



# Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics

**May 2008**

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SUPPORTING TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS STUDENTS FROM KINDERGARTEN AND BEYOND

## Message from the President

It is hard to believe that another school year is coming to an end. As you read this, most of you have just finished CATS testing and could really use a break! I commend you all for the incredible work you engage in day after day to promote and support outstanding mathematics teaching and learning in Kentucky. We are so lucky to have such dedicated professionals in our state.

I have an exciting opportunity for classroom teachers! KCTM has established a new Classroom Teacher Support Grant. KCTM will award up to three grants of up to \$500 each to encourage and support the efforts of classroom teachers in the development and implementation of innovative teaching strategies in the field of mathematics. Information about the grant program and applications are available on our website June 1, 2008. Grant awards will be made at the MESA banquet each year.

KCTM is also excited to announce that we have our first student affiliate, Big Blue Council of Teachers of Mathematics (BBCTM). This affiliate is made up of students at the University of Kentucky planning to teach mathematics. Tim Jacobbe, assistant professor of mathematics education, is the sponsor. We welcome BBCTM! Check out their website at <http://www.uky.edu/Education/students/BBCTM/>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the KCTM Executive Board for the hard work they have done this past year. We sponsored a two-day conference in October with nearly 900 people in attendance which was a record breaker for us. Since October, a subcommittee of the board has been working hard to establish a program to offer small grants to teachers for improving mathematics instruction. You will be hearing more about this soon. Another exciting update you will notice in the near future is a new database system that will allow us to reach you with important KCTM news and will streamline the membership and conference registration process. Again, more details coming soon!

We will be having elections in the fall so begin thinking about potential candidates for the following KCTM Executive Board positions:

- President-Elect
- Middle Grades Vice President
- High School Vice President
- Secretary

We need dedicated volunteers to join us as we work to promote mathematics teaching and learning in Kentucky! If you would like to serve or to nominate someone to serve, please email me ([maggie.mcgatha@louisville.edu](mailto:maggie.mcgatha@louisville.edu)) or any officer listed on our website.

We have been very busy preparing for our Fall Conference! It is going to be an exciting professional development opportunity at Ballard High School in Louisville on October 11, 2008. Since the mathematics textbook adoption is back on, this will be a great time to check out your textbook options. All the vendors will be there. We need speakers so please check our website for speaker proposal forms! Share your expertise!

**Respectfully yours,**  
**Maggie McGatha**  
**KCTM President**  
[maggie.mcgatha@louisville.edu](mailto:maggie.mcgatha@louisville.edu)

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### **NEW-Newsletter Contest!!!!!!!!!!!!**

KCTM now has a new feature within all future Newsletters. In this section a question about the newsletter will be given. Find the answer within the newsletter and email the answer to Kari. There will be a random drawing exactly 2 weeks after each newsletter posting. The winner will receive a \$20 gift certificate to the KCTM booth at the next conference. Good luck and have fun!

This newsletter question is: How many grants and for how much each will KCTM be granting each year?

**Submitted by:**

**News Editor**

**Kari Ostby**

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## **Correction from the KCTM & T3 Regional Conference 2007**

I need to apologize for incorrect information given out at the session “Fathom Illustrates the p-value.” One of the participants in this session asked if Fathom could compute ANOVA. I said “no” because I was not aware that the new version 2 of Fathom has modeling capability. In fact the new version can handle ANOVA, and multiple regression as well. I strongly urge anyone wanting to learn more about Fathom (Key Curriculum Press) take the six-week online course. A background in statistics is recommended.

NEW! Teaching Statistics with Fathom™ Dynamic Data Software: You can earn two professional-level academic credits from the University of California Berkeley Extension with successful completion of a course. You may purchase a Fathom Single-User Edition at a 10% discount when you register for this course. Register at [www.keypress.com/onlinecourses/register](http://www.keypress.com/onlinecourses/register)

Thanks,  
Kathryn Shafer  
Ball State University (Fall 2008)

## **2008 KCTM Annual Conference Update**

The 2008 KCTM Annual Conference will be held October 11, 2008 at Ballard High School in Louisville, Kentucky. We had a record crowd at last year's KCTM and T<sup>3</sup> Regional Conference in Lexington, Kentucky and we look forward to breaking that record this year! We look forward to the exciting presentations given by knowledgeable and enthusiastic speakers, lots of exhibitors displaying their newest products, and the opportunity to network with other Kentucky mathematics educators. With textbook adoptions this year, you will want to come and check out the textbook vendors and their latest curricula.

To learn more about the upcoming conference, please visit our website, [www.kctm.org](http://www.kctm.org). This year, the following services will be offered online:

- Registration for the conference
- Pay registration fees
- Submit a speaker proposal form to speak at the conference
- Submit a vendor registration form to exhibit at the conference
- Pay vendor registration fees

While these services will be offered online, participants will also still be able to mail in registrations, fees and speaker proposals.

Go to [www.kctm.org](http://www.kctm.org) to find out much more information about the KCTM Annual Conference, such as details about the MESA Banquet, conference hotel and rates, directions to Ballard High School, and more.

