
During the past decades, a strong and active partnership has been forged among mathematicians, mathematics educators, K-12 teachers and mathematics supervisors in Virginia. The Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition has provided a strong environment for our collaboration. Our work has been financially supported by the National Science Foundation, the United States Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Education and the Exxon Mobile Foundation. The presentation will share a number of “lessons learned,” including the need for shared leadership, the importance of K-12 teachers in supporting collaboration between mathematicians and mathematics educators, and the use of grants to support long-term collaboration while accomplishing the specific goals of the grant-funded activity. This collaboration has culminated in a state-wide K-8 Mathematics Specialist initiative through which school-based Mathematics Specialists coach K-8 teachers and lead their school’s mathematics program. Treatment control research has demonstrated the positive impact of these Mathematics Specialists on student learning and teacher beliefs. (Received September 24, 2012)