

THE NUMBER LINE

December 2009

www.lamath.org



Message from the President of LATM

The LATM/LSTA joint conference, "**Science and Mathematics: Tools for the 21st Century**" was held November 2-4, 2009 in Shreveport. The conference was a fabulous success. Our attendance was over 2,500, and there were more than 80 exhibitors. Many of our previous records were broken. Even though the dates were on a Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this year, it didn't hamper our attendance. It felt very much like an NCTM Regional conference in size! Thanks and congratulations to all those who worked on the conference, presented workshops, or assisted by serving as a presider for a session.

At the LATM Annual Business Meeting, new Executive Council members were elected. We are very happy to have **Stacey Magee** remain for another term as **Secretary**. **Beth Smith** has moved from VP Colleges to **President Elect**. **Jeffrey Weaver** has moved over to become the new **VP Colleges** to complete the remaining year of Beth's term. New to the board, we welcome **Jacob Hesselschwardt, Parliamentarian**; **Kay McInnis, VP Middle Schools**; and **Penny Gennuso, VP High Schools**. Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (**LCSM**) has a new **Affiliate Representative, Emily Rash**. We look forward to working together with each of these members to serve you all better.

In 2010, LATM will not hold an annual conference. Instead we feel fortunate that the NCTM Southern Regional has chosen to return to New Orleans, October 28-29, 2010. The proposal deadline of November 1, 2009 has passed, but there are many other needs coming up. Local contacts from the LATM Executive Council are **Ellen Daugherty**, Program Co-Chair, and **Jean May-Brett** and **Sabrina Smith**, Local Arrangements Co-Chairs, and **Joan Albrecht**, Co-Chair of Volunteers. There will be a need for volunteers throughout the conference. As the information and sign-up procedures become available, we will post updates and links on our website, <http://lamath.org>. You should also expect an LATM email notice when this information is ready for dissemination.

I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans in the fall!

Maryanne Smith, President of LATM

maryanne.smith@stpsb.org



National Science Foundation
**Presidential Awards for Excellence
in Mathematics and
Science Teaching**

Ahead of the **CURVE**

Debra Reynolds, Louisiana's 2008 Presidential Awardee for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching, will travel to Washington, DC to be honored along with the other 2008 Awardees January 4-7, 2010. The announcement on 2009 Presidential Awardees should be received after the first of the new year.

Debra, Pamela Goodner and Kay McInnis, Louisiana's 2009 Presidential Award State Finalists, were recognized at a fall BESE meeting and honored during the annual PA Luncheon at the Governor's Mansion. (See photo at right: **Debra** with **Mrs. Jindal**.)



Nominations for the 2010 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are now being accepted. 2010 will be an elementary teacher (kindergarten – 6th grade) cycle. Information can be found at: www.paemst.org using the nomination link. Individuals who are nominated will be notified by e-mail of their nomination; therefore, it is necessary that you have a working e-mail address for each teacher nominated when the nomination is made. LATM members are encouraged to nominate outstanding K- 6 teachers for this award. Teachers may self-nominate. For more information, contact jean.may-brett@la.gov.

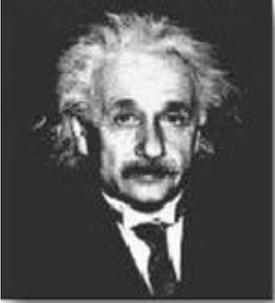
LATM Journal

Write For Your LATM Journal

Did you know that LATM has its own journal? The *LATM Journal* is a peer-reviewed online publication of the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics. The purpose of the journal is to provide an appropriate vehicle for the communication of mathematics teaching and learning in Louisiana and across the world. Through the *LATM Journal*, all teachers of mathematics may share their mathematics knowledge, creativity, caring, and leadership.

Do you have an innovative teaching idea that you think other teachers could benefit from in their classroom? Share your knowledge with teachers everywhere. Visit the *LATM Journal* website (<http://www2.selu.edu/orgs/LATM/>) and find out how to submit an article. The spring issue of the *LATM Journal* will be published in May and articles should be submitted by March 1.

Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship



Attention K-12 teachers: Are you an experienced educator who is ready to make a difference on education policy at a national level? If so, consider applying for an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship and prepare for a year of unique opportunities. As an Einstein Fellow you will spend a school year in Washington, DC sharing your expertise with policy makers. You may serve your Fellowship with Congress or one of several government agencies such as the Department of Energy, NASA, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The Einstein Fellowship program provides an opportunity for teachers to inform national policy and improve communication between the K-12 STEM education community and national leaders. Selection is based on excellence in K-12 mathematics, science, or technology teaching; demonstrated leadership; an understanding of national, state, and local education policy; and communication and interpersonal skills.

