

Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics
March Board Meeting
Saturday, 14 March 1998
ENC Building, Columbus

Call to Order

President Jim Hassel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and distributed hard copies of minutes for those who needed them.

Minutes

Bob Drake moved that the minutes from the December 6, 1997, meeting be approved; seconded by Cathy Shambaugh. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Marilyn Link presented the Treasurer's Report. This report will be filed with the secretary and for audit. Mileage checks will be paid at this meeting at the rate of 15¢ per mile on a county basis. Jim Hassel added that, due to the Board's approval, some of the OCTM investments have been shifted to mutual funds.

Membership Report

Sr. Theresa Sharp presented the Membership Report. The NW and West Districts have increased the most over the past year. There was an increase of 33 student memberships over the past year. The total membership as of 3/1/98 is 5,183.

President's Report

Jim Hassel presented the President's Report. There will be a live teleconference from the NCTM meeting on 2 April, but a downlink is needed to receive it. One will be on "Algebra for All," and the other is on "The Basics: What Should They Be In Today's Classrooms?"

Executive Director's Report

Margie Raub-Hunt presented the Executive Director's Report. A handout was distributed outlining her activities to date. Much of the work has been PR-related, including sending letters to 23 other organizations in Ohio, initiating website links on the internet, presenting information about OCTM at various events, signing contracts for upcoming conferences in Dayton and Toledo and a list of other items.

Old Business

No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

Peggy Kasten announced that the 9th grade proficiency test will be phased-out and replaced by a new 10th grade test. Anne Mikesell will be facilitating the committee, rather than having a person out of the assessment office in that position. We hope to have two OCTM members on that committee. Peggy also announced that the Standards Task Force has produced a paper on the common core for secondary grades. A draft of this paper was distributed and included a list of objectives for 9th and 10th graders at the Concept, Knowledge/Skill, and Problem Solving levels, as well as a list of Technology objectives, based upon the Ohio Model. The document is a "Supplement to the Model."

Peggy moved that the Board adopt a resolution that the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics' Board of Directors endorses and supports the set of objectives identified by the OCTM Taskforce as forming a core for all ninth and tenth graders in Ohio; seconded by Adele Cohn. Discussion included whether it is appropriate for geometry objectives to be included, given that some schools teach Algebra I and Algebra II to freshmen and sophomores, respectively. However, the final document will include detail that clarifies what students should be able to do and would speak to this issue. Distribution of the document would be to schools of grades 7-10 as well as universities with pre-service programs. Motion carried.

Peggy Kasten moved that a letter be written to the Ohio Department of Education from the President and Executive Director and that we get multiple copies of the document to the OCTM representatives committee members for distribution to others; seconded by Jack Boyd. Motion carried.

Duane Bollenbacher shared the results of the national report on Mathematics Standards released last week, which showed that Ohio was one of only three states receiving an "A" for its work. Duane moved that the OCTM Board recognize, acknowledge, and give a sign of appreciation to the State of Ohio Department of Education, and in particular to present and past math consultants Steve Meiring, Peggy Kasten, Margaret Comstock, and Anne Mikesell for their unending work in improving mathematics education in Ohio. Also, that we acknowledge and thank OCTM and OMELC for their contributions to the standards, state model, and curriculum content. In addition, that we give wholehearted thanks and congratulations to all the many outstanding classroom teachers and education leaders who have worked long and hard to make mathematics education better for students in Ohio; seconded by Holly Hippenmeyer. Bob Drake pointed-out that the Fordham Foundation is looking for pure mathematical content, but Peggy Kasten noted that the model appeals across the political spectrum. Peggy also stated that the quality of documents in Ohio is due, in part, to the fact that the mathematics education community has always had a strong voice in the writing of these documents. Links to the Fordham report and to an AFT report on Standards will be posted on the OCTM website. Motion carried.

