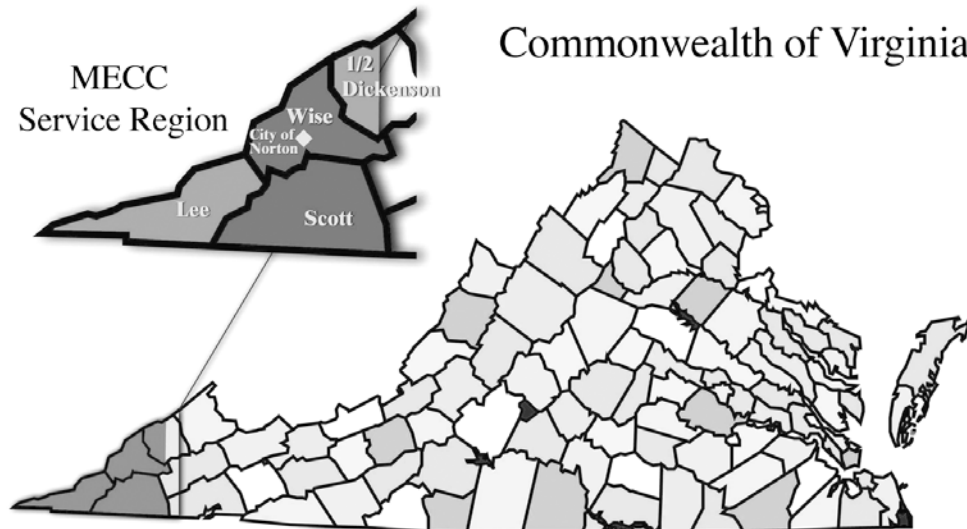


MATH PAYS

An NSF-Sponsored MSP to Improve Mathematics in SW Virginia



What We're About:

- Mountain Empire Community College and UVA-Wise in partnership with 5 School Districts
- Assessing professional development needs of math teachers
- Seeking ways to prevent the need for college math remediation
- Testing a post-Algebra II course on mathematical problem solving
- Supporting middle school and high school math teacher collaboratives
- Reviewing and refining a continuum of math curriculum topics
- Analyzing local IHE data on math enrollment and graduation realities

Successes to Date:

- Math teacher collaboratives as information sources and for refining school district policies
- Adjustment of curriculum to correct missing pieces of math education
- Creation of a new math course on critical thinking and problem solving

We Want to Know:

- How best to get the word out about taking more math in high school
- How to prevent early math interest disengagement
- How to incent college students to become math teachers

Biggest Challenges:

- Turnover of key district personnel
- Keeping school district administrators engaged in the partnership
- Covering a large, sparsely populated, geographical area
- School district economic realities
- Middle and high school focus on Standards of Learning (SOLs)
- Sustainability of activities requiring funding



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