**Submitted by:**  
**Beth Noblitt**  
**President-Elect/NCTM Rep.**  
[noblittb@nku.edu](mailto:noblittb@nku.edu)

## Math Strategies

According to the textbook, Elementary and Middle School Mathematics, there are several strategies that help students with the basic facts. It says, “Work toward mastery of addition and subtraction facts typically begins in the first grade.” According to the text, there is a three step approach to fact mastery: Help children develop strong understanding of the operations and of number relationships, Develop efficient strategies for fact retrieval through practice, and Provide drill in the use of selection of those strategies once they have been developed. “Mastery of a basic fact means that a child can give a quick response (in about 3 seconds) without resorting to non-efficient means, such as counting” (Elementary and Middle School Mathematics, Van De Walle).

What is a strategy? A strategy is one that can be done mentally and quickly. No strategy should be forced to adopt someone else’s strategy but every student should be required to understand strategies that are brought to the discussion. (Van De Walle).

Six strategies listed are used mainly in addition. (There are more than the six strategies listed.) 1. Facts with zeros, 2. Make ten, 3. Near doubles, 4. Counting on, 5. Fact Families, 6. Double and add on. Try these strategies with your students and see which one they prefer.

**Submitted by:**

**Janet Penrod**

**Elementary Vice-President**

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## Memories

I spent the rainy afternoon of Oak’s Day looking through my computer files for inspiration for this newsletter article. I found all sorts of activities and lessons I had used over the years and opening the documents again brought back many memories of classes and students who used the activities in the past. But I also found these words from Heather Hart. As you reflect on the year that is quickly drawing to a close and begin to plan for the next one, I hope you find her words inspiring, too.

**“Math is My Favorite Class!”**

Heather Hart

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**I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I understand.**

**-- Chinese Proverb**

**There are two types of people in this world, those who don’t do math and those who take care of them.**

## Heather Hart's Advice

**Laughter:** While collaborating, teaching, and learning, a sense of humor is essential. Laughter is contagious. Teachers are at their best when they enjoy every day in class. Laughter builds rapport with students and colleagues and brightens the day. Children laugh an average of 146 times a day, while adults laugh only four times a day. Let's put laughter in our days and show joy in learning.

**Laughter:** Laughter must be prevalent in the classroom to engage students. When a student's attention is caught, he is engaged and that is when learning occurs. I use my creativity to attract engagement and curiosity. I have been known to sing songs and compose stories to help students remember algebraic topics. I actually taught my pre-algebra class how to line dance to introduce mathematical patterns such as series and sequences. I embarrass myself every year by dressing up like the "Eliminator," a super hero who helps students solve systems of equations. I use cartoons and comics to catch the students' attention and foster curiosity. I agree with Gail Godwin when she says, "Good teaching is one-fourth preparation and three-fourths pure theatre." Learning should be fun and exciting.

**Be a Risk Taker:** Teachers must embrace the challenge of taking risks in the classroom. Thinking "outside the apple" and trying new things in the classroom is scary, but the possibilities and rewards are endless.

**Class time:** Use every minute of your class to engage students. Let students do their homework at home and let them practice during class!

### The Algebee's Tribe

Dimensional Analysis is an Algebra I Standard. We always talk about converting miles to feet, miles per hour into feet per second, meters into centimeters. Have some fun with this same concept by having students convert unknown or made up units. Such as change hepets into mecheuts? If students really know the concept and are given conversion charts, they can convert anything. If students can do this, they have mastered dimensional analysis.

The Algebee Tribe is a fun way to test student's skills.

I have my students complete this activity in groups of 4.

## The Algebee's Tribe

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

You are a member of the Algebee's Tribe on the island of Variable. Your tribe uses objects as money with the following values:

1 banana = 5 oranges	1 watermelon = 16 Kiwis
1 orange = 18 coconuts	1 Kiwi = 36 apples
1 coconut = 21 grapes	1 apple = 16 honeydews
1 grape = 2 watermelon	1 honeydew = 7 pineapple

1. One day you were really thirsty and wanted a Mountain Dew to drink (I know, how is it you can have mountain dew but not have any dollars! But this is my story so deal with it!). The soda costs 700 grapes, but you only have 2 oranges, so you have to convert your oranges to grapes so they can fit in the machine! How many grapes will you have? Do you have enough grapes to buy one soda?
2. A couple of days later you were out hunting addalope and decided to buy a new arrow. The arrow you wish to buy costs 2500 apples and you only have 2 grapes. Convert your grapes to apples and determine if you have enough fruit to buy the arrow of your dreams.
3. The next year you decide you need to have a pet elephant, one that would play fetch, shake and roll over. You traveled to Slopes Pet Store and fell in love with an elephant that was named fraction (but everyone called him  $\frac{1}{2}$  for short!). The elephant costs 600 pineapples. You have 5 apples. Convert your apples to pineapple and determine if you have enough fruit to take home the playful fraction.
4. Make up a conversion problem of your own. Give it to a classmate to solve. Did they solve the problem correctly?