The Fellowship program was created in 1990 with support from the MacArthur Foundation. Congress formalized the program in 1994 by passing the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Act. The Triangle Coalition administers the program under the direction of the Department of Energy. The application deadline is January 13, 2010.

Apply online at <http://www.einsteinfellows.org/application.html>.

For more information about the Einstein Fellows program visit www.einsteinfellows.net or contact Program Manager **Kathryn Culbertson** at culbertsonk@triangle-coalition.org.

The Number Line's Last Printed Copy: This is IT!

Starting with the first issue in 2010, *The Number Line* will be distributed only in electronic form to members' e-mail addresses. Make sure we have your correct e-mail address.

If you do not receive the electronic (e-mail) version of this newsletter, send corrected or updated e-mail information to: **Vicky Hand**, Membership Chair: vicky.hand@cpsb.org.

Find LATM news and more online: <http://www.lamath.org/>

Quality Science & Math Grant Program 2009-2010

Congratulations to all Quality Science and Math (QSM) Grant Recipients! Competition was very keen with many wonderful proposals. A complete list of recipients may be accessed on-line at www.cain.lsu.edu. Recipients should note that funding procedures have changed this year. Each recipient must have his/her school registered as a "vendor" before checks can be mailed. Use the link (<http://www.fas.lsu.edu/purchasing/vendorinfo.htm#apply>) to complete the online vendor registration form. Please contact QSM at qsm@lsu.edu or 225-578-6689 with any questions or concerns.

Congratulations 2009-10 QSM Math Award Winners:

Alan Jones	Eugene H. Weitzel	LaBresha Lane	Patricia Sumera
Alexis DeFreese	Eugenie Brown	LaTarchau Harris	Phil Blanchard
Allison Milstead	Gwendolyn D Williams	Laura Freeman	Rachel Smith
Amy Burton	Holly Doga	Leeann LeBouef	Rebecca Clark
Angela McGee	Jacqueline Prielipp	Leslea Mudd	Richelle Votaw
Angie Leger	Jamie Fife	Lisa Adams	Sandy Hogan
Angie Poche	Jamie Hebert	Lisa Harris	Sara Nowak
April Stone	Jennifer Fontenot	Marcia Colvin	Sean P. Walsh
Ashley Williams	Jennifer McElveen	Maria Theresa G. Yabut	Selene Landry
Bridget Soumeillan	Jennifer Pastor	Marilyn Long	Shanna Meaux
Carla Harrison	Jodi Cole	Marilyn Pohlmann	Sharon Witte
Caryn Murrell	Jodi Newman	Mark Alan Zweig	Shelsy Williams
Christina Mancuso	Johanna Bowman	Mary Bissell	Shirley McManus
Christine Henderson	Joley Duncan	Matthew Willis	Sommer Odom
Christy Gregg	Jonathan Bogard	Melanie Boulet	Stacy Wilburn
Debra Gilmore	Judea Goins-Andrews	Melissa Maurer	Stefani Guidry
Debria Fuselier	Judy Morgan	Melissa Soileau	Stefanny Chaisson
Deidre Buller	Julie Matherne	Michelle Adkins	Suanne Jacobs
Delly Borne	Karen Smith	Michelle Lakhotia	Susan Taylor
Denise Brashear	Karla Olivier	Michelle Miller	Tammy Gannoun
Dona I. Robinson	Kate Ryder	Miesha M. Williams	Tammy Tassin
Donna Adams	Katherine S. Michiels	Miguel Leon	Tanya Jeane
Donna Vail	Kathy Straughan	Mona Crump	Tara Portier
Edwin Frazier	Kevin Uy	Monica Alphonso	Tifarah Traylor
Elisabeth Poetker	Kim Campbell	Monica C. Guienze	Toni Bourg
Elizabeth Lupo	Kim Colley	Nancy Dunn	Tonia Guidry
Erica Faust	Krissi Boone	Nina Byers	Trisha Melancon
Erika Harkins	Kristy Strother	Patricia Harrison	Vicki Martin
	Virginia Ward	Wiley M. Cummings, Jr.	

Louisiana Department of Education Update

Carolyn Sessions, LDE Representative

Holiday Greetings! This newsletter provides information relative to a variety of topics that affect mathematics education in our state. While some items affect other content areas, I have condensed the information to focus on math in an effort to reduce the length of the article. If you have additional questions, please contact me at Carolyn.Sessions@la.gov.

