

Figure 2.1: Mathematics Team Discussion Tool For Unit Planning

Directions: Use the following prompts to guide discussion about your unit planning practices.

For questions 1–6: When planning mathematics units . . .

1. How do you identify and make sense of the specific mathematics state standards students must learn?
2. How do you determine calendar dates for the beginning and end of the unit, as well as for any common assessments?
3. How do you identify the prior knowledge students have already learned that connects to the current unit?
4. How do you determine the academic vocabulary and notations students will learn during the unit?
5. How do you identify resources and activities to ensure the balanced use of higher- and lower-level-cognitive-demand mathematical tasks?
6. How do you decide on the tools and technology to use to strengthen student learning?
7. When a unit ends, how does your team reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of the unit and electronically document what to keep or change for the same mathematics unit next year?