Homework, Grading, & Assessments

Secondary Math PLC
Meeting #5
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My dad always said, “The eyes see and the ears hear what’s already in the mind.” Our perception becomes our reality. Sometimes learning is the easy part. It’s the unlearning that’s hard. Every so often it’s important to ask ourselves & even others, “What might I be wrong about?”

Saya Hillman
@sayahillman

Very helpful for someone like me, check out my friend’s #kickstarter! measure | visual measuring cups buff.ly/2vntv7J #smatterings

when u ask ur barber for the y = -0.33x + 2 but he give u that y = -0.5(x-2)^2 + 3
Agenda

4:30  Dinner, Discussion, and Informational Update
5:00  Homework Discussion ~ Research
5:30  Grading Discussion ~ Research
6:00  Assessment Discussion ~ Research
6:20  PLC Wrap-Up -> Final Evaluations, SCECH forms, etc.
In the News

- School Index Values  →  Article
- Teacher Prep Reform Bills
- The Marshall Plan
- New NAEP Results
Summer Workshops

- **MCTM Annual Conference**
- **NMU Action in Education Summer Institute**
Odds & Ends

○ Changes to Khan Academy - Content Tab
○ Refillable Whiteboard Markers - Video
○ VNPS -- Example
○ Problem of the Week
  ○ 7th/8th Grade Example
  ○ 11th / 12th Grade Example
Homework Discussion

Google Doc

- **Homework**: How much homework do we assign? Should homework be assigned? What types of homework assignments do we give and how often? How is homework graded in your class? What percentage of your students regularly complete the homework? How can we improve homework completion? Do you give students a choice in their homework? What are the benefits of homework?

- I find value in homework. I just don't believe that enough of the student population allows themselves the individualized time to work on their own and figure out a concept. It also is way too difficult to change the surroundings that they have. (I think working together is also essential.) When a student struggles, it's too easy to just pick up the phone and call or chat with a friend to figure it out or look it up online. Is their knowledge just short term? Where is the frustration and growth in finding out that you don't know how to do something and then working on it by yourself to understand it? It's gone. How do we bring that back?
Lagging Homework

For more information, see Henri Picciotto’s Blog
Week 1

Teach New Content
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teach New Content</td>
<td>Teach New Content</td>
<td>Teach New Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HW over Week 1 Content</td>
<td>HW over Week 2 Content</td>
<td>Quiz over Week 1 Content</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Extends exposure to the content
- **Stronger students** → lagging homework acts as a review
- **Weaker students** → more time to develop understanding
- More students are capable of doing the homework → Effective, completion rate, grade is more accurate of understanding
- Less class time on homework questions
- Groups can answer homework questions
- More time on the lesson → develop understanding
PLC Homework Discussion

- Lagging Homework
- Homework Quiz System
- Fewer Problems but Higher Cognitive Demand
- 2 Problems/Night
- Others Shared from the Group
  -
Grading

Add to Google Doc

- **Grading:** How do we assign grades in our classes? What gets graded in our classes? Do we use different categories that are weighted? What is standards-based grading? Do students focus on grades vs. learning? How does extra credit impact grades? What grading scale do we use? Do the grades we assign accurately reflect our students' current understanding?

- Currently, 70% of a final grade is tests/quizzes and the rest homework and projects. Is this too steep? Is is an appropriate assessment of what they understand? I need ideas. I also want to remain semi-sane in the process
Grading Discussion

Standards Based Grading  -- SBG Intro Video

Standards Based Grading Blog Post for Algebra

Grading Effectively Video

5 Point Grading Video
What are different ways to assess students' understanding? How often do we assess students' understanding? Do we allow retakes? Should we allow retakes? Do we use rubrics to assess student performance?
Wrap - Up

- Next Steps Going Forward?
- Evaluation - https://goo.gl/forms/mFO85u2ch3tIW8cl1
- SCECH Forms / Stipend Forms
- Planning for Next Year