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TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*

DATE: May 25-26, 2010

SUBJECT: COMAR 13A.12.02.25, Mathematics Instructional Leader, PreK-6 (NEW)  
COMAR 13A.12.02.26, Mathematics Instructional Leader, Grades 4-9 (NEW)

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**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this item is to present proposed publication of COMAR 13A.12.02.25, Mathematics Instructional Leader, PreK- grade 6, and COMAR 13A.12.02.26, Mathematics Instructional Leader, Grades 4-9, and to provide the option to convene a Joint Conference Committee should you so desire.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In August 2009, Dr. Francis “Skip” Fennel, McDaniel College, Ms. Kay Sammons and Ms. Leslie Brickner, Howard County Public Schools, and Mr. Nelson Palmer, Frederick County Public Schools, presented to the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) regarding a proposed area of certification, Elementary Mathematics Specialist. The discussion focused on different systemic models of assisting teachers with mathematics professional development, curriculum planning, and delivery. The models were predicated on the designation of a mathematics specialist or support teacher who works directly with teachers in this area. At its October 2009 meeting, the PSTEB directed staff to proceed with the development of a regulation.

Staff convened a Work Group which included Department curriculum specialists, local school system mathematics supervisors, Directors of Human Resources, higher education, and the local affiliate of the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics.

At its February 22 meeting, the Work Group recommended that the certification area be renamed: Mathematics Instructional Leader, Pre K- 6; they further determined the following essential components:

- Mathematics Instructional Leader would be an endorsement only; not an initial certification;

- Three years of satisfactory experience in the teaching of mathematics is a prerequisite;
- Additional credit hours in mathematics course work in three areas: Content, Pedagogy, and Leadership are required and may include Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits, post-baccalaureate, or graduate credits depending; and
- Three credits in a supervised internship or practicum.

Also at its February meeting, the Work Group expressed strong interest in developing a similar certification for Mathematics Instructional Leader, grades 4-9. The primary difference for this area would be in the requisite course work. The PSTEB agreed to pursue this certification also.

Staff presented two proposed regulations at the May 6, 2010 meeting of the PSTEB and the PSTEB voted to publish the proposed regulations.

**SUMMARY:**

The PSTEB directed staff to develop a new certification area, formerly known as Elementary Mathematics Specialist. Staff convened a Work Group including multiple representative constituencies. After several meetings, the Work Group recommended a change in the name of the proposed certification area to Mathematics Instructional Leader, Prek-6, and Mathematics Instructional Leader, Grades 4-9, and specified the major requirements which are aligned with recently-adopted preparation and credentialing standards.

**ACTION:**

This item is presented for information and to provide the opportunity to convene a Joint Conference Committee prior to the publication should you so desire

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Attachments

## ATTACHMENT 1

### COMAR13A.12.02.25 Mathematics Instructional Leader (Grades PreK-6)

To add an endorsement as Mathematics Instructional Leader, grades PreK-6, an applicant shall:

- A. Hold a valid, professional certificate; and
- B. Complete a minimum of 18 semester hours of post-baccalaureate credit, or Department-approved Continuing Professional Development credits, which include the following areas:
  1. Content knowledge for teaching mathematics, including numbers and operations, algebra and functions, geometry and measurement, and data analysis and probability;
  2. Pedagogical knowledge for teaching mathematics, including learners and learning, teaching, curriculum, and assessment;
  3. Leadership knowledge and skills; and
  4. At least 3 semester hours or the equivalent in a supervised practicum or school-based internship in which the applicant works with a range of students in grades PreK-6 and adult learners in a variety of professional development settings.
- C. Present verification of 27 months of satisfactory teaching experience including mathematics.

## ATTACHMENT 2

### COMAR13A.12.02.26 Mathematics Instructional Leader (Grades 4-9)

To add an endorsement as Mathematics Instructional Leader, grades 4-9, an applicant shall:

A. Hold a valid, professional certificate with certification in Middle School Mathematics; and

B. Complete a minimum of 21 semester hours of post-baccalaureate credit, or Department-approved Continuing Professional Development credits, which include the following areas:

1. Content knowledge for teaching mathematics, including number and operations, algebra and functions, geometry and measurement, data analysis and probability, calculus, and discrete mathematics.

2. Pedagogical knowledge for teaching mathematics, including learners and learning, teaching, curriculum, and assessment;

3. Leadership knowledge and skills; and

4. At least 3 semester hours or the equivalent in a supervised practicum or school-based internship in which the candidate works with a range of students in grades 4-9 and adult learners in a variety of professional development settings.

C. Present verification of 27 months of satisfactory teaching experience including mathematics.