



FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS FOREST LAKE, MN 55025

November 4, 2010

AGENDA ITEM: 9.6

TOPIC: APPROVAL TO DELETE MATH COURSE: INTEGRATED I

BACKGROUND: The Math Curriculum Review Team has worked to align K-12 mathematics instruction in Forest Lake Area Schools for the past ten years. That work has involved the study of the MN Academic Standards for Mathematics, redesign of K-12 mathematics course offerings, implementation of differentiated instructional practices K-12, and professional development for all teachers of mathematics.

PROCESS: At present, 9th grade students have a choice between Integrated I, an integrated course, and Algebra I, a traditional mathematics course. The two courses have been offered to accommodate differences in learning style, not mathematical content. The Math Committee is proposing that all 9th grade students enroll in Algebra 9 for the 2010-11 school year. Teachers will provide the differentiation for readiness and learning style as currently occurs in grades 7 and 8. The choice of good instructional strategies for all students will be placed in the hands of educators and allow for flexibility in planning and delivery of the mathematical content aligned with the MN Academic Standards for math.

Other data that impacted this recommendation is the decline in enrollment for Integrated I over the past few years. The number of students enrolled in Integrated I at Century Junior High started at 116 students in 2007 and has dropped to 52 students in the current 2010-2011 school year. The number of students enrolled at Southwest Junior High School started at 33 students in 2007. Numbers of students registered for Integrated 1 in the past two school years have not been sufficient to offer that course at Southwest. At the High School, new sections of Integrated I have not been offered since the 2006-07 school year. Math Lab offerings and Cognitive Tutor have been the options for students who arrive at the High School and have not successfully completed Integrated I.

For the reasons described in the preceding paragraphs, the Mathematics Curriculum Review Committee is recommending the deletion of Integrated I for the 2011-2012 school year. This change would be implemented at Southwest Jr. High, Century Jr. High, Forest Lake Area High School, and the Area Learning Center.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval to delete Integrated I from the mathematics offerings in Forest Lake Area Schools.