

Empowering Middle School Math Coordinators as Agents of Transformation: The Impact of the Mitar Program on Mathematical Literacy and Social- Emotional Learning Integration

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Abstract : The Mitar program was established to drive a shift in middle school mathematics education, emphasizing the connection of math to real-life situations, exploring mathematical modeling and literacy, and integrating social and emotional learning (SEL) components for enhanced excellence. The program envisions math coordinators as catalysts for change, equipping them to create educational materials, strengthen leadership skills, and develop SEL competencies within coordinator communities. These skills are then employed to lead transformative efforts within their respective schools. The program engaged 90 participants across six math coordinator communities during 2022-2023, involving 30-60 hours of annual learning. The process includes formative and summative evaluations through questionnaires and interviews, revealing participants' high contentment and successful integration of acquired skills into their schools. Reflections from participants highlighted the need for enhanced change leadership processes, often seeking more personalized mentoring to navigate challenges effectively.

Keywords : math coordinators, mathematical literacy, mathematical modeling, SEL competencies

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