Margie Raub-Hunt asked for a liaison to other mathematics organizations in Ohio. Vickie Kirschner made the motion for an invitation be extended to other mathematics organizations to have a liaison on the OCTM Board; seconded by Bob Drake. Motion carried.

Laura Anfang moved that the annual conference be held in Cleveland on October 9-11 in 2003, hosted by the Greater Cleveland Council; seconded by Adele Cohn. Motion carried.

Peggy Kasten announced that Jim Leitzel has passed away and that Margie Raub-Hunt sent a sympathy card from the Board. The Board appreciates his contributions to mathematics education in Ohio. It was noted that the newsletter should also reflect our sympathy and appreciation.

Duane Bollenbacher announced that he will be hosting his summer workshops on graphing calculators and geometry again this year.

Mary Jane Wolfe announced that Connected Math will be holding two more workshops this summer, specifically on the 7th grade materials. The RPDC directors are the contact persons for this initiative. Mary Jane also recommended that, at the annual meeting, a session be held for affiliated group officers to meet with members of the Board, perhaps at a Friday morning breakfast.

Margie Raub-Hunt announced the Ohio Academic Decathlon and the need for Regional Coordinators. Richard Glove endorsed the program, as it has been run for several years in the Cleveland area. A flyer and a description were distributed. Margie also spoke about the need to re-establish a Publications Committee to look into upgrading the appearance of the newsletter and/or journal. She would also like to see a \$500 fee for a full-page ad and \$300 for a half-page and felt that the Publications Committee might look into this. Finally, she asked if we might establish an editorial column in the newsletter. Duane Bollenbacher, as new OCTM President, agreed and will assist with setting up a Publications Committee. The committee might include a person from Pat McNichols' Communications subcommittee, the website, the newsletter, and the journal.

Committee Reports

Adele Cohn presented the Nominating Committee report. Over 500 ballots were returned (10% return rate). John Baal was elected as the At-Large DD; John Conklin was elected as the Southeast DD; Judy Higgins was elected as the East DD, and Debbie Rucker was elected as Vice-President Elementary. Ethel will compile their address information and distribute a new officer list at the next meeting.

Richard Glove presented the Memorial Committee report. The 50 teacher education colleges have been mailed scholarship information. The forms were not mailed directly to students since there are over 500 student members. Duane Bollenbacher asked when the \$4 000 needs to be available to fund the scholarships, and Richard said that the Board would be presented with the 8 names at the June Board meeting.

Duane Bollenbacher presented the Contest report. 153 schools (2 274 students) participate in the 1998 contest. There was a discussion about whether or not participants should be given a certificate. Adele Cohn stated that the Contest budget would support the certificates, so Jim Hassel suggested that Duane go ahead and make the certificates in a way agreeable to his committee.

Kathy Green (via Jim Hassel) reported from the Awards Committee. She has changed her email address: COEX_KG@access-k12.org She does not currently have enough applications for Elementary and

Secondary awards and has requested assistance in pushing applications. Jim Hassel congratulated the committee for the Fall awards presentations at the afternoon session as an alternative to making them at the banquet.

Bill Hunt reported for the Newsletter. The last three issues have moved to a 10-page format, as there is much more news to report than in the past. A written report was distributed.

Bob Drake and Jim Hassel reported on the Journal. There is an issue completed and being prepared for mailing. Linda Taylor has asked to continue our efforts for recruiting articles as there are only three prepared for the Spring issue and very little beyond that. Bob Drake solicited articles and asked for help in contributing to the journal.

Standards Task Force Report

Peggy Kasten reported that the current 8th grade class will be required to take 3 units, rather than 2 units of mathematics for graduation. Now that there is a 3-year requirement, the Task Force will need to consider the additional objectives included in a 3-year core, consistent with the Standards.