**Submitted by:**

**Gloria Beswick**

**Middle School Vice-President**

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## Affiliates

### **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics News**

I attended the NCTM Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah as the Delegate representing KCTM. At the Delegate Assembly, NCTM President, Skip Fennell spoke about the highlights NCTM has had over the past year. They included:

- \*The first Focal Points book for teachers of grades 3-5 is now available. More Focal Points books for teachers by grade band and by grade will be coming soon.
- \*The high school curriculum project is underway. Publication is proposed for fall 2008. An online review will be available soon. All NCTM members will receive an email that will outline an opportunity for you to give feedback.
- \*There have been and still are many professional growth opportunities available through NCTM, such as e-workshops, NCATE online report compiler training, and lesson study courses for teachers of grades 3-8.
- \*Online you can find NCTM position statements on topics such as mentoring, early childhood, equity, and technology. A position statement on algebra is coming soon.
- \*NCTM has been involved in many advocacy and outreach activities. These include Senate STEM Caucuses, National Math Council, MSP regional conference, National Title I meeting, Math Now legislation, US Department of Education "News Parents Can Use" PBS television show.
- \*In 2007, NCTM membership increased by 1,100 members.

NEW!!!! When members of NCTM renew membership, they will have the option to select an affiliate to receive a \$3 rebate. When the membership is a new membership, the rebate will be \$5. So, remember KCTM or your local affiliates when you renew your NCTM membership, or become a new NCTM member.

Visit [www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org) to read much more about the exciting news, events, and teacher resources that NCTM has to offer!

**Submitted by:**

**Beth Noblitt**

**President-Elect/NCTM Rep.**

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## **Big Blue Council of Teachers of Mathematics News**

On April 23rd the Big Blue Council of Teachers of Mathematics, which is a student affiliate of KCTM from the University of Kentucky, held a professional development meeting focused on mathematics centers for preservice elementary school teachers and the TI-Navigator for preservice middle and high school students. The event was a tremendous success. These meetings are organized with the intent of getting preservice teachers involved in professional development focused on the teaching and learning of mathematics early on in their careers.

**Submitted by:**

**Tim Jacobbe**

**BBCTM Representative**

[tim.jacobbe@uky.edu](mailto:tim.jacobbe@uky.edu)

## **Lexington Council of Teachers of Mathematics News**

This year, the Lexington Council of Teachers of Math promoted an on-line game in our elementary and middle schools. The First in Math online program is based on the popular 24 game series – a teaching tool that for 20 years has helped children sharpen basic skills such as computation, problem solving, number sense, critical thinking and pattern development. Justin Washington of Tates Creek Elementary has solved enough problems to rank as the No. 1 First in Math player in Lexington. Barbara Asteak, vice president of Suntex, came to Lexington to assist LCTM to honor students at Tates Creek, SCAPA, Athens-Chilesburg, Cassidy, Meadowthorpe, Maxwell and Yates. Schools are still competing as the competition closes out at the end of the school year! If your district or school is interested in this program go to [www.firstinmath.com](http://www.firstinmath.com). Good luck!

LCTM also sent a representative to the Delegate Assembly at NCTM in Salt Lake City. Go to [www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org) to find out more about the resolutions discussed this year!

**Submitted by:**

**Natalee Mauney Feese**

**LCTM Representative**

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## Northern Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics News

NKCTM held a workshop March 19 at Dixie Heights High School titled “TI-84 APPS in Middle and High School Algebra and Geometry Classrooms”, presented by Patty Gibian from Georgetown Middle School in Scott County, KY. The workshop was well-attended.

NKCTM has a planned workshop at Dixie Heights High School for April 30 titled “Mathematics Problem Solving with the TI-73 Explorer Calculator”, presented by Mike Waters from Northern Kentucky University.

NKCTM and the Center for Integrative Natural Science and Mathematics (CINSAM) will be requesting proposals from NKCTM members for four (or more) mathematics curriculum mini-grants for up to \$200 each. Recipients will be expected to share their successes with other area teachers.

NKCTM is considering hosting a one-day conference, with multiple speakers at different grade levels.

### Submitted by:

**Mike Waters**

**NKCTM Representative**

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## Minutes of KCTM Board Meeting

February 16, 2008 – 10:00 AM

KCTM Executive Board Meeting

Gheens Academy

### Members Present:

Maggie McGatha

Gina Foletta

Amy Herman

Kari Ostby

Susan Collins

Gloria Beswick

Beth Noblitt

Ann Bartosh

Barbara Jacobs

Bryson Perry

Mike Waters

Tim Jacobbe

Valeria Amburgey

### I. Approval of November Minutes

One correction was made to the November minutes. In item V, we are not required to file taxes, but there were some questions. Maggie’s accountant is checking into the answers. Gina made a motion to accept the minutes. Barbara seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### II. Changes to Agenda

Item 10 will be discussed after item 6.

Items 4 and 8 will be discussed at the same time.

### III. UK Student Affiliate – Tim Jacobbe

Gina moved to welcome the BBCTM as a new affiliate of our organization. Barbara seconded the motion. Motion passed. The Big Blue Council of Teachers of Mathematics is open to all University of Kentucky K-12 education majors. The faculty sponsor is Tim Jacobbe and the organization currently has 60 members.

