second column, please record your genuine wonderings.</i></p> <p><i>We will watch the video once and have a chance to reflect. Then we'll decide if we want to see it a second time.</i></p> <p>Watch the video. Then give teachers a minute or two to make notes. Say: <i>Take a moment to look at your notes and see if you need to add anything.</i></p> <p>Ask the teachers if they want to watch the video a second time. It is often quite worthwhile to see it a second time. If the video is short, you might just decide to watch it again. After the second watching, give teachers another minute to add to their noticings and wonderings.</p>
<p>Initial Response from Teacher in Video</p> <p>~5 minutes</p>	<p>Provide a frame for <u>T</u> to share noticings and wonderings first, such as:</p> <p><i><u>T</u>, you shared that you were interested in having us focus on XXX. Now that you've watched the video again, what are your thoughts?</i></p>

<p>Group Discussion: Sharing Noticings and Wonderings ~15 minutes</p>	<p>Say (this is SUPER important for establishing a safe experience): <i>Thank you. Now, I'd like to remind you how we are sharing. We are sharing our noticings and wonderings that are specifically focused on the question that <u>T</u> shared. We are not working to "fix" anyone and are also not going to share about things that don't focus on the questions.</i></p> <p><i>Would someone like to share a noticing or wondering? (If someone starts to share something that is outside of the norms, stop them with something like, <i>Hang on X</i>, I really appreciate that you are sharing your thinking. I'm wondering if you can tie what your sharing to <u>T's</u> question, which was XXX. (NOTE: this is hard to do sometimes... lean forward, use a warm tone, make eye contact, and believe in yourself. You're redirecting to keep the conversation safe.)</i></p> <p>Continue the conversation for the time you have or until it feels like the group is done, OR until <u>T's</u> body language/expression indicate that they have had enough (watch for this!)</p>
<p>Reflection ~5 minutes</p>	<p>Say: <i>Now, please take a few minutes to reflect what you have learned and what you can take back to your own practice with your BtCM class.</i></p>
<p>Closure ~5 minutes</p>	<p>Ask the teacher to restate any takeaways. Say: <i><u>T</u>, I want to thank you again for sharing your practice with us. This is a wonderful gift. I'm wondering if you'd be willing to share what your big takeaways are from this conversation and if you have any last wonderings?</i></p>
<p>Recording ~5 minutes</p>	<p>Lastly, ask teachers to write their reflection about what they are taking away in a public document such as a Google Document or Padlet. Remind them that these should be positive - and might start with a "Thanks!" They might think of them as "Love notes to <u>T</u>."</p> <p>These notes can be used to identify a problem of practice that the group would like to spend some time strategizing about something that came up in the conversation. Be careful to make sure that <u>T</u> feels comfortable with this.</p>

Video Review Protocol: Participant Worksheet

Throughout this process, please remember that our colleague is giving us a gift in sharing their practice.

Focus Questions:

Record what you notice students and the teacher **doing**. In the second column, please record your **genuine wonderings**.

Noticings What are students and teacher doing?	Wonderings What are my genuine questions?

Reflect on Instructional Practice

Communities of Practice examine and reflect on instructional practice together.

Practice Reflection Protocol

Mathematics Teaching Practice: Support productive struggle in learning mathematics

Prior to the meeting:

- Identify a teacher who will bring a video clip of small or whole class engagement in productive struggle in their Bridge to College Math classroom. Or select a video clip from the video resources on CANVAS.
- Teachers should read Principles to Actions (p. 48-52): Support productive struggle in learning mathematics. Additional reading selections are available on CANVAS for deeper investigation into practices that support productive struggle in learning mathematics.

Discussion of the Reading ~15-30 min	Allow 5-10 minutes for individuals to review the reading and select 2-3 key ideas that were important to them in their own classroom. Share out key ideas, giving each participant time to share at least one of their selected ideas and explain its importance to their practice.
Engaging in Productive Struggle ~15-20 min	<i>Focus on Figure 20 Redefining Student & Teacher Success (p. 49) and Teacher & Student Actions (p52)</i> Allow 5-10 min for individuals to reflect on their own practice and identify one or two areas of strength, components of personal growth. Share out: Depending on the comfort level of your group, either ask for volunteers to share or ask each person to briefly share.
Preparing to observe the lesson ~15-25 min	Do the math task that is featured in the lesson you will be observing together. Discuss the mathematical goals of the lesson. Anticipate student responses to the task; misconceptions, levels of prior knowledge Anticipate teacher facilitation of the specific task, discussing possible strategies for supporting students as they grapple with mathematical ideas and relationships.
Observe and discuss lesson 20-30 min (depending on observation length)	<i>Review norms regarding observing and reflecting on classroom practice: inquiry stance. Appreciation for the gift of this example of practice that allows us all to reflect and improve.</i> Watch the video or observe in classroom, paying attention to the ways in which the teacher provides students, individually and collectively, with opportunities and supports to engage in productive struggle. What actions and interactions are taken during and before the lesson? Allow 5-10 minutes after the observation for participants to gather their thoughts before discussing as a whole group.
Reflect on own practice & commit ~5-10 min	Allow time for individuals to reflect & Write: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What ideas do I take back to my practice? • What specific things will I try in the coming months to support productive struggle? • What resources do I need to help me be successful?