Standards Revision Process

The committee that is developing common state standards for the consortium of states formed by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is developing two sets of standards: College- and Career-Readiness and K-12 Grade-Level Standards. The College- and Career-Readiness Standards will serve as the foundation for the K-12 Grade-Level Standards. While a draft of the K-12 Grade-Level Standards should be out in early 2010, a draft of the College- and Career-Readiness Standards is posted at <http://www.corestandards.org/>. Please note that the Introduction to the College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Mathematics indicates that these standards are not exit standards with some students needing more mathematics to be prepared for college courses related to STEM.

The Race to the Top grant application indicates a deadline of August 2, 2010 for states to adopt the common state standards and requires that the standards must be implemented within three years. The Department plans to reconvene the Strands and Big Ideas committee in June 2010 to review the common state standards prior to making a recommendation to BESE about adopting these standards.

Attendance Requirements

Pending final adoption by BESE, students in 2010-2011 and beyond will be required to be in attendance the equivalent of 167 of the required 177 days of instructional days in order to receive grades. High school students must be in attendance 94% of the class time for each of their courses to receive credit for the course. BESE also approved revisions that clarify the definitions of excused absences, unexcused absences, and extenuating circumstances.

To be eligible to receive grades, high school students shall be in attendance a minimum of 30,060 minutes (equivalent to 83.5 six hour school days) per semester or 60,120 minutes (equivalent to 167 six hour school days) a school year for schools not operating on a semester basis. To receive Carnegie credit for a course, students must be present 94% of the required time listed in §907. Elementary students shall be in attendance a minimum of 167 days (60,120 minutes) a school year.

Excused absences are absences of two or fewer consecutive school days incurred due to personal illness or serious illness in the family; see the extenuating circumstances definition in subsection J if the student is absent for three or more consecutive days or for other types of absences in which a student would be allowed to receive grades.

Unexcused absence – any absence not meeting the requirements set forth in the excused absence and extenuating circumstances definitions, including but not limited to, out of school suspensions and absences due to any job (including agriculture and domestic services, even in their own homes or for their own parents or tutors) unless it is part of an approved instructional program.

Louisiana Department of Education Update

End-of-Course Test Policy

The GEE is being phased out and the End-of-Course tests will replace the GEE. This policy change will affect current middle school students who are now taking or have previously taken high school courses for Carnegie credit.

For incoming freshmen in 2010-2011 and beyond, students must meet the assessment requirements below to earn a standard diploma.

- a. Students must pass three End-of-Course Tests in the following categories:
 - i. English II or English III
 - ii. Algebra I or Geometry
 - iii. Biology or American History
- b. For students with disabilities who have passed two of the three required End-of-Course Tests and have exhausted all opportunities available through the end of the 12th grade to pass the remaining required End-of-Course Test, that End-of-Course Test may be waived by the State Superintendent of Education if the Department of Education determines the student's disability significantly impacts his/her ability to pass the End-of-Course Test.

Career Diploma – Entrance Requirements

Incoming freshmen may enter the career diploma pathway if they meet one of the following requirements:

- The student has fulfilled all of the requirements for promotion to the ninth grade established by BESE and by the LEA where the student is enrolled; OR
- The student has met all of the following criteria:
 - The student scored at least *Approaching Basic* level on either the English language arts or Mathematics component of the eighth grade LEAP test, and meets the requirements in the district's Pupil Progression Plan for promotion to the ninth grade for the career major pathway; and,
 - The student is at least fifteen years old, or will reach fifteen during the next school year; and
 - The student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 1.5 on a 4 point scale; and
 - The student has acceptable attendance and behavior according to district policy for entrance into the career diploma pathway; and
 - The student completed a summer remediation program and completed the summer retest.
 - The student must participate in a dropout prevention and mentoring program during his/her first year in high school unless the student met the promotion requirements for the eighth grade LEAP.
 - The student must enroll in and pass a high school remedial course approved by BESE in the *Unsatisfactory* subject (English language arts or mathematics) before earning Carnegie credit for any other English or mathematics course.

Every student who seeks to pursue a career diploma shall have the written permission of his/her parent or other legal guardian on the Career Diploma Participation Form after a consultation with the school guidance counselor or other school administrator. The student and parent must be informed of the advantages and disadvantages of the different diploma pathways. The signature

Louisiana Department of Education Update

of the student and parent or guardian indicates that a determination has been made that the pursuit of a career diploma is appropriate and in the best interest of the student. The school principal shall also sign the form acknowledging that appropriate counseling has taken place.

