Teaching Students How to Be Intentional When Choosing Solution Strategies

June 27, 2018 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

St Johns County School District

8:30 a.m.

Welcome, Introductions, and Objectives The goals for this bridge event are to:

- Expose teachers to rich problemsolving tasks that highlight the need for students to recognize and generate strategies for solving problems.
- Help teachers learn how to teach students to evaluate and compare different strategies for solving problems.
- Model for teachers how to monitor and reflect on the problem-solving process to articulate reasoning behind strategy choice and identify which strategy presented the most efficient means of obtaining the solution.
- Discuss student misconceptions and overgeneralizations and how they impede student learning.
- Provide teachers with a listing of resources supported by the What Works Clearinghouse and the National Council for the Teachers of Mathematics.

Mary Jo Taylor, Ph.D. Senior Research Associate Instructional Research Group



8:35 a.m.

Research in the Area of Problem Solving and Introduction to the Practice Guide on Problem Solving

- Give participants practice in multiple strategies in a way that will allow them to compare the efficiency of solution strategies and the importance of students being able to articulate the reasoning behind their methods.
- Overview of Research Evidence on Multiple Strategy Instruction and Problem Solving (Improving Mathematical Problem Solving).

Tim Jacobbe, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics Education University of Florida

9:00 a.m.

In-depth Examination of Recommendation 3 of the Algebra Practice Guide

- Highlight the importance of recommendation 3 from the Algebra Practice Guide.
- Discuss various problems and how some problems have solution methods that are more efficient than others (e.g., using visuals, guessing and checking, etc.).

Tim Jacobbe, Ph.D.

10:00 a.m.

Simplifying Problems

 Present a process for simplifying a problem in order to make it accessible to all students. Tim Jacobbe, Ph.D.



11:00 a.m. Intentionally Choosing Strategies

 Emphasize the importance of intentionally choosing strategies when solving problems.

• Contrast "key word" approaches with problem-solving that highlights how students need to learn to reason through problems rather than memorize "key words" that will "expire" depending on the problem type.

Tim Jacobbe, Ph.D.

11:55 a.m. Wrap Up and Stakeholder Feedback

Mary Jo Taylor, Ph.D.

