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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Brad C. Smith
Chief Executive Officer

DATE: March 5-6, 2015

INFORMATION: Standards Review Committee Recommendations for Secondary Mathematics

Background:

In accordance with Utah State Code 53A-1-402.8, a Standards Review Committee for Secondary Mathematics was convened on September 17, 2014. The committee also met on December 12, 2014. The Standards Review Committee report is now ready for the Board to receive.

Key Points:

The Standards Review Committee for Secondary Mathematics recommends refining the core standards by revising and aligning the Pre-calculus and Secondary I Honors, II Honors, and III Honors standards so that all students completing either pathway have met the same standards; revising and aligning the statistics and probability standards across secondary courses; revising ambiguous standards; cross-referencing the High School standards with the courses in which they are taught; and to consider moving some of the standards in Secondary II to other courses.

Anticipated Action:

The Standards and Assessment Committee will receive the report and make recommendations to staff regarding suggested changes in preparation for receiving a draft of the revised standards to go forward with public review at the May 2015 Board meeting. It is anticipated that the public comment period will begin at that time, in accordance with the Board-approved standards revision timeline.

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Secondary Mathematics Core Standards Revision Committee Report



Prepared by the

Utah State Office of Education

March 6, 2015

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Secondary Mathematics Standards Review Committee Report

The Standards Review Committee for Secondary Mathematics has been completed as required by Utah State Code Section 53A-1-402.8. Members of this committee represented various stakeholders, invited to be on the committee by invitation from the Utah State Senate, the Utah House of Representatives, and from the Utah State Board of Education. On September 17, 2014, the committee was convened. Members used copies of the core standards to work in teams and provide specific feedback related to the standards. They also shared input received from parents, students, teachers, and other stakeholders. After the first meeting, committee members were able to enter additional standards-related comments using a shared Google document.

The second meeting on December 12, 2014, consisted of committee members reviewing topics from the first meeting, working in small groups to discuss standards and overarching recommendations, and working as a whole group to determine the recommended actions to submit regarding the revision of the core standards in secondary mathematics. Between the two meetings, four members who were also serving on writing committees were replaced to avoid conflicts of interest.

The Standards Review Committee recommends the following actions be taken in the revision of the core standards. These recommendations represent the consensus of the committee.

- *Revise and align the Precalculus and Secondary I Honors, II Honors, and III Honors standards so that all students completing either pathway have met the same standards.*
- *Revise and align the Statistics and Probability standards across secondary courses (grades 7-12).*
- *Cross-reference the High School standards with the courses in which they are taught.*
- *Consider moving some of the standards in Secondary II to other courses.*
- *Revise ambiguous standards so that the depth of intended proficiency is clear.*

The Standards Review Committee requests the Board also consider the following recommendations. These recommendations represent the consensus of the committee.

- *Create additional materials to promote clarity at all levels to better communicate structure and longitudinal coherence (e.g., progressions resources, assessment examples, skill proficiency).*
- *Identify various routes of acceleration and remediation (allowing multiple entry and exit points).*
- *Revise the Applied/Advanced/Foundational (AAF) courses.*

The Standards Review Committee requests the Board also consider the following recommendations where consensus was not reached, but which was expressed by the majority of the committee.

- *Eliminate Seventh and Eighth grade Honors topics.*
- *Make explicit that districts are allowed the flexibility to enrich and/or compact (telescoping) courses without eliminating core standards.*

Upon Board consideration and direction, staff will incorporate Board recommendations into drafts of the standards prior to requesting public comment and hearings.

Secondary Mathematics Standards Review Committee Membership

Members appointed by Senate President Wayne Neiderhauser:

Lynette Berg
Brent Hall
Tyler Jarvis
Kathleen Quinn
Emma Schafer

Members Appointed by House Speaker Rebecca Lockhart

Nate Allred
Suzy Gatherum
Ben Johnson
Mark Maxfield
Aprel Mendenhall

Members Appointed by the Utah State Board of Education

Nathan Auck, Salt Lake City School District, Mathematics Coach
Dawn Barson, Alpine School District/BYU, on Special Assignment
Doug Corey, BYU, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education
Allen Jacobson, Davis School District, Secondary Mathematics Specialist
Brynja Kohler, Utah State University, Associate Professor of Mathematics Education
Travis Lemon, Alpine School District, Secondary Mathematics Teacher
Hugo Rossi, University of Utah, Director of the Center for Science & Mathematics Education