Math & Recommendations Narrative

The Math & Science Division recommendations to the Remedial/Developmental Taskforce fall into three general areas:

First, a Developmental Mathematics Coordinator should be appointed to continue the dialogue on the remedial/developmental programs and to ensure that the recommendations are effectively implemented and assessed.

Second, proper placement of students is vital to their success in a remedial/developmental mathematics course. The process of proper placement begins when the student takes the COMPASS test. In order for COMPASS to be of any placement value, the student must be properly prepared to take the test. Thus, one of our recommendations is to provide students with the opportunity to take COMPASS sample tests and to have access to preparation materials – both in the Math Lab and online.

Third, many students in remedial/developmental mathematics courses lack the basic skills needed to succeed in a course. The skills needed to succeed are not limited to math skills. Remedial/developmental students often need help in organizational, time management, and other life skills. Hence, we are recommending professional development activities for faculty on classroom strategies to enhance these skills and the development of resources to support these strategies in the Math Lab. Assessment of learning styles and study/success skills as well as a variety of resources would be available to students through the Math Lab.

In addition, we are recommending that each Math Lab tutor receive 5 hours of training on how to integrate study skills tips into a tutoring session. Our formal list of recommendations is presented on the attachment.