Archived Information

Learning First Alliance

The Learning First Alliance is a permanent coalition of 12 of the nation's leading education associations dedicated to improving student learning. The Alliance works to deliver a common message to all parts of the education system, align priorities, share and disseminate success stories, encourage collaboration at every level, and work toward long-term systemic change based on solid research evidence.



In the area of mathematics, the Alliance has:

- Issued consensus action plan on improving mathematics achievement
- Promoted Public Engagement
- Assisted state alliance efforts to improve mathematics education

Consensus Action Plan. Every Child Mathematically Proficient: An Action Plan sets as the Alliance's goal that virtually all students to successfully complete a challenging K-12 mathematics curriculum that includes mastery of the fundamentals of Algebra and Geometry by the end of ninth grade. The plan lays out specific curricular content that students should master by the end of 9th grade. It then calls for specific changes in assessment practice, professional development, pre-service education, and licensure and certification requirements. The Alliance also argues for the need for build strong levels of public support for a challenging mathematics curriculum and the need for high quality research to inform practice and materials adoption.

Public Engagement. The Alliance was a leading partner in the FigureThis! Mathematics Challenge (www.figurethis.org), which demonstrates challenging middle school mathematics to parents, students and educators and emphasizes the importance of high-quality mathematics education for all students.

State Action. The Alliance fosters state-level collaborations, similar to our national effort, in a number of states and some have focused specifically on mathematics. For example, the Kansas Learning First Alliance is undertaking a state-wide mathematics survey of the enacted curriculum (which is offered to states by the Council of Chief State School Officers) and then developing consensus recommendations on steps need to improve mathematics teaching and learning in Kansas.

Learning First Alliance members are:

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

American Association of School Administrators

American Federation of Teachers

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

Council of Chief State School Officers

Education Commission of the States

National Association of Elementary School Principals

National Association of Secondary School Principals

National Association of State Boards of Education

National School Boards Association

National Education Association

The National PTA