### IV. KCTM Newsletter & Web design

Mike made a motion to approve the purchase of new software to update the webpage. Valeria seconded the motion. Motion passed. Kari proposed a trivia contest for future newsletters. The winner will be selected by a random drawing from all correct answers submitted. Kari made a motion to present the winner with a certificate good for \$20 worth of merchandise from the KCTM conference booth. Bryson seconded the motion. Motion passed. The newsletter editor will be responsible for creating the contest question, which will be a seek-and-find type question. A policy manual change will be made in the Web designer section. “Any new information added to the website needs to be pre-approved by a voting board member.”

### V. Membership Chair/Members Services Chair – Beth Noblitt & Mike Waters

Ruth Casey has expressed an interest in giving up her current position as membership chair and vendor chair. Barbara made a motion to continue the membership chair position and NOT create a members services position. Gina seconded the motion. Motion passed. Gina made a motion to appoint Mike Waters to be the new membership chair. Barbara seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### VI. Listserv Discussion – Mike Waters

Mike Waters has begun to research software packages to assist with on-line membership management. Features of the software include, but are not limited to, automatic e-mails to notify members when their membership expires, automatic e-mails to notify members when a newsletter has been posted, and *PayPal* for on-line conference registration. Prices range from free to \$1000. A good package can be purchased for \$100-200. Software titles include, but are not limited to, *Member Ties*, *Member Organizer Pro*, *Membership Director*, and *ProfileManager*. A concern was expressed from board members about getting permission from members to send mass e-mails. Mike reassured the board that the software has the capability to send blind copies. We currently have 794 members stored in the conference database. All information from the conference database should electronically transfer to this new software. Barbara made a motion to approve the purchase of software up to \$300. Kari seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report – Barbara Jacobs

Barbara handed out a 2007 treasurer's report and a Dec '07 budget. KCTM took in approx \$58,000 during 2007. She also shared a 2008 budget and a February treasurer's report. The KCTM current balance is \$15,211.39. \$800 has been budgeted for the purchase of a new laptop computer. Bryson has agreed to research the purchase of the laptop.

VII. Newsletter Report – Kari Ostby

See item IV

VIII. KDE Report – Ann Bartosh

Ann made a request for board members to contact her about upcoming professional development that is being offered throughout the state. Due to budget cuts the Math Coaches program may be cut. The Math Achievement Fund list has not been released as of this date. K-6 nominations are now being accepted for the presidential award. Textbook adoption is on hold for now.

IX. 2008 Conference Report – Beth Noblitt

October 11 and October 18 are the 2 dates available for the 2008 conference and Louisville Ballard has been selected as the site. Several conflicts were mentioned with the October 18<sup>th</sup> date, so the October 11<sup>th</sup> date was selected. The Site Coordinator is April Person and Jackie Gedrose will assist. Smartboards are available in all math classrooms. The small gym for vendors is a concern because of location. Beth passed out an updated exhibitor/vendor form, MESA form, speaker proposal form and conference registration form. On the conference registration form, speaker registration was changed to \$15 and will include complimentary membership. The teacher registration price of \$60 will include complimentary membership. We will continue to have Early-Bird registration **postmarked** before September **12**. The proposed time for the conference was 8:30-3:30. The MESA application deadline was set as September 1. Table rental for vendors will be \$300. First year teachers will not receive a reduced registration rate this year, but a first timers session with the President will be added to the program and teachers attending the session will receive a \$20 gift certificate to be redeemed at the KCTM merchandise booth. Beth will contact April and ask her to attend the May board meeting. A floor plan of Ballard will be shared at this time.

X. Grants Subcommittee Report – Gina Foletta & Amy Herman

Gina made a motion to approve the awarding of up to three grants per year for up to \$500 each to encourage and support the efforts of classroom teachers in the development and implementation of innovative teaching strategies. Valeria seconded the motion. Motion passed. Amy shared a packet of handouts outlining the proposed guidelines, timetable, and application process. The grants will be awarded each year at the MESA banquet. The applications will be sent to the Treasurer. A sub-committee consisting of Barbara Jacobs, Margaret Taylor, and Amy Herman will select the awardees. The grant application will be

available on the website beginning in May. Proposals will be due July 1 and awardees will be notified in August. Awardees will receive 1 complimentary MESA banquet ticket. Amy will create a proposed rubric for scoring the applicants.

XI. Reminder of 2008 Meeting Dates

May 10 at Gheens

August 16

November 15

XII. Labeling of Postcards

**Submitted by:**

**Susan Collins**

**KCTM Secretary**

**WKCTM Representative**

**[susan.collins@etown.kyschools.us](mailto:susan.collins@etown.kyschools.us)**

## Professional Development Opportunities

### Kentucky Mathematics Educators – Items of Interest

Here is the latest list of conferences, websites and publications that may be of interest to KY mathematics educators and/or their students:

#### Conferences:

The Algebra Project Conference ([www.algebra.org](http://www.algebra.org)) @ Jackson State University in Jackson, MS on Thursday, July 24th – Sunday, July 29th, 2008. For more information send an email to [program@algebra.org](mailto:program@algebra.org). NOTE: Deadlines for proposals have already past.

