

DO the Math: Developing Opportunities in Math Panola College 2010-2015

In accordance with the SACS-COC reaffirmation process Panola College is seeking to establish a program designed to enhance the quality of education experienced by students. Through broad-based involvement, it has been determined that the success rate for students in developmental math courses needs further attention. In response to this Panola College is prepared to embark on a plan to increase college level preparedness for students in developmental math courses.

This program, called “DO the Math: Developing Opportunities in Math” consists of formulating lab hours attached to the first two courses in the developmental math sequence: where the lowest level math course is tied to a two-hour lab and the second level math course to a one-hour lab. In those math labs, instructors will be charged with supplementing the students’ instruction using a wide array of modalities to include computer based instruction, one-on-one tutoring, group tutoring, small group collaboration, peer tutoring, small group instruction, manipulatives, and the like.

Traditional education models will still dominate the three-hour lecture, but in the lab section it will be up to the professor to determine the appropriate needs and select an educational intervention to support student learning. In this way, students will get individualized instruction through the support of educational experts.

Student success for this program will be measured through pre and post analyses based on student learning objectives as well as through strategic performance measures. It is anticipated that this approach will help leaders to determine the effectiveness of the program and make requisite changes, if necessary. Further, the program is designed to increase student learning, success, and retention within the developmental math sequence. This plan will go into effect in the Fall semester of 2010 and will continue under the guidance of a Director and a diverse faculty committee.

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