PROM/SE Institute
August 2004
Day 2, Session 2

The Geometry Strand: Focus on Shapes and Their Properties

1. What do you teach your students about geometric shapes and their properties? Label the chart paper with the appropriate grade level and list the concepts you teach at that level on the paper.

2. Study the charts that have been posted. At your table, share what you notice about what is taught at each grade level. Look for similarities, differences, evidence of growth of ideas, possible gaps, or other factors. Be ready to share your observations with the larger group.

3. What connection might exist between your school/district data you received on Day 1 and the story about shapes and their properties over the grades as described by the posters on the wall?

4. Review the State Geometry Standards, focusing on what is expected at each grade level for geometric shapes and their properties. What similarities and differences do you see in what is recorded on the wall and what is outlined in the State Standards?

5. Based on the information from your test scores, state standards, and the information we just shared regarding the curriculum taught at each grade level across different schools, what are some things you might want to investigate with respect to geometric shapes and their properties related to your geometry curriculum and instruction? What might help you in thinking about how to focus your curriculum?