Conference on CAS in Secondary Mathematics – June 28-29, 2008 @ New Trier High School (Northfield Campus); 7 Happ Road; Northfield, IL 60093. Computer algebra systems (CAS) have the potential to revolutionize mathematics education at the secondary level. They do for algebra & calculus what calculators do for arithmetic: simplifying expressions, solving equations, factoring, taking derivatives, and much more! HOTEL: Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel, Northbrook IL - \$119/night conference rate available until June 5, 2008 (rate available for reservations June 26 to June 28, 2008). Book directly online at <http://cwp.marriott.com/chinb/meecas/> or 1-800-468-3571 - Mention group code "USACAS" or "MEECAS". On-line registration, updates, and hotel information available at <http://meecas.org>. Sponsored in part by: Texas Instruments Wright Group/ McGraw Hill. Organized by MEECAS (Mathematics Educators Exploring Computer Algebra Systems).

The 6th International Conference on Education and Information Systems, Technologies and Applications (Orlando, Florida, USA, on June 29th to July 2nd, 2008). For more information visit [www.socioinfocyper.org/eista2008](http://www.socioinfocyper.org/eista2008).

The 2nd International Conference on Knowledge Generation, Communication and Management: KGCM 2008 - <http://www.sciis.org/KGCM2008>) will be held jointly with The 3rd International Symposium on Knowledge Communication and Peer Reviewing: KCPR 2008, and The 3rd International Symposium on Knowledge Communication and Conferences: KCC 2008. It will take place in Orlando, Florida, USA, on June 29th to July 2nd, 2008.

ED-MEDIA 2008 – World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications – June 30-July 4, 2008 in Vienna, Austria. Organized by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE). Deadlines for proposals have passed. Additional information on the conference can be found online at [www.ace.org](http://www.ace.org).

The 11th International Congress on Mathematics Education (ICME) in Monterrey, Mexico, July 6-13, 2008. The SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT for ICME-11 is available online at <http://icme11.org/>. To download the (pdf) announcement, click the website URL, scroll down and click on SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT, then scroll down to the bottom and click on "2ndAnnouncement[Nov26].pdf" and you can save the file on your computer to view or print.

ICME 11 Plenary 2: Give Teachers a Voice in Shaping the Research Agenda -- Thank you to those who have already completed the online survey - we have a very pleasing mix of nationalities responding. BUT, we need many more responses if teachers are truly to contribute to shaping the research agenda in mathematics education. If you are able to alert mathematics teachers to the opportunity to take part in this survey, please do so as a matter of urgency. The online survey can only remain open until the end of February. The procedure is simple: Go to the ICME 11 website (<http://icme11.org/>) and select the Plenary Session 2 Survey link from the menu items on the right-hand side of the web page. **WE NEED RESPONSES FROM ALL COUNTRIES, ALL SCHOOL TYPES AND ALL LEVELS OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM INCLUDING TEACHERS, POLICY MAKERS AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS.** It is important that mathematics teachers around the world make their views known and contribute to shaping the direction of mathematics education research internationally.

Psychology of Mathematics Education (PME32 and PME-NA XXX) -- Mexico July 2008. See the website at [www.pme32-na30.org.mx/annou.htm](http://www.pme32-na30.org.mx/annou.htm) for additional information.

Lenses on Learning Supervision: Mathematics PD for Administrators – July 6-19, 2008 @ at Education Development Center in Newton MA. Contact Loretta Heuer for additional information (LHeuer@edc.org or (617) 618-2559). Visit the Lenses websites: [www2.edc.org/CDT/SI08/SI08\\_information.asp](http://www2.edc.org/CDT/SI08/SI08_information.asp) and [www2.edc.org/CDT/cdt/cdt\\_lol2.html](http://www2.edc.org/CDT/cdt/cdt_lol2.html)

Coaching: A Matter of Influence – An Institute for Mathematics Coaches, grades K-12 -- July 29-August 1, 2008 @ Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC), in Newton, Massachusetts. The institute fee is \$950 per person. This fee includes a continental breakfast and lunch for the four days. Please register by June 6, 2008. Information can be found online at <http://cllc.edc.org/instructionalcoach08/index.html>.

National Association for Gifted Children [NAGC] -- 55th Annual Convention -- The Math & Science strand seeks to promote a greater understanding of the need for academic challenge and support within the disciplines of mathematics and science, as well as innovative strategies and research related to either field. Sessions in this strand will address teaching strategies that promote critical thinking in math and science classrooms, successful programs and curriculum, international comparisons of math and science achievement and programming, developing exceptional math and science talent, teacher training, and encouraging young scholars in the STEM fields. We invite you to join the authoritative voices and information pioneers in the field of gifted as they gather under one roof this year in Tampa, October 29 - November 2, 2008. For more information: <http://www.nagc.org/index.aspx?id=2415>.

SSMA 2008 Annual Convention - (<http://www.ssma.org>) -- Thursday-Saturday, November 13-15, 2008 -- Raleigh-Durham, NC @ Sheraton Imperial Hotel & Convention Center; 4700 Emperor Blvd; Durham, NC 27703; (919) 941-5050. For more information, contact John Park; North Carolina State University; Department of Mathematics, Science, & Technology Education; Campus Box 7801; Raleigh, NC 27695.

