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TEPS Abstract

Kagan Institute – Secondary Mathematics

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I attended the Kagan Summer Academy this past July, spending three days in their Secondary Mathematics: Kagan Structures to Boost Engagement & Learning. Over the 3 day conference we worked with colleagues from across the nation to brainstorm specific lessons in our curricula that would benefit from using a Kagan structure. Grouped by course, we revisited our Algebra 1 curriculum to identify areas where a boost in engagement would be most beneficial to our students. We continued our work in groups to modify a traditional textbook lesson plan. We were able to take a traditional resource we regularly use in the classroom and discuss the ways in which we can improve engagement within the content by way of Kagan structures. By far the most beneficial component of the conference was the exposure to our colleagues' ideas and recognizing the multiple structures that could be implemented within just one section of a given lesson. I feel confident in my understanding of Kagan structures and their relevance to our Algebra 1 curriculum. I look forward to sharing what I learned with my Clarence High School colleagues this coming school year.