Addressing the need

To address the needs of students in Texas classified as English Language Learners, the Texas State University System Math for English Language Learners (MELL) Initiative was formed in 2004. The TSUS MELL Initiative is funded by the Texas Education Agency and is a multi-year collaborative project among the Colleges of Education and Departments of Mathematics in all five TSUS Universities: Texas State University-San Marcos, Sam Houston State University, Lamar University, Angelo State University, and Sul Ross University.

Facts about the Texas State University Systemic Initiative: Mathematics for English Language Learners (MELL)

- MELL is one of several mathematics professional development initiatives funded by the Texas Education Agency.
- The MELL Project Team is comprised of representatives from mathematics and education colleges and departments in the five TSUS universities.
- All products developed by the MELL Project Team are peer reviewed and research based deliverables designed for in-service and pre-service teachers that are copyrighted by TEA as professional development teacher tools.
- Each summer MELL sponsors a statewide mathematics for English Language Learners conference.
- In 2006, a new MELL research project, called Critical Campuses Partnership, concentrates on assisting high school teachers and campus and district leaders in areas of Texas that have high proportions of English Language Learners.

Professional Development Products

The TSUS MELL Initiative exists primarily to translate research into practical products designed to improve teaching. MELL products focus on and include:

- Teaching Resources
- Professional Development
- Applied Research
- Pre-Service Program Refinement
- Policymaker Guidance

Analysis of Programs: One of these products, developed by Dr. Joyce Fischer, Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Texas State University-San Marcos, is shown on the back side of this pamphlet. She and her team researched and analyzed 12 of the most commonly used mathematics professional development programs in Texas. In this overview matrix analysis of the 12 professional development programs, each has been abbreviated and briefly described by examining nine categories. Analyzing each professional development program in this brief way allows for a quick overview of mathematics Professional Development Programs for use by educators. For additional information, contact Dr. Joyce Fischer at jf10@txstate.edu.
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