Define & Calibrate: What is College Ready? (What is a B?)

Communities of Practice use common assessment items to calibrate team thinking about college readiness

Student Work Protocol

Prior to the meeting:

- Before units are taught, teams should select at least one starred item from the unit assessment bank that all teachers will give to their students on a unit assessment.
- Identify which assessment item(s) teachers will be selecting student sample work to bring.
- Teachers should select 1-2 student work samples that represent “college ready” and “not quite college ready” work for the assessment item. **DO NOT grade or label the student work you bring.**

<p>Review the Item ~20-30 min</p>	<p>Do the assessment item together, fully exploring all possible student approaches to solving the problem.</p> <p>Discuss/Identify the math content and practice standards the item assesses, and the level of cognitive demand of the item.</p> <p>Discuss & record qualities you would look for in a response that was “college ready”. Note any questions you have that may be answered by OSPI or higher ed math faculty.</p>
<p>Review the Student Work ~20-40 min</p>	<p>Have each team member label their students’ work with a unique label (A,B,C or other) so that the team can easily reference a particular piece of work.</p> <p>Mix the student work from all teachers up and distribute equally to pairs of team members. Each pair should review the student work they have, looking for examples of what you would consider level 3 (ready/B) and level 2 (not ready/not B). On a separate recording page, note those samples you have identified as</p> <p>Trade sets of student work at least once so that at least 2 pairs of team members have reviewed each piece of work.</p>
<p>Capture item specific qualities & sample papers ~20-30 min</p>	<p>Each pair of team members shares & defends their choice for student work samples to post for each level.</p> <p>As a team, decide which samples you’ll post and the qualitative language that describes what makes the sample a level 3 (ready/B) or a level 2 (not ready/B).</p> <p>CANVAS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture item specific language for level 3 (ready/B) and level 2 (not ready/not B). • Post 1 student work sample for each level. • Capture additional questions about college readiness that were generated during the protocol.

PHILOSOPHY OF MATHEMATICS LEARNING AND TEACHING

Vision of Mathematics Education

In July 2011, Washington adopted the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS-M) (National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers, 2010) as the new Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Mathematics. These standards replaced the state’s 2008 Mathematics Learning Standards. The Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Mathematics are built on an intentional progression of the skills and knowledge necessary for all students to be ready for career, college, and life when they exit high school. The progressions of learning provide specific focus for each grade level. The standards lay the groundwork for this vision of mathematics that better fits the skills students need to be productive members of society.

Building on the work of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), the vision of mathematics education requires students to be problem solvers, to reason quantitatively and to understand and analyze data. Previously, mathematics programs emphasized computation and memorization. Today, students not only need to be fluent and flexible with numbers and operations, students need the capacity to apply concepts and skills to novel situations, to approach real-world problems with stamina, and to understand that there may be multiple viable solution paths and solutions, depending on the context of the problem and the assumptions of the problem-solver.

Success in mathematics is not reserved for an elite few

A key component of the Washington State K–12 Learning Standards for Mathematics (WA State Standards) are the Standards for Mathematical Practice. These standards reflect a key shift in mathematics education and describe the expertise that mathematics educators at all levels should seek to develop in their students. The Standards for Mathematical Practice are:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. Model with mathematics
5. Use appropriate tools strategically
6. Attend to precision
7. Look for and make use of structure
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

Mathematics instruction, then, should use the mathematical practices to engage students in the mathematics content and develop students as “practitioners of the discipline of mathematics.” For more information on the Standards for Mathematical Practice, see <http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Practice/>

Additionally, the mindset that success in mathematics is reserved for an elite few contradicts mathematics educational research. Many adults assume that differences in mathematics performance reflect differences in innate ability, rather than differences in individual effort or opportunities to learn. These expectations profoundly underestimate what students can do. The basic principles, concepts, and skills of mathematics are within reach of all students. When parents and teachers alike believe that hard work pays off, and when mathematics is taught and learned by using the knowledge, skills, abilities, and beliefs that constitute mathematical proficiency, mathematics performance improves for all students. Research has demonstrated that mathematical proficiency is an obtainable goal. (The National

Academies, p. 30) It is our duty, therefore, to authentically engage all students in the discipline of mathematics as a foundation for reasoning quantitatively, solving rich problems, and analyzing data to make meaning of information and gain proficiency in analyzing and solving problems.

