

**PFT Health and Welfare Fund Educational Issues
Math Committee Meeting
Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel
Saturday, January 7, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

What are some stumbling blocks in teaching mathematics?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers are not comfortable in teaching mathematics • Teachers are unable to make real-life connection to all the math skills • Teachers are lacking in number sense and conceptual understanding of skills 	
What instructional practices support or inhibit student learning?	
<p>Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The math practices help guide teacher's pedagogy • Lots of problems to work off but need revisions 	<p>Inhibit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers typically teach the way they were taught • Students are not making connection between procedural and application • Students are getting too much help and not enough time for them to persevere • Too many problems and they give too much information
What are the fundamental skills needed to grasp middle school?	
<p>Skills Students Have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to perform basic operations • Can use formulas and perform the algorithms 	<p>Skills Students Are Deficient In</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying sign numbers • Understand the relationship between numbers • Knowing when to use formulas • Being able to connect between application skills • Lacking number sense
What resources are needed to support middle school instruction?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real-life materials to support lessons and not just algebra blocks • Have a resource file to share among teachers in the district so that we could share the resources that we already have 	

- Need content support people

What types of Professional Development would support teachers of mathematics?

- Specific PD on how to use the new resources
- Provide real and relevant examples to bring back to the classroom
- PD on specific skills
- PD on math practices and how to make connections to real-life
- PD on scaffolding information and questions
- PD on skills needed before and after the current skill
- PD on various ways to teach content