

TITLE: Adoption of Elementary Education: Math Specialist K-6 Licensure Field

The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) approves the following licensure field:

Elementary Education: Math Specialist K-6

To add the Elementary Education: Math Specialist K-6 teaching field to an existing Hawai'i teacher, school counselor, or school librarian license, educators are required to verify both experience and content knowledge in the new license field and grade level as outlined by the Board.

Rationale/Background:

Nationally, the adoption of an Elementary Mathematics Specialist (EMS) added licensure field is a growing trend driven by the need for evidence-based instruction and specialized teacher leadership. According to the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE), approximately 20 states have already established a formal license, endorsement, or certificate for this role.

Adopting this licensure field aligns with national standards such as AMTE, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

Establishing this field provides a clear career ladder for experienced teachers. It creates a formal pathway for those who wish to remain connected to the classroom while taking on specialized roles, such as math coaches or instructional leads.

Cost:

All costs are included in the current staff duties/responsibilities.

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Referred to: Teacher Standards Committee