Focus, Coherence, and Rigor

The Washington State K–12 Learning Standards call for shifts in the way we approach mathematics education. The shifts are:

- Greater focus on fewer topics
- Coherence: Linking content and thinking across grades
- Rigor: Pursue conceptual understanding, procedural skills and fluency, and application with equal intensity

“Focus” means deep engagement with the major work within each high school course. Rather than racing to cover many topics superficially, the standards ask mathematics teachers to deepen the way time and energy are spent on fewer, key math concepts. “Coherence” requires that content be carefully connected across high school courses, intentionally building on prior knowledge. “Rigor” refers to deep understanding of mathematics concepts. Students must have the opportunity to access concepts from multiple entry points and perspectives. Students must also be fluent with calculations and procedures so they can access more complex concepts and procedures. Finally, students must have the opportunity to apply concepts and procedures to novel situations (Common Core State Standards Initiative, 2015).

Mathematical Representations and Manipulatives

Instruction at all grade levels should incorporate the progressive use of concrete manipulatives, representational models, and abstract symbols (Forbinger & Fuchs, 2014). Much of traditional mathematics instruction focuses on computation and students’ ability to apply procedures quickly and accurately. According to the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), procedural fluency, however, includes “the ability to apply procedures accurately, efficiently, and flexibly; to transfer procedures to different problems and contexts; to build or modify procedures from other procedures; and to recognize when one strategy or procedure is more appropriate to apply than another” (NCTM, 2014b, p.1). This definition of procedural fluency pushes the bounds of traditional mathematics instruction, as it requires foundational knowledge of concepts, reasoning strategies, properties of numbers and operations, and problem-solving methods (NCTM, 2014b). The rigor of the state standards includes balancing conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and problem solving. Instruction, then, must be balanced to address the mathematics content and practice standards through a variety of approaches.

The use of models or representations to manipulate and communicate about mathematical ideas supports students in making connections among mathematical ideas, understanding computations and procedures, and solving problems. The more ways that students have to think about and test ideas, the better their ability to integrate them into their current conceptual understanding to develop a deep relational understanding. “Strengthening the ability to move between and among representations improves students’ understanding and retention of ideas” (Van de Walle, 2013, p. 22).

Mathematical representations can include words, manipulatives, pictures, models, diagrams, equations, and tables and graphs of functions and relationships.

Mathematics Teaching Practices

In 2014, NCTM published a book, *Principles to Actions: Ensuring Mathematical Success for All*. The principles in this text represent “strongly recommended, research-informed actions for all teachers,

coaches, and specialists in mathematics” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 4) including any interventionists who will be working to assist children in their mathematics study. These eight mathematics teaching practices reflect the range of instructional strategies and approaches necessary to promote deep learning of mathematics.

1. **Establish mathematics goals to focus learning.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics establishes clear goals for the mathematics that students are learning, situates goals within learning progressions, and uses the goals to guide instructional decisions” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 12).
2. **Implement tasks that promote reasoning and problem solving.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics engages students in solving and discussing tasks that promote mathematical reasoning and problem solving and allow multiple entry points and varied solution strategies” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 17).
3. **Use and connect mathematical representations.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics engages students in making connections among mathematical representations to deepen understanding of mathematics concepts and procedures and as tools for problem solving” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 24).
4. **Facilitate meaningful mathematical discourse.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics facilitates discourse among students to build shared understanding of mathematical ideas by analyzing and comparing student approaches and arguments” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 29).
5. **Pose purposeful questions.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics uses purposeful questions to assess and advance students’ reasoning and sense making about important mathematical ideas and relationships” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 35).
6. **Build procedural fluency from conceptual understanding.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics builds fluency with procedures on a foundation of conceptual understanding so that students, over time, become skillful in using procedures flexibly as they solve contextual and mathematical problems” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 42).
7. **Support productive struggle in learning mathematics.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics consistently provides students, individually and collectively, with opportunities and supports to engage in productive struggle as they grapple with mathematical ideas and relationships” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 48).
8. **Elicit and use evidence of student thinking.**
 “Effective teaching of mathematics uses evidence of student thinking to assess progress toward mathematical understanding and to adjust instruction continually in ways that support and extend learning” (NCTM, 2014a, p. 53).

