

Angie Hodge, Ph.D. North Dakota State University Obtaining funding for a Math Teachers' Circle: One group's journey

JMM 2100

Can WE apply for the workshop?

- The push
 - Project NExT e-mail
 - Questions to Brianna
 - Timely faculty retreat
 - E-mail from Tatiana Shubin's
- Creation of the team
- Application process



NDSU

Why we said yes



The "creation of the team" challenge

Opportunity to network with local teachers

Opportunity for faculty and teachers to learn from each other

The Workshop



- What is a MTC?
- How do you make it a reality?
- What do MTC session "look" like?
- How do you recruit faculty/teachers?
- How do you obtain funding for a MTC?



Applying for funding

- Options
 - Private funding
 - Department funding
 - Make it free
 - Grants
 - State Math Science Partnership grant



Helpful hints...



Clearly outline strategies and activities

- Strategies and Activities
 - Initial recruitment presentations at state mathematics conferences
 - Initial two-week Summer Academy at NDSU. (Involve master mathematics teachers, such as Presidential Awardees and Board certified teachers)
 - Each day has three components: mathematics content, mathematics teaching and learning, and individual planning and reflection (Action Research), and possibly working with Governor's School students



Link to the standards

- National and state content standards
 - National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
 - State equivalence
- Focus of standards
 - From: Inputs such as courses and content
 - To: Performance, often measured by standardized tests



Goals (Measure of goal)

- Strengthen content knowledge directly related to school mathematics curricula (Measure: change in PRAXIS II scores)
- Strengthen knowledge of how students learn mathematics (Measure: reflective journal, student test scores)
- Increase student achievement in mathematics (Measure: student test scores)
- Model recommended instructional strategies (Measure: project evaluation observations)



Goals (Measure of goal)

- Encourage and facilitate collaborative teaching practices (Measure: establishment of Math Teachers' Circles)
- Promote ongoing reflective practice (Measure: follow-up surveys)
- Provide ongoing university support for mathematics teachers (Measure: ongoing PD programs)
- Develop a cadre of master mathematics teachers to provide leadership in the state. (Measure: participation of teachers in district and state PD)





Other helpful ideas

- Timeline
 - Fall 2010: Regular meetings of the project leaders to plan for workshops and recruitment of teachers
 - Spring 2011: Recruitment of teachers: (a) Workshop kickoff (recruitment of teachers via information session at the ND National Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference) and (b) recruitment of teachers via e-mail, fliers, etc.
 - Summer 2011: Two-week residential Academy located at NDSU.



Other helpful ideas

- Focus on area of high needs
 - For example...
 - Although the Academy will be open to mathematics teachers at all levels, our focus will be on teachers of Grades 5-10, since the mathematical experiences of those students and their course taking decisions have a large impact on their later persistence, study, and career options in STEM disciplines



Other helpful ideas

- Give ideas of who will be involved and why they will be involved
 - For example...
 - This significant involvement of mathematics faculty will help to strengthen the connections between schools and higher education in the North Dakota, improving the transition for students from their secondary to tertiary studies