

**Minute - National Response to Improving Mathematics Partnership Board
Atlantic Quay – June 8th, 2023, 09:00-13:00**

Attendees

Stewart Nicolson	ADES	(Joint chair)
Ollie Bray	Education Scotland	Strategic Director (Joint chair)
John Neeson	Education Scotland	Senior Education Officer (Interim)
Garry Maguire	West Partnership	RIC Representative
Karen Haspolat	SEIC	RIC Representative
Iain McDermott	Education Scotland	Lead Specialist
Owen Griffiths	Scottish Government	Team Leader
Pamela Dinardo	Education Scotland	Senior Regional Adviser (Interim)
Andy Thompson	Northern Alliance	RIC Representative
Robert McCallum	SWEIC	RIC Representative
Peter Valentine	FVWL	RIC Representative
Sally Armstrong	Education Scotland	Secretariate

Guests

Nick Poeschek, Director Curriculum & Classroom Assessment, British Columbia
Maria Docherty, Iona Coutts, Stuart Cathro, Lisa Marie McDonnell

Apologies

Apologies were received from Tara Harper, Lise McCaffery, and Michelle Lewis.

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 John Neeson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the first face to face NRIM Partnership Board Meeting. Apologies were received from Tara Harper, Lise McCaffery and Michelle Lewis.

JN stated that we should celebrate and reflect on our success to date and provide direction on how we move forward with a realistic action plan and asked where can we collectively bring change to our young people?

Previous Meeting

Draft minute of 23/05/23 – will be brought to the next NRIM Partnership Board Meeting scheduled to take place on August 21.

2. Pilot Curriculum review Event and follow up (including Nick Poeschek, Director, Curriculum and Classroom Assessment, British Columbia Ministry of Education joining us online)

JN introduced Nick Poeschek, thanked him for taking the time to present to the NRIM board and advised that we were keen to hear his experiences and thoughts.



Scotland

Presentation - June 8,

Nick stated that the British Columbia consultation began in 2011 and talked through a summary of the plans and the actions they put in place and discussed the results they

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achieved which included what worked well and areas where improvement could have been made. Exhaustion of staff, the changing political landscape and lack of support were highlighted as areas for improvement. Bold strategy for short, medium and long term should be clear along with on-going support & implementation. NRIM colleagues highlighted areas of similarities to CfE and enthusiastically engaged in the Q&A session.

3. Local authority and general recommendation feedback

JN provided a table of responses and feedback from LAs on the 7 key areas. Following discussion, the following points were highlighted:

- What will the strategy look like?
- Useful, plain English, easy to use for classroom teachers to LA leads.
- Need to support "champions on the ground" who will push things forward.
- A ten-year strategy - It will take 10 years to carry out the next reform.
- Strategies to help improve understanding, opposed to emphasis on right answer.
- We need to support ITE colleagues and help them help students.
- The plan for implementation should include everyone, including colleges.
- Try to measure positive attitudes and engagement in a more systematic way.
- Need a major focus on public perceptions.

4. Pilot Curriculum Review - recommendation 3.

JN gave colleagues a timeline of work to date. Met as a large, selected group on 20th February this year and met as a subgroup on 12th May 2023. A draft agenda was produced for a follow up event.

Questions and points raised by members included

- The need to integrate mathematical skills into the curriculum more explicitly.
- Looking to curricular models from other countries to see where this is well developed.
- We asked what is missing.
- Do we have a shared understanding of what is pedagogy.
- How do we ensure buy in and develop problem solving skills.
- How will we know it is fit for purpose and how can we measure / ensure impact.
- Need to be clear about why we are bringing folk together and what do we want to achieve at the end.
- How would a knowledge framework fit in with the curriculum as it stands?

5. NRIM Implementation Group

JN advised that the NRIM Partnership Board may move to quarterly meetings and the NRIM Implementation Group meeting monthly and feeding back to the Partnership Board. The Implementation group will consist of representatives from all the RICs, appropriate sector representation (more practitioners?) and will be advisors to the Partnership Board.

It was suggested that key activities for 2023-23 would include:

1. Prioritise recommendation 1
2. Form subgroups for other key recommendations
3. Play an integral part in the next Curriculum Review Event

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4. Ensure communications are sent to local authorities
5. Draft plan for 2024 onwards

JN suggested board members could maintain contact with Implementation Groups and that roles and responsibilities must be clear. Board should be there for governance, support and tracking progress. Up till now, the board has been about exploration and discussion. The next phase is about making progress on the recommendations. Next ADES meeting (Sept) will be STEM themed so NRIM can report. Central role of the board is to bring together the work on the separate recommendations to ensure they are all going in the same direction.

6. Closing remarks

JN brought the meeting to a close by thanking all colleagues and subgroup members for their work and advised that he will email a draft agenda and updates in due course.

Sally Armstrong
Secretary 13/06/23

DRAFT