State Consultants' Report

Anne Mikesell reported that the number of people applying for Presidential Awards is down this year, as it is in other states. The work has begun on writing a new high school proficiency test, involving a direct role of professional organizations in the process. The first committee identifies the learning outcomes/objectives between April and August and will include about 30 individuals with representation from various organizations, including OCTM and OMELC. Public review and input on these outcomes will occur between late-August and early-November, with wide distribution to teachers and professional organizations. A format including short-answer and free-response questions is being discussed, as is the use of calculators. A decision on outcomes will be determined by the end of the year. Then, a content review committee will work with the contractor in developing the test. This year's 5th graders will be the first class required to pass the 10th grade test and will take it in the Spring of 2003 (this is the Class of 2005). Item development will occur in 1999 and 2000 so that field-testing can take place in 2001 and 2002. A revision in the current 12th grade test will occur simultaneously in this process because the current test was developed under the assumption of a two-year high school requirement, rather than three years. There is also discussion about moving the 6th grade test to the 7th grade year in this process.

Peggy Kasten asked that we look at the "big picture," in terms of whether testing at 4th, 7th, 10th, and 12th grades is reasonable and that we make our voices heard in the public hearings this Fall. Jo Schiffbauer said that when the last set of public hearings occurred, we made sure that there would be at least two OCTM/OMELC members at each hearing. Jim Hassel suggested that the Executive Director should be in-charge of overseeing the OCTM input in the public hearing process. Anne suggested that the OCTM members on the committee could give a progress report to the Board at the June meeting.

Updating SB55, Peggy said that anyone who taught 8th grade algebra this year can still award high school credit, but that will not be the case for next year. There is a problem with the Middle Childhood license in that a 4-9 certified person may be teaching a variety of courses at the high school level, and the preparation for 4th and 9th grade teachers needs to be dramatically different.

NCTM Report

Jim Hassel gave the NCTM report. NCTM has named a permanent Executive Director to replace Linda Rosen. The NCTM Board did not fill the Assistant Executive Director position and will wait until the E.D. takes over. There is a Leadership Conference in April, for which there is money budgeted; Duane may attend.

Discovery Report

Vickie Kirschner reported about a Central Ohio initiative that involves middle school teachers, which is a follow-up to the Discovery efforts. Marilyn Link and Jim Hassel reported similar follow-up efforts taking place in their regions.

Reports from District Directors and Affiliates

The Columbus, Cincinnati, Lake Erie, Greater Cleveland, Wright State, Akron, Canton, Greater Toledo, OMELC, OMSC affiliated groups provided reports. Bill Hunt and Duane Bollenbacher spoke to the efforts of the Ohio Mathematics and Science Coalition in launching a statewide, major effort to reform mathematics and science programs. A discussion ensued about past efforts to recruit early childhood teachers to serve on to recruit early childhood teachers to serve on committees and become active in statewide efforts. The LEMA group, for example, uses school membership as an avenue to get elementary teachers involved since they are pulled in so many curricular directions.

Update on Annual Conferences

Jo Schiffbauer reported on the 1998 conference in Akron. Progress is being made according to the schedule. The theme is "Math Is No Mystery."

Donna Cooper reported on the 1999 conference in Dayton. The meeting will be 23-25 September 1999, and the theme will probably focus on "Aviation."

Margie Raub-Hunt reported that the Toledo conference contracts have been signed for 18-20 October 2000.

Vickie Kirschner announced that the 2001 convention will be a joint regional with NCTM on 18-21 September 2001 (Tuesday through Friday).

Installation of New Officers

Margie Raub-Hunt gave gifts and "thank you"s to outgoing Board members. Duane Bollenbacher took over as new President of OCTM.

Adjournment

The next meeting will take place on 6 June 1998. Motion to adjourn was made by Vilma Kolacz-Belanger and seconded by Marialice Kollar. The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Brahier in the absence of Ethel Briggs

The next meeting will be June 6 at the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse.

The website address for the Fordham Foundation which rated the mathematics standards is

<http://www.edexcellence.net/een/aboutteen.htm>