



Informational Memo: New Trier Freshman Data & Placement Test Follow-Up

TO: School Board
Trisha Kocanda, Superintendent

FROM: Dave Kanne, *Principal, Carleton Washburne School*

February 12, 2016

Overview and Background

Each year 8th grade students take the ERB Comprehensive Testing Program as part of the placement process for New Trier High School. Four areas are assessed: verbal reasoning, reading comprehension, quantitative reasoning, and mathematics. This year's ERB scores were presented at the January board meeting.

As shared in January, this year's cohort has demonstrated a higher reading comprehension score than last year's cohort. The current cohort demonstrated lower scores in quantitative reasoning and mathematics. While there is not a discernible pattern from one year to the next, several steps are being taken to better understand the results.

Continue Articulation with New Trier

The math department chair and math facilitator will continue to attend Township Articulation meetings with New Trier. Two Winnetka Parent Institutes have taken place: one specifically focused on math instruction. On February 10, the Winnetka math curriculum was presented and Paul Sally, Assistant Superintendent at New Trier, shared that Winnetka students are successful in the high school math program. Dr. Linda Yonke, Superintendent of New Trier, presented on February 18. Prior to the end of the school year, another New Trier staff member will be invited to speak with Washburne teachers regarding the ERB and its use in the placement process.

Continue Articulation with New Trier	
Host Math Winnetka Parent Institute with Paul Sally, Associate Superintendent of New Trier	Wednesday, February 10 Winnetka curriculum shared Sally stressed programs are in sync, Winnetka students demonstrated placement and grade performance consistent with freshman peers
Math Articulation Meeting Township Schools and New Trier	Ongoing To be attended by Sam Yusim, Department Chair, and Eileen Goodspeed, Math Facilitator
Host Winnetka Parent Institute with Dr. Linda Yonke, Superintendent of New Trier	Thursday, February 18
Collaborate with New Trier and ERB to better understand assessment and its use a placement tool	March/April

Complete a Deeper Study of the Math Program and Math Data

The math department reviewed ERB scores during department meetings in January and February. The current cohort has consistently scored lower than other cohorts. Washburne will participate in the district Math Program Evaluation in the spring. End-of-year standardized data will be reviewed in May.

Complete Deeper Exploration of Math Program and Data	
Discussions with Math Department & Analysis of results	Weekly department meetings Analysis here . In reviewing the overall data, it was observed that Statistics was the only area that the team felt could warrant additional attention from this information.
Participate in District Math Program Evaluation	Spring 2016
Analyze Data from end of year standardized test (TBA)	May/June 2016

Maintain a Focus on Reading Comprehension and Verbal Reasoning

The current School Improvement Plan includes a focus on reading. Participation in school book groups and the school-wide reading program has risen. Sessions have been held for parents regarding the teaching of reading and a parent book group is starting. The Social Studies department has begun a study of “Reading Like A Historian” developed by the Stanford History Education Group. (This information can be found in the School Improvement Plan update.) The Language Arts department has begun the process of developing common reading units.

Maintain Focus on Reading Comprehension and Verbal Reasoning	
Continue to implement School Improvement Goal on Reading	Results in separate SIP update memo
Develop common reading units in line with district scope and sequence	Release day Thursday, February 18

Summary of New Trier Freshman Data

Paul Sally, Assistant Superintendent at New Trier, provided the following summary of student performance in math at the February 10, 2016 Winnetka Parent Institute event.

Freshman Perception Survey Results

Table 1: Students’ Self-Perception of Preparedness 2015

Subject	Washburne		Township	
	Prepared	Unprepared	Prepared	Unprepared
Mathematics	87%	12%	78%	21%
*Totals may not equal 100%. Some students answered N/A.				

Table 2: Historical Data by Subject (Washburne % of Students Reporting Being Prepared)

Subject	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Mathematics	81%	74%	78%	80%	77%	87%

New Trier Performance - Freshman 1st Semester Grade Distribution

MATH	A/A-	B+/B	B-/C+	C/C-	D+/D/D-	F	Other
Class 2019 - CWS	42%	33%	17%	8%	1%	0%	0%
Class 2019 - ALL	35%	34%	18%	10%	2%	0.3%	0.3%
Class 2018 - CWS	33%	38%	16%	10%	1%	0%	0%
Class 2018 - ALL	31%	34%	20%	11%	4%	0.1%	0.6%
Class of 2017 - CWS	26%	36%	16%	17%	5%	0%	0%
Class 2017 - ALL	28%	33%	22%	13%	3%	.5%	.5%
Class of 2016 - CWS	29%	37%	18%	12%	4%	0%	0%
Class 2016 - ALL	30%	35%	19%	12%	4%	0%	0%

2015-2016 Student Enrollment in Courses by Level

Level 2E Courses – College Prep, smaller class, may be co-taught

Level 2 – College Prep

Level 3 – Honors

Level 4 – High Honors

Level 9 – Combination of Levels 2, 3, 4 – weighted as an Honors course

Math Level?	Dbl Alg 2	Alg 2	Alg 3	Geo 2	Geo 3	Geo 4	Alg/Trig 4	Fresh Math
CWS	3%	18%	28%	1%	34%	14%	2%	1%
NT	4%	20%	20%	3%	35%	13%	5%	1%

2015-2016 Student Enrollment in Courses by Level

Math	2	3	4	9
CWS	21%	60%	19%	NA
NT	28%	53%	19%	NA

2014-2015 Student Enrollment in Courses by Level

Math	2	3	4	9
CWS	25%	57%	18%	NA
NT	28%	54%	18%	NA

2013-2014 Student Enrollment in Courses by Level

Math	2	3	4	9
CWS	27%	59%	14%	NA
NT	31%	53%	16%	NA

2012-2013 Student Enrollment in Courses by Level

Math	2	3	4	9
CWS	22%	61%	16%	NA
NT	27%	56%	17%	NA

[Click here](#) to view the presentation by Dr. Linda Yonke on February 16, 2016,
D36→New Trier: the Winnetka student's high school experience