

Sample Action Plan

DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PROBLEM-SOLVING APPROACH (PSA)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOAL: In order to improve students' abilities to respond to math problems that require multiple steps, teachers will collectively create and implement a consistent methodology for solving multistep problems in math classes.

OBJECTIVE: To improve multistep problem-solving instruction by teaching a consistent methodology for solving problems in all math classes.

STRATEGY: Teachers will integrate the Problem-Solving Approach into their daily lessons, class assignments, and assessments. Teachers will explain the rubric for evaluating problem-solving to students and will use the rubric regularly in grading assignments.

ASSESSMENT: Students will independently complete two projects, Poster #1 and Poster #2, to demonstrate their ability to apply the Problem-Solving Approach, and a group of teachers will evaluate the posters against a common rubric.

TASK	WHEN
Math department chair and math coach create materials for professional development (PD), including poster rubric and anchor chart listing steps of the problem-solving process to post in the classroom for student reference.	January (week 1)
Math coach models teaching PSA in four classes; all math teachers attend at least one modeling session.	January (week 2)
Math coach leads PD session with math department, debriefs model lessons, offers list of poster problems with a range of difficulty	January 18 dept. meeting
Math teachers work in small teams to design PSA lessons for their classes and choose which problems to use for Poster #1 assignment.	January (week 3)
Math teachers model PSA in classes, share poster rubric with students, and assign Poster #1 project.	January (week 4)
Math teachers integrate PSA into regular lessons, students work on posters (Due Feb. 15).	February (weeks 1 and 2)
Math teachers work in small teams to assess student working using rubric.	February (weeks 3 and 4)
Math coach observes four math teachers (volunteers) integrating PSA into teaching and provides over-the-shoulder coaching.	February (weeks 3 and 4)
Math coach leads PD session with math department, discussing student work and offering guidance for the next round of teaching and Poster #2	March 7 dept. meeting
Math teachers continue to integrate PSA in classes; students work on Poster #2 (Due April 25).	March and April
Math teachers meet weekly in small groups to discuss student work on Poster #2 and other assignments, and administer district math final exams on June 15.	May and June

As reproduced from *Data Wise* (2005), pg. 131.

