

Supporting Problem Solving In Schools

Make mathematics a priority!

- Create time to meet via common planning times, peer observations, team meetings, creative scheduling.
- Develop a plan (getting started, selecting tasks, assessing with rubrics, etc) and follow up with ongoing embedded professional development, using both internal and external consultants.
- Assess the math content needs of all teachers and provide PD as needed.
- Include paraprofessionals in all PD.
- Schedule mathematics for 60-90 minutes per day in all grades.
- Inform and educate parents and enlist their support.
- During implementation, conduct problem solving meetings *at least* once a month. Consider the following:
 - Discuss implementation issues only
 - Predetermine dates, time, length of meeting
 - Set an agenda
 - Select a facilitator, notetaker, timekeeper
 - Determine how you'll evaluate progress, get help when you need it, address problems, and celebrate successes

Remember:

Successful implementation hinges on a commitment to ongoing collaboration and communication.

From *Supporting Problem Solving in Schools*, Jacqueline Labate (forthcoming)