

1106-97-1634

Kate Nowak* (katherine.nowak@gmail.com) and **Patrick Callahan**
(callahan.web@gmail.com). *Unit and Course Blueprints: Tools for building coherence.*

The Common Core State Standards in Mathematics are not a list of topics to be covered and checked off a list, but rather a description of the mathematics students are supposed to achieve through a series of instructional experiences.

One way to begin to design curriculum is to identify multi-week curricular units that form a natural pedagogical flow based on mathematical coherence. We recently spent nearly a year constructing such units for high school courses that can form either a traditional or integrated pathway.

One does not build a decent house by grabbing a bunch of materials and hammering away at them, but uses a blueprint that shows the plan and structure. Similarly, one does not build decent curricula by grabbing a bunch of lessons and activities and grouping them together. Our Course and Unit Blueprints are a tool to show a way to structure the standards in a mathematically and pedagogically coherent way.

We will provide examples, discuss the design, and share some lessons learned through the process of building unit blueprints for all of the high school standards. We will also discuss how these tools could be used in pre-service and in-service teacher education. (Received September 14, 2014)