



# Collegial Circle Final Report

Please type in the information on this form, print it and send it to the Teacher Center along with the Collegial Circle copies in the check list below. Also, attach it to an email to Catherine Thomas to share in the Teacher Center's online Collegial Circle Archive. Thank you for being a part in the effort to improve teaching and learning for our students.

## COLLEGIAL CIRCLE INFORMATION

Title of Circle: Math Collegial Circle Standards Area: High School Math  
Facilitator: MaryLynn Gleason School(s): Sutherland  
Beginning Date: 17 January 2014 Ending Date: 1 May 2014 # of Hours: 6  
Participants (list): Kim Black, Karen Dangler, MaryLynn Gleason, Heather Kitchen, Reeca Rothbaum

Please attach copies of the following to this report:

- ✓ Collegial Circle Attendance Log (required for payment)
- ✓ Collegial Circle Meeting Log
- ✓ Log of Strategies Implemented
- ✓ Samples of implementation strategies or student work samples if applicable
- ✓ Collegial Circle Reflection Sheets (each member fills one out)

## COLLEGIAL CIRCLE DESCRIPTION

(Type your answer in the grey box below the question. The size of the box will adjust to the length of your answer.)

### What were the anticipated objectives of this Circle?

For Special Educators to help one another be more comfortable with math processes encountered in Algebra 1 and 2, to help gain a greater facility with the TI-NSpire graphing calculator, and to develop an awareness of the ways that Algebra 2 curriculum is being infused into the Algebra 1 curriculum.

### What grade level(s) and or subject area(s) would benefit from this Circle?

Algebra 1, Algebra 2 with or without Trig, Functions and Trig.....our group members except for Heather are directly involved co-teaching within these classes.

## FINAL REFLECTIONS

(Type your answer in the grey box below the question.)

### Was the outcome/goal of this Collegial Circle met? Explain.

As a group, we felt it was very helpful to be able to discuss problems /procedures we have encountered with different math processes. We really wanted to support one another to come to a deeper understanding of the various processes in the curricula. In addition, we wanted to support one another with the use of the graphing calculator that is essential to all the levels of high school math even beyond Algebra 1 and Algebra 2. We decided to try to limit our focus to the Algebra 1 and 2 curricula but it was very helpful to get insights into the course content with Algebra 2 with Trig and with Functions and Trig to better understand the foundation being laid in the Algebra classes for the higher level math classes. Our original Learning experience was supposed to be brain storming needs and developing strategies but we shifted our focus to really being a support group for one another to get through the curricular demands of the new Common Core in Algebra 1 and the current curricula in Algebra 2. We have all felt quite stressed regarding the implementation of these new curricular demands without any real support to handle it other than Engage New York website.

### How did the Collegial Circle assess whether the outcome was met?

Direct conversational feedback each subsequent time we met in our circle was used to generate questions that arose in our various classes for continued discussion within the circle.

### How did your work impact teaching/learning? Include student work samples, lesson plans, peer reviews, etc.

Our main focus was really on developing our own facility with various math concepts so that we could support each other in a more profound understanding of the course content which in turn should positively impact our ability to support students within our classes.

**Comments/additional information to share.**

We really wanted to meet much more than we actually did. We were able to complete 6 out of the 12 hours that were given to us. Unfortunately, illness and the demands of the Annual Review season in our Special Education Department limited our ability to meet. We tried to work around that as best we could mostly meeting at the end of our work day when we were all together to make it work for us all.