

Dear Algebra Teacher (and interested others):

On behalf of the Northern Kentucky Algebra Community (NKAC), I would like to invite you to a meeting to discuss the development of curriculum materials for a high school transitional algebra course. The meeting will be held on Monday, March 30, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the Student Union room 106 on the campus of NKU.

The meeting is a follow-up to the meeting held on February 23 to discuss transitional algebra courses and how the Kentucky Online Testing (KYOTE) placement tests could be used to enhance these courses as part of the Northern Kentucky Placement Testing Project. This project has generated extraordinary interest in transitional algebra courses throughout our region.

Successful collaboration among high school and college mathematics teachers is the key to successful development of strong curriculum materials. The NKAC would like to take the lead in opening region-wide discussions about the content of a transitional algebra course intended to assist high school students in making the crucial transition from high school to college mathematics. Many of you have already been involved in such planning at your high school. The goals of these discussions are:

1. To collaborate in developing a set of curriculum materials that could be in a transitional algebra course and shared with any high school in our region;
2. To align these materials with college readiness standards;
3. To disseminate these materials in paper and electronic formats for use by Northern Kentucky high schools.

Far too many of our incoming college students must take remedial mathematics, costing them time and money, and significantly decreasing their chances of earning a college degree in general and a college degree in the major of their choice in particular. The inclusion of a fourth year mathematics course for all Kentucky high school students is an attempt to address this important issue and the placement testing project represents an unprecedented opportunity for students to improve their chances for success in college.

The map <http://nku.edu/campusmaps/3dmap.html> shows that the Student Union Building (#17) is adjacent to the University Center (#18), with the Kenton Drive Parking Garage (#40) just across Kenton Drive from the Student Union. We suggest that you to park in the Kenton Drive Parking Garage and bring your ticket to the meeting so we can validate it. If you enter the Student Union from the Kenton Drive side, the ballroom will be the first room on your right.

The majority of you will be traveling I-275 east and will get off at the Three Mile Road-Northern Kentucky University exit (76). Turn right and proceed to the first stop light. Turn right onto Kenton Drive, go about half a mile and you will see the parking garage on the right.

Please let me know via email by March 27 if you plan to attend. Also, please bring any curriculum materials that you have developed at your school that you are willing to share. Light refreshments will be provided.

Thank you,

Dr. Michael S. Waters  
Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education  
Northern Kentucky University  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
watersm1@nku.edu