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wvde.us

MEMORANDUM

To: County Superintendents

From: Steven L. Paine, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools *SLP*

Date: September 19, 2018

Re: WV math4life Campaign

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) is excited to announce the establishment of West Virginia's *math4life* Campaign for pre-k through grade 12. While this campaign includes many components to assist counties with implementation, its central focus includes two primary goals:

1. Ensure West Virginia educators are well-equipped to teach the West Virginia College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Mathematics to all learners; and
2. Improve student's mathematical learning and achievement throughout West Virginia classrooms through the use of proven educational practices.

To initiate the WV *math4life* Campaign, I had the opportunity to share its tenets with the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) in August. After this meeting, I can say with confidence that it is clear both the WVBE and WVDE are committed to ensuring a comprehensive approach to mathematics for all students.

Much like we've seen with the successes of our state's early literacy campaign, to be successful with WV *math4life*, we need to build upon the strong partnerships already in place at the county, school, and educator levels statewide. Our collective success in this endeavor—the transformation of mathematics achievement and learning in our state—will require buy-in and focus at all levels. We can't succeed in this campaign without your commitment and leadership!

To assist with initial implementation of the WV *math4life* Campaign, I invite you to sign and return the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Your signed MOU will acknowledge your endorsement and participation in the WV *math4life* Campaign. Upon receipt of your signed MOU, a \$10,000 grant will be sent to your county to assist with implementation of your county's **WV *math4life*** campaign.

It is my sincere hope that each county superintendent will agree to participate in this process as we aim to increase student mathematics achievement and properly equip our educators with the tools needed to ensure their students are successful. To assist you in your decision, and to learn more about WV *math4life*, please see the attached WV *math4life* Executive Summary and Expanded Description documents. **To expedite your county's \$10,000 grant award, please return your signed MOU to mdmullins@k12.wv.us by Friday, September 28, 2018.**

Together, we can have a positive impact on the capacity of all learners and educators in our state in the area of mathematics. I look forward to partnering with you as we work to achieve this critically important work.

Attachments

SLP:JB/mm

**FIVE-YEAR WV *math4life* CAMPAIGN:
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the West Virginia Department of Education identified as "WVDE" and the Local School District identified as "LEA" to address long term math performance in West Virginia. The date set out by the parties' signatures and signing date below will be considered the "Execution Date" with reference to the following:

- A. The five-year WV *math4life* Campaign will provide leadership and resources to improve teaching and learning in the area of mathematics for WV LEAs.
- B. The WVDE will promote research, development, applications, and training designed to raise the learning of students and the abilities of teachers to improve LEA mathematics performance. Of equal importance, WVDE will work to prepare teacher preparation programs to rethink teacher certifications.
- C. The WV *math4life* Campaign will gather standards, instructional materials, best practices, research-based instructional strategies, standards frameworks, and technology supports onto a website in which WVDE will deposit all of these materials for LEAs to access and make local decisions as to how to proceed with focus on increasing math scores over the next five-years and beyond.
- D. The WVDE will create and maintain a balanced plan of formative, interim, and summative assessment tools aligned to the state standards. These tools will be used to determine weaknesses, strengths, and progress over the next five-years per the State Plan.
- E. The Campaign also will provide technical assistance and guidance for innovative school scheduling to encourage developmentally appropriate mathematics instruction for all learners.
- F. The Campaign's projects can be funded primarily through monies from WVDE per the legislative funding to include Title I for Targeted Schools, Title II, Title VI, Step 7, mathematics grants, and SEA.
- G. Beginning with school year 2018-2019 fiscal year (which begins July 1, 2018, and ends June 30, 2019), WVDE will work with participating local superintendents and their county and school staff to initiate and implement the WV *math4life* Campaign Goals set forth in this MOU.

West Virginia Department of Education agrees to:

- 1. Prepare common goals, mission, and resources.
- 2. Provide assistance to county-level leadership in developing their own *math4life* campaign.
- 3. Provide professional learning supports focused on mathematics achievement (e.g., WV Summer Summits for Educational Excellence, sustained yearlong professional learning opportunities, WV Professional Learning and Support Matrix in response to ESSA).
- 4. Provide family-friendly resources to help families communicate the importance and understanding of mathematics with their child (Quantile Resources, etc.).
- 5. Provide ongoing technical assistance to include, but not limited to, listserv, print resources, materials, content area training, assistance with the development of dropout prevention and transition programs, and assistance with reviewing and analyzing data relevant to school retention and predictors of positive post-school outcomes and capacity building forums.
- 6. Assist with the utilization of ZoomWV, ZoomWV-e, West Virginia Early Warning System, WVEIS on the Web (WOW), and other data resources to measure and monitor progress of mathematics achievement by leading collaborative conversations monthly; and
- 7. Provide a minimum of five days of face-to-face professional learning opportunities throughout the state as well as online training.

8. As available, assist with financial resources to support substitutes, travel, and stipends.
9. Monitor and make recommendations for adjustments as needed to the WV *math4life* Campaign.
10. Work with college and universities regarding current certification requirements.
11. Provide information on available funding to support mathematics achievement at the local level.
12. Create a WV *math4life* Campaign website to house all of the Campaign resources for easy access for participating counties and schools.
13. Provide a \$10,000 startup grant to participating counties upon receipt of their signed MOU.

The LEA agrees to:

1. **Engage in Dialogue:** Take the initial steps to ensure the right partners (early/elementary/middle/secondary mathematics educators, school and district-level leadership, etc.) are involved.
2. **Complete a County Needs Assessment:** Determine the community’s unique strengths, opportunities, and challenges by examining current data elements.
3. **Engage County Leadership:** Plan with chief instructional leaders, principals, and early/elementary/middle/high school level mathematics educators to determine an implementation plan and timeline as a critical component of re-thinking the meaning of mathematics achievement and improvement across programmatic levels.
4. **Establish a WV *math4life* Action Plan with measurable goals:** Include work and thinking to support West Virginia’s *math4life* Campaign for pre-k through grade 12 per county-level thinking and plans; identify goals to achieve and the steps needed for success.
5. **Implement and support the WV *math4life* Action Plan:** Embed a culture for mathematics achievement throughout the county to increase achievement for all students.
6. **Appoint a Point of Contact:** Select someone who will collaborate with the assigned school leadership team.
7. **Monitor grade-level mathematics achievement:** Track and document progress in mathematics over the next five-years at each school within the participating county.

WV Department of Education and LEA Agreement

The participating parties of the **WV *math4life* Campaign** will strive to encourage a culture for both college and workforce readiness in mathematics-focused fields for all learners. The undersigned have reviewed this MOU for the **WV *math4life*** attachments and accept it as the basis for working together toward a common purpose of increasing mathematics achievement throughout the state. This agreement is in effect for five-years.

County Superintendent	County	Date
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Point of Contact	School	Date
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State Superintendent of Schools West Virginia Department of Education	Date
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