

1086-VP-1775 **Dywayne A. Nicely*** (nicely@ohio.edu), Ohio University-Chillicothe, 101 University Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601. *A Word on Word Problems: How Improving Reading Comprehension and Mathematics Vocabulary Can Improve Performance on Mathematical Word Problems*. Preliminary report.

As instructors of mathematics, we have heard many students declare that they are incapable of solving a word problem or show displeasure when word problems are encountered. Also in recent years, there have been studies that show a correlation between reading comprehension skills and performance on word problems in mathematics courses. Therefore, we are conducting a research project during the 2012-2013 academic year that aims to help students increase their reading comprehension skills, mathematical vocabulary and enhance their word problem solving strategies. Our obvious hope is that this will increase the students' performance on word problems in their mathematics courses but we also hope to make each student more college-ready. This project is a collaboration between Ohio University-Chillicothe (OU-C) and Chillicothe High School (CHS). Besides me, the project contributors consist of the principal of CHS, and one faculty member each from the English and Mathematics departments of CHS. We are tracking the progress of approximately 125 students from four sections of Algebra II and two sections of Honors Pre-calculus. In this presentation, we discuss an overview of the project's design and present data that has been collected thus far. (Received September 24, 2012)