



PWR POSTSECONDARY & WORKFORCE READINESS ACT

TRANSITIONAL MATH

Update August 2018

Policy and Portability

In June 2018, ISBE, ICCB, and IBHE agreed to the transitional math competencies and policies presented to them. Those items are being made into a new, more user-friendly document that will no longer have the “draft” designation. That document, among other items, will be available this fall. See the Communication and outreach section that follows for more information.

The portability panel begins work this fall with the first face-to-face meeting on October 24. Documentation requirements are being determined and have not been finalized yet. Additionally, the computer system that will accept the documentation submitted is still in progress. As a result, a full call from any high school/college partnership will not be available this fall. However, a small call of a few partnerships that are further along in the process will be made so that the panel can make decisions on the best format of documentation. A full call will tentatively be available in the spring of 2019.

The statewide Memo of Understanding template is being finalized and will be available on the new website this fall.

Communication and Outreach

This newsletter is one of multiple efforts to increase communication about transitional math. Regular emails will be going out along with a new website and more information on it. The website will include a transitional math starter kit which will include the new competencies and policies document, information on upcoming events, links to resources, and more. Webinars for high schools and colleges will be offered during this school year.

Professional Development

A professional development plan is being created to support those implementing transitional math. To begin, a webinar series will be offered to high school counselors during fall 2018. In-person and online training will be available in 2019 for high school and college math teachers. Summits continue to be a popular option to familiarize schools with the PWR Act and begin the transitional math development process. See the end of this article for a list of summits.

Curriculum and Resources

Throughout the summer of 2018, a group of high school, community college, and university math teachers worked on competency rubrics, scope and sequence charts, and sample unit maps for each of the three transitional math pathways (STEM, Quantitative Literacy/Statistics, and Technical Math). Rubrics and scope and sequence charts will be available on the new website this fall. Funding has been secured to develop additional open (free) educational resources to complete the unit maps. Those newly created resources will be developed and piloted throughout the 18-19 school year. Any items created are samples and not required for use. The Illinois OER website has had more items added to the PWR transitional math libraries. Additional items will be added throughout this school year.

If you are interested in learning more about the resource development and opportunities to participate, please attend a transitional math #ILMathCom on September 6 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Registration is available at this link: bit.ly/Sept6ILMathCom. ISBE Math content specialist Jeanine Sheppard will be hosting the event with Kathleen Almy, Illinois director of transitional math, and Anji Garza, Director of Professional Learning at ROE #47.

Implementation and Scaling

Monitoring the progress of implementation and scale is a high priority. To that end, high schools will receive a short survey in September to provide the State with the status of transitional math implementation for this school year and the 19-20 school year. ISBE and ICCB continue to develop a phased implementation plan as required by law by June 30, 2019. It will provide a timeline for schools to implement or opt out according to the law's requirements.

Upcoming summits

- Oakton Community College – Sept 5, 12 to 3:30 pm
- South Metropolitan Higher Ed Consortium joint summit (South Suburban, Joliet Junior College, Prairie State College, Moraine Valley College) – Sept 7, 12 – 3 pm
- Black Hawk College – Sept 12, 1 to 4 pm
- Spoon River College – Sept 13, 9 am to noon
- Richland College and Danville Area Community College – Sept 13, 3:30 – 6:30 pm
- Heartland Community College – Sept 14, 9 am to noon
- So. IL regional summit (Southeastern Illinois College, Rend Lake College, Shawnee Community College) – Sept 19, 1 to 4 pm (hosted at SIC)
- Highland Community College – Sept 21, TBD
- John Wood Community College – October 5, 1 – 4 pm
- McHenry County College – October 9, 1 – 4 pm
- College of Lake County – October 12, 12:30 – 3:30 pm
- Lake Land College – October 26, 1 to 4 pm
- EFE 030 meeting for Triton College's high schools – Nov 2, all day (Hamburger U)

Anyone is welcome to attend any summit. They are the most efficient way to get started with transitional math. Please attend one near you if you were not able to attend a summit that your school has had. Some room locations are still being determined. If you need room locations, please email Kathleen Almy at kalmy@niu.edu.