2008 Asian Technology Conference in Mathematics, Bangkok, Thailand -- December 15-19, 2008 -- The goal of this conference is to provide a forum for educators, researchers, teachers and experts in exchanging information regarding enhancing technology to enrich mathematics learning, teaching and research at all levels. English is the official language of the conference. Submission of a proposal and abstract deadline is June 15, 2008. See <http://atcm.mathandtech.org> for full information

Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) – Thirteenth Annual Conference, February 5 - 7, 2009: Orlando Airport Marriott Hotel, Orlando, Florida. Submit proposals by completing the Proposal Form available online after April 1, 2008 at [www.amte.net/](http://www.amte.net/) and uploading your proposal on the web. Please follow the submission guidelines which are posted on the AMTE website. Proposals must be submitted electronically by Friday, May 9, 2008.

The Ninth International Conference on Technology in Mathematics Teaching (ICTMT 9) -- Metz, France -- July 4-8, 2009 -- Further information about the programme, the process for submitting proposals for presentations, workshops and posters, how to register, the venue and accommodation will be posted at <http://www.ictmt9.org/> in mid 2008.

E-Learn 2008 -- World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, & Higher Education – November 17-21, 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada @ Riviera Hotel & Convention Center. Organized by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE) ([www.aace.org/](http://www.aace.org/)). Co-sponsored by the International Journal on E-Learning (<http://www.aace.org/pubs/ijel>)

### **Publications and/or Websites:**

Final Report from the National Mathematics Advisory Panel – Foundations for Success: <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/mathpanel/index.html>.

Mathematics Awareness Month (<http://www.mathaware.org/mam/08/>). In April, this site explores the results of the 2008 Presidential campaign using three different counting methods.

Not So Humble Pi (<http://notsohumblepi.com/home>) – Calendar and activities between “pi” days.

Who Wants To Be A Mathematician? (<http://www.ams.org/wwtbam/>) -- High school students compete for cash and prizes. This is supported by the American Mathematical Society.

Technology in Motion (<http://www.sonycreativesoftware.com/news/techinmotion.asp>) -- Schools can enter a student film contest. The contest deadline has passed for this year but the site offers information on the contest – so you can consider entering next year.

### **Research in Mathematics Education**

(<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t779044232>) – This is the official journal of the British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics. Two issues each year published electronically by Routledge. Archival copies are available now from Volume 2 up to the present edition. For more information contact [Richard.firth@tandf.co.uk](mailto:Richard.firth@tandf.co.uk).

Google for Educators (<http://www.google.com/educators/index.html>) – Online resources for teachers to use Google tools in their classrooms. Do you have ideas for using Google tools in your mathematics classroom? Please share them with us – or better yet, share them with Google to post online. For example, what mathematics concepts can be investigated and explored using Google maps?

Teachers Development Group (<http://www.teachersdg.org/>) – a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving all students' mathematical understanding and achievement through meaningful, effective professional development

### **Employment Opportunities:**

The Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance (MMSA), a 501(C)3 not for profit organization, located in Augusta, Maine, is seeking applicants for a Senior Program Director in Mathematics. The Senior Program Director will be responsible for leading and growing the mathematics programs of the MMSA by supervising current staff, maintaining quality and securing funding for mathematics programs. Preferred candidates will be recognized for their knowledge of mathematics and K-12 mathematics pedagogy. Candidates must be proven leaders, multi-faceted, and have the ability to contribute to the overall strength of the organization. The MMSA is a dynamic organization with many focused areas of expertise and opportunities for growth. The MMSA has a culture of energy which encourages new ideas and makes for an exciting place to work. Interested applicants should visit our website at <http://www.mmsa.org/> to view our vision and mission statement.

The Town School in NYC is an independent elementary school on the Upper East Side. We are looking for a math coordinator for kindergarten through third grade. We are looking for someone with experience who can mentor teachers in math and teach cooperatively with them in the classroom. This person should also be skilled in evaluating children of those ages. Please contact Joan Sokotch; Head of the Lower School; The Town School; 540 East 76 Street; New York, New York 10021; (917) 432-3021; [jsokotch@townschool.org](mailto:jsokotch@townschool.org) for additional information.

Math Solutions, a successful educational professional development and publishing company, seeks an entrepreneurial, visionary leader. The President/CEO will direct the growth of the organization to advance its position as the foremost provider of quality mathematics in-service programs and resources for grades K–8 educators nationwide. Math Solutions' mission is to provide long-term, systemic change in classroom instruction to raise student achievement in elementary and middle school mathematics. Deadline for applications: May 15, 2008. For additional information contact [CEOsearch@mathsolutions.com](mailto:CEOsearch@mathsolutions.com).

Wyoming Excellence in Higher Education Endowed Chair in Mathematics Education – The University of Wyoming is seeking an internationally recognized scholar in mathematics education to be a dynamic leader in the expansion of its mathematics education programs and to cultivate a nationally recognized graduate program in mathematics education. Applications should include a statement of research and teaching interests and accomplishments, a curriculum vita, and the names and contact information for five references. Send an electronic copy of the

application materials to Ms. Debra Dobbyn at [ddobbyn@uwyo.edu](mailto:ddobbyn@uwyo.edu). Non-electronic materials can be sent directly to Patricia McClurg, Dean, Dept. 3374, 1000 E. University Ave., Laramie, WY 82071. Applicant screening begins as applications are received. Additional information may be found on the UW web page @ <https://uwsecureweb.uwyo.edu/ceid/MathEd.asp> and [www.laramie.org](http://www.laramie.org).

