Florida Mathematics Re-Design Resource Package “How-To”

Introduction

The purpose of the Mathematics Re-Design Resource Package is to provide Florida Mathematics Re-Design workgroup members with resources and support to assist them in sharing the mathematics re-design recommendations with their campus communities and gathering feedback. Workgroup members will play a crucial role in bringing the recommendations to fruition by serving as local champions for change and engaging the appropriate stakeholders in this work.

Institutional and state representatives will need to collaborate to impact both state and local policy supporting mathematics pathways reform, and sharing the recommendations and gathering feedback at the local level is the first step in securing large-scale buy-in to propel the work forward.

What’s Included in the Resource Package

This resource package includes the following resources:

   - This document provides an overview of the resource package and guidance for workgroup members to share and collect feedback on the mathematics re-design recommendations.

2. Master slide deck
   - The slide deck includes slides covering all aspects of the mathematics re-design work, including why mathematics reform is important, the workgroup process, the recommendation types and scope, and individual slides for each of the 11 recommendations.
   - The slides included in the deck can be used in their entirety or users can mix and match slides to suit their purposes.

3. Handout
   - The handout provides a two-page overview of the mathematics re-design process and the resulting recommendations. This can be used when a full presentation is not needed for the audience.

4. At a Glance version of the mathematics re-design recommendations publication, Mathematics Re-Design: A Vision for Florida’s Future: Recommendations from the Florida Mathematics Re-Design Workgroups
   - This shorter version of the publication provides a summary of the mathematics re-design work and recommendations and is a more manageable length for printing purposes.
Using the Resource Package at Your Campus

Assessing the Climate for Change
Prior to sharing the recommendations with campus stakeholders, it is important to assess the existing climate at the institution and institutional readiness to implement mathematics reform. Are institutional stakeholders poised and ready to embrace change, or is the timing not quite right, yet?

If the stakeholder audience may be resistant to reform, it is important to start with and emphasize “the why.” Sharing why mathematics reform is important, how the research indicates mathematics continues to be a significant barrier to student success, and examples of mathematics reform success in other states can help frame the discussion. Highlighting data specific to the institution indicating student struggles in mathematics can also emphasize the importance of this work. Conversely, a stakeholder audience that already embraces “the why” may be ready to dive right into the recommendations.

Guiding Questions to Start the Discussion
The following questions can serve as a starting point for discussions about mathematics reform and the recommendations with institutional stakeholders:

1. Where do we see our own students struggle with mathematics? What courses are the biggest barriers to their success?
2. What have we already tried in regards to mathematics re-design? Was it successful?
3. Where are we now as an institution in regards to mathematics reform?
4. Are any of the mathematics re-design recommendations already underway at our institution?
5. What recommendations are the “low hanging fruit” that could be more easily implemented in the short-term?
6. What can we do now, and what would require larger scale policy change?
7. Are any of the recommendations more important than others?
8. Is anything missing from the recommendations?

Soliciting Formal Feedback
The Florida Student Success Center developed a survey to obtain feedback on the recommendations that will be open to the public July-October 2019. The survey can be accessed at: https://www.research.net/r/MathRecommendationsFeedback.

Workgroup members are encouraged to share the survey with campus stakeholders as part of the conversations about the recommendations. Campus representatives can provide individual feedback or groups can provide collective feedback within the survey. Feedback collected through the survey will be shared with the steering committee charged with the implementation of the recommendations to inform their implementation planning.