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Washington Bridge to College Mathematics

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Bill Moore, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
 Kathe Taylor, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
 Project Co-Leads

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Project Leadership Team (Mathematics)

Megan Luce, math faculty, Cascadia College (higher education discipline lead)
 Arlene Crum, Director, Mathematics (OSPI)

2020-21 Course Leaders

Susan Cedar, Meg Chambers, Dawn Draus, Shereen Henry, Mary Ellen Huggins, Debbie Olson, Tamara Smith, Leslie Nielsen

2019-20 Community of Practice(CoP) Leaders

Jill Brouillard, Casey Bruinsma, Kim Coatney, Stefhany Guadarrama, Cory Kunz, Jamie Ladwig, Kristianna Johnsen, Allie Hernandez Nelson, Becky Spitznas, Elizabeth Tubac, Taya Schweizer, Nicola Wethall

Pilot Teachers

Jennifer	Bressert	South Kitsap SD	Amy	Hancock	Mead SD
Jeff	Cimaomo	Franklin HS	Coretta	Hoffman	Mead HS
Michael	Coffin	Prairie HS	Kristianna	Johnsen	Shorewood HS
Ryan	Cornell	Central Valley SD	Carolyn	Johnson	Rochester HS
Madelyn	Erickson	Olympic HS	Julie	O'Brien	Franklin HS
Chris	Fugleberg	Kelso HS	Linda	Richard	Shoreline SD
Bruce	Graham	Grandview SD	Erin	Schoenlein	Clark College
David	Groat	Battle Ground HS	Mary	Wallace	Mead SD

Course Design/Development Participants

Barbara	Alvin	EWU	Patrick	Kjack	Wenatchee SD
Deann	Anguiano	Marysville-Pilchuck HS	Jeremy	Koziol	Spokane CC
Emily	Asher	Bates TC	Meredith	LaFlesh	Tacoma
Pat	Averbeck	Edmonds CC	Jennifer	Laveglia	Bellevue College
Carol	Avery	Tacoma CC	Diana	Lee	Highline
Rick	Biggerstaff	EWU	Kris	Lindeblad	WSU
Sue	Bluestein	ESD 112	Michael	Lundin	CWU
Greta	Bornemann	PSESD	Kelly	Lynn	EWU
Helen	Burn	Highline CC	Mausumi	Maulik	Bellevue College
Chris	Carlson	Centralia College	Carlea	McAvoy	South Puget Sound CC
Linda	Carney	Shadle Park HS	Teresa	McComber	North Mason HS
Kelly	Casto	Richland SD	Sherry	McLean	Lake Washington
Chris	Chelin	Kennewick SD	Terry	Meerdink	Highline CC
Sandy	Christie	Consultant	Laura	Moore- Mueller	Green River CC
Sellie	Clark	Tacoma	Andrea	Motyka	Peninsula CC
Catherine	Conway	North Seattle	Lynn	Neal	Bates TC
Jackie	Coomes	Eastern Washington U.	Michael	Nevins	Everett CC
Sandy	Cooper	WSU	Ron	Noble	WA Applied Math
Curtis	Crawford	Columbia Basin College	Troy	Oelschlager	Klahowya Secondary
Mike	Dodge	Olympic College	De	Pham	Franklin HS
Ryan	Dorman	South Seattle CC	Emile	Pulido	Bates
Ryan	Downing	Grandview SD	Roxane	Ronca	WWU
Dawn	Draus	Lower Columbia College	Richard	Sander	Everett SD
Nicole	Duvernay	Spokane CC	Lauren	Sandven	Shoreline
Alex	Eklund	Seattle PS	Amy	Scheller	Kelso HS
Elissa	Farmer	Seattle PS	Debra	Schneider	Evergreen PS
Kendra	Feinstein	Tacoma	Laura	Schueller	Walla Walla
Frank	Fisher	Shoreline SD	Mike	Selle	Bridgeport HS
Wes	Fitz	Central Kitsap HS	Lee	Singleton	Whatcom CC
Vauhn	Foster- Grahler	TESC	Terrie	Skeie	Lower Columbia College
Jana	Freese	Columbia Basin College	Tamara	Smith	ESD 114
Nancy	Goodisman	Shoreline CC	Darlene	Snider	Walla Walla
Melissa	Graham	EWU	Rosalie	Tepper	Shoreline CC
Deb	Gribskov	Kelso HS	Trung	Tran	Tacoma CC
Michelle	Gruber	Northshore SD	Dana	Updegrove	Bellevue College
Carol	Hattan	Vancouver SD	Mary	Ward	Bates Technical College
MaryKe	Haynes	Battle Ground PS	Nicole	Wethall	Seattle PS
Shereen	Henry	Shoreline SD	Sharon	Wiest	Wenatchee Valley CC
Jenny	Hughes	Columbia Basin			