And, finally – just for fun:

Can't Write No Dissertation (<http://vimeo.com/852635>)

**Submitted by:**

**Valeria Amburgey**

**College Vice-President**

[vamburgey@insightbb.com](mailto:vamburgey@insightbb.com)

**Teaching Algebra 1 or Algebra 2 using Applied/Contextual Strategies**

In these workshops, teachers will learn methods and strategies for contextually teaching Algebra 1 or Algebra 2. Teachers will learn how to connect the concepts of high school mathematics to career fields and how to make meaningful real-world connections for their students.

Workshops will be 1-day in length with a choice of either July 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> for Algebra 1 and July 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> for Algebra 2. These workshops will provide an opportunity for high school algebra teachers to learn methods and strategies for teaching mathematics in an applied way. Teachers will be sharing activities through a web resource. Schools will be required to provide access to EPAS scores for the students using the strategies learned through this program for the purpose of program evaluation.

If you have questions please contact Carole Frakes at [carole.frakes@education.ky.gov](mailto:carole.frakes@education.ky.gov).

Please register at: <http://www.education.ky.gov/FormServ/Default.aspx?ID=teachingalgebra>

All trainings will be held at the transportation building in Frankfort, Kentucky, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$25. Lunch is included.

**Submitted by:**

**Charma Linville**

**Mathematics Consultant, KDE**

[charma.linville@education.ky.gov](mailto:charma.linville@education.ky.gov)

## **Teaching Geometry using Applied/Contextual Strategies**

In these workshops, teachers will learn methods and strategies for contextually teaching Geometry. Teachers will learn how to connect the concepts of high school mathematics to career fields and how to make meaningful real-world connections for their students.

Workshops will be 1-day, July 11th. The workshop will provide an opportunity for high school Geometry teachers to learn methods and strategies for teaching mathematics in an applied way. Teachers will be sharing activities through a web resource. Schools will be required to provide access to EPAS scores for the students using the strategies learned through this program for the purpose of program evaluation.

If you have questions please contact Carole Frakes at [carole.frakes@education.ky.gov](mailto:carole.frakes@education.ky.gov).

Please register at: <http://www.education.ky.gov/FormServ/Default.aspx?ID=teachingalgebra> All trainings will be held at the transportation building in Frankfort, Kentucky, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$25. Lunch is included.

**Submitted by:**  
**Charma Linville**  
**Mathematics Consultant, KDE**  
[charma.linville@education.ky.gov](mailto:charma.linville@education.ky.gov)

## Scoring End-of-Course Exam Items

The Kentucky Department of Education Office of Assessment and Accountability and the University of Louisville need approximately 90 educators to score extended-response item for recently developed and administered pilot versions of the Kentucky Algebra I and Geometry End-of-Course Assessments. Over 6000 Kentucky students are piloting these assessments during May 2008. Eligible scorers may include current or retired middle or high school mathematics teachers, school administrators with mathematics backgrounds, and postsecondary faculty and graduate students in mathematics and mathematics education. Selection of scorers will be based on: (1) mathematics background/coursework; (2) mathematics teaching experience and/or (3) ability to participate in three-day scoring sessions.

The scoring sessions will be held at four sites across Kentucky in June. Listed below are the locations and dates:

June 4, 5, 6--Warren East High School, 6867 Louisville Rd., Bowling Green

June 4, 5, 6—Henry Clay High School, 2100 Fontaine Rd., Lexington

June 9, 10, 11—DuPont Manual High School, 120 W. Lee Street, Louisville

June 9, 10, 11—Rowan County High School, 100 Viking Dr., Morehead

All scoring session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m., with lunch provided during a one-hour break. Scorers will be paid at a rate of \$30 per hour, for a maximum of \$540 for three full days scoring. All scorers will be reimbursed for gas mileage to and from sessions. Overnight accommodations will NOT be reimbursed. **A qualified scorer may participate in sessions at two locations on different dates if they are within driving distance to both sessions. (e.g. Frankfort residents can score in Lexington and Louisville, Elizabethtown residents can score in Bowling Green and Louisville)**

The first half-day of each scoring session will involve scoring training. During the remaining 2.5 days, scorers will work in pairs and score the same 2-3 items for the session.

If you are interested and available for these sessions, please complete the attached Kentucky Algebra I/Geometry EOCA Scorer Application Form and send it electronically to Jane Jones at [jane.jones@louisville.edu](mailto:jane.jones@louisville.edu) by **Friday, May 16**. All applicants will be notified by Monday, May 19, regarding their selection as scorers.

**Submitted by:**

**Charma Linville**

**Mathematics Consultant, KDE**

**[charma.linville@education.ky.gov](mailto:charma.linville@education.ky.gov)**

## **PIMSER**

The P-12 Math and Science Outreach Unit of PIMSER at the University of Kentucky is sponsoring several high quality math professional development options during the Summer of 2008. We are also forming Networks for math leaders and new teachers for the 08-09 academic year. Both are summarized below but more details can be found by going to our website <http://www.uky.edu/P12MathScience>

### **Summer 2008 PD Opportunities**

#### **Understanding Fractions at the Primary Level:**

This is a one day training and the cost is \$200 which includes all of the materials needed to implement the activities when you return to your classroom.

