Algebra Teachers Math Nation Data Report Focus Group Protocol

Introductions & purposes of the focus group

- Ensure confidentiality
- Explain why their views and voice are important
- "Thank you for your time and insights as we work to make Math Nation a more effective teaching and learning application."

Topics for the focus group

1. Data that inform teaching
2. Challenges using data
3. Math Nation data
4. Opportunities and recommendations for data

KEY in focus group interviews: Prompt for specifics ONLY after you have given them time for an initial response. We want to understand their experience and perceptions first, which may reveal things we did not anticipate.

Part A. Data to inform teaching

Interviewer (IR thereafter): *Please tell me a bit about the students and classes you teach.*

1. In what school do you teach?
2. What grades and/or subject areas do you currently teach?
3. How long have you been using Math Nation?

(Has your usage changed at all over that time)

IR: How do you use data to inform your teaching?

1. What data sources do you use to understand student learning?
2. How do you use data in practice?

Part B. Challenges using data

IR: *The next questions focus on challenges you perceive in using data in support of student learning. What are some of the barriers, obstacles, or inconveniences in using data?*

1. Can you access the data you need when you need it?
2. Are the data in a clear and usable form?
3. Do you have the skills and tools you need to use data as you would like to use it?

Part C. Math Nation data

IR: *Now let's think about the data reports you have in Math Nation.*

[Have Math Nation data screen shots to show.]

1. Which reports have you used?
2. Which reports do you use most often?
3. How often do you use the reports?
4. What do you like about the reports?
5. What isn't working well or do you wish would be better about the reports?

Part D. Opportunities and recommendations

IR: *Now that we understand how you use data and the challenges you've identified, let's look at how data can be improved in Math Nation and what would help you as you use it.*

1. Thinking broadly about all of the data that could support teaching and learning in math, what data would be most useful to you?
2. What advice would you give to the designers of data reports to make them clearer and more usable for you?
3. What would be your top recommendation related to data in Math Nation?
4. What supports would help you in your use of data?

Finally, is there any other information about your use of data in teaching you'd like to share with us?

Thank you so much for your time and dedication to this effort!