#### **One to One Math:**

This 2 day training provides teachers of grades 2-5 with game based activities to assist their students with concepts related to number and computation. Cost is \$375 and includes a materials kit and a CD with all masters so you can share materials with other teachers.

#### **Teaching Fractions for Understanding using the Rational Number Project Materials either Level I or Level II:**

For teachers of grades 4-9 learn how to teach fractions for understanding using the Rational Number Project materials. Cost is \$400 for the 2 day session and includes all the materials you will need to implement the project when you return to your classroom.

#### **Everyone Passes Algebra:**

For teachers of grades 8-12. Every year, too many students in too many schools fail Algebra I. EVERYBODY PASSES ALGEBRA (EPA) provides the technology, manipulatives, games and training necessary to implement the needed change in philosophy and instruction to ensure success for all of today's students in Algebra I. **Materials: Each participant will receive the following to support their instruction as part of their participation in EPA:** TI-84+ silver calculator; one copy of SmartView Software; site license of Graphical Analysis software; one Calculator Based Ranger; books (How the Brain Learns Mathematics; Algebraic Thinking); classroom set of algebra manipulatives; set of trade books to use in instruction; one balance scale mat master; one multiplication mat master; frog number lines and plastic frogs; quadratic cards, linear cards, integer cards, and ropes. **Structure of training:** 5 day summer event (choice of two locations Prestonsburg and Lexington). [The agenda for the 5 day session is attached;](#) 4 academic year follow-up meetings (2 full day follow-ups and 2 afterschool follow-up sessions).

### **2008-2009 Academic Year Professional Opportunities**

#### **Network for New Math Teachers**

This network meets 6 times per year and was created to support the needs of the new math teacher by providing resources and strategies and provide a network of support. Target audience new math teachers with 0-5 years of experience. Cost: \$675

#### **Math Leadership Support Network**

This network is designed for individuals who are charged with providing leadership in the area of mathematics in their school or district (e.g., department heads, principals, instructional

supervisors, math coaches, other teacher leaders). The network meets 9 times during the academic year. Cost: \$1,250.

**To Register for any of the sessions described above:** go to <http://www.uky.edu/P12MathScience> In order to complete the on-line registration, you will need a PO number.

Questions should be directed to Kim Zeidler, Director of the P-12 Math and Science Outreach Unit of PIMSER. [kzeidle@uky.edu](mailto:kzeidle@uky.edu) or 859-257-4836.

Kim Zeidler  
Director, P-12 Math and Science Outreach Unit of PIMSER  
University of Kentucky  
641 South Limestone  
Lexington, KY 40506-0333  
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### **Kentucky Center for Mathematics**

The Kentucky Center for Mathematics (KCM) is now accepting applications for a new cadre of mathematics coaches for the 2008-2009 school year.

The KCM Mathematics Coaching Program is a long-term initiative for improving the teaching and learning of mathematics in K-12 schools in Kentucky. Launched in 2006 with funding from the Kentucky Department of Education, the coaching program is currently supporting 73 mathematics coaches across the state. The primary goal of the program is to increase student achievement by helping individual teachers craft better classroom instruction through planning and reflecting conversations. KCM Coaches, who devote at least half of their time to coaching, lead this effort in multiple ways, tailoring their approach to the needs of their school.

To provide support for teachers who wish to serve their schools in this capacity, KCM will pay for all expenses associated with the coach's attendance at training sessions and the KCTM and KTLC conferences. For an application or for more information, you may contact Jim Justice or visit our website at [www.kentuckymathematics.com](http://www.kentuckymathematics.com).

Jim M. Justice  
Director of Coaching  
Kentucky Center for Mathematics  
Northern Kentucky University  
Office: 859-572-7693  
[justiceji@nku.edu](mailto:justiceji@nku.edu)

## **NCSM colleagues**

Here's information about another summer professional development offering here at Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC). This workshop focused on elementary mathematics content and features materials from the new NSF-funded K-5 mathematics curriculum program, Think Math!

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Authors of Think Math!, a new NSF-funded, comprehensive K-5 mathematics curriculum program, are offering professional development workshops for K-5 elementary teachers, specialists, coaches and administrators. Workshops are August 4-8 in Boston, and present effective approaches to elementary mathematics content areas across grades. Graduate credit is available. For more information, or to subscribe to monthly newsletters from the developers of Think Math!, please visit <http://www.edc.org/thinkmath> or contact Melody Hachey at EDC's Center for Mathematics Education: [mhachey@edc.org](mailto:mhachey@edc.org) or 617-618-2801.

Building Number & Algebra the Think Math! Way workshops focus on effective approaches to elementary mathematics teaching and learning. Participants will see how the arithmetic they teach builds children's algebraic thinking and language, and how the design and structure of Think Math! builds children's arithmetic and problem-solving skill at the same time. Workshops are facilitated by Think Math! developers and experienced teachers.

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June Mark  
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