Career Diploma Course Requirements

Math – 4 units are required

- One of the following:
 - Algebra I (1 unit) or
 - Algebra I-Pt. 1 **and** Algebra I-Pt. 2 (2 units) or
 - Applied Algebra I (1 unit)
- The remaining units shall come from the following:
 - Geometry or Applied Geometry
 - Technical Math (new course to be developed by Louisiana Community and Technical College System)
 - Medical Math (to be LDE developed)
 - Applications in Statistics and Probability (to be LDE developed)
 - Financial Math (Business Math at LCTCS is not approved; cannot be substitute for F.M.)
 - Math Essentials
 - Algebra II
 - Advanced Math—Pre-Calculus
 - Discrete Mathematics
 - Course(s) developed by the LEA and approved by BESE



**Mark Your Calendars for October 27-29, 2010
Join us for the NCTM New Orleans
Regional Conference and Exposition**

Why Should You Attend the October NCTM New Orleans Regional Conference and Exposition?

- Participate in a wide variety of sessions and in-depth gallery workshops
- This is your opportunity to meet with exhibitors, while viewing the latest in educational products and resources.
- Pick up the copy of the NCTM book you have been wanting to buy
- Professional development and growth...NCTM conferences and expositions help you increase your knowledge
 - If getting away is hard, these intensive two-day conferences are for you!
 - If travel is an issue, NCTM is bringing this event to Louisiana!
 - If you need to plan ahead, each conference will have an online conference planner available for you to see and plan your days
 - Preregistration discounts for those that register in advance of the meeting.

Affiliates in Action

Acadiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics

ACTM is hosting a Mini Conference on January 30, 2009. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. in Maxium Doucet Hall on the UL campus. Sessions begin at 8:30 and continue until 12:30. Mathematics presentations are scheduled for grades 3 through high school. There will also be some high school Science presentations.

Baton Rouge Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics (BRAC TM)

BRAC TM Spring Mini-Conference: Celebrate Good Math... Come On!

Our annual mini-conference has been set for Saturday, February 27 from 8am-1pm. It will be held on the campus of the LSU Lab School. At this time we are sending out a call for presenters. If you have an innovative idea/activity/lesson that you would be willing to share, please contact our conference chair, **Shannon Hannaman**, at shannama@lsu.edu . We welcome anyone and encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity. If you have never presented before, this conference is an excellent time to get your feet wet. Each session usually has between 10 to 30 participants.

Any questions or comments? Contact **Ellen Daugherty**, BRAC TM President at edaugh1@lsu.edu.

Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics (GNOTM)

Our 2010 GNOTM Conference "Math Olympics: Let the Games Begin" is scheduled for Saturday, January 30. Please visit our web site (gnotm.org) for registration and presenter forms.

Any questions or comments? Contact **Joan Albrecht** at joan.albrecht@jppss.k12.la.us

Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM)

The fall meeting of the LCSM was held on Monday, November 2, 2009, at 1:00 p. m. at the Convention Center in Shreveport on the opening day of the LATM conference. **Carolyn Sessions** gave an LDE update, as well as other important mathematics curriculum and assessment information. **Lynne Tullos** reported on the state Numeracy Initiative. **Teri Roberts** gave a report on the 4th Grade Math Workshop series. **Suzanne Mitchell** spoke on behalf of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics. Any mathematics coordinator, coach, supervisor, or anyone else who provides math leadership should consider joining LCSM.

To join our mailing list or receive membership information, please send contact information to **Stacey McGee**, Secretary, at stacey.magee@stpsb.org, or **Emily Rash**, President, at emily.rash@mcschools.net.

Affiliates in Action

Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM)

Our annual mini-conference is scheduled for Saturday, February 27th. Registration begins at 8AM in the lobby area of the Airways and Computer Science Building on the University of Louisiana at Monroe campus. Attendees may select three different morning sessions. Presentation proposals are now being accepted. Proposals can be submitted online. See the NELATM web page (nelatm.org) for more information.

Our December 1st meeting was held. Topic: Holiday Geometry. We created geometric cards and decorations to help celebrate the holidays and mathematics.

Northwest Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NWLATM)

The Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association Winter Conference, "Let's Celebrate Mathematics" is scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2010 at LSU-Shreveport from 8:00 - 12:00. Registration and presenter forms will be available at lamath.org in mid December.

SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost half over! We have had a busy fall. The joint LATM/LSTA conference that was recently held in Shreveport was great. SEATM members presented eighteen different sessions. Several of our members were honored at the awards banquet. **Fan Disher** was named LATM's High School Math Teacher of the Year; **Tracey Martinez** was named Middle School Math Teacher of the Year; **Tammy Benton**, was recognized as a finalist for Middle School Math Teacher of the Year; and **Kay McInnis** was recognized for being a finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. They made our organization very proud.

We are now busy working on our spring SEATM mini-conference that will be on March 4th at Fontainebleau High and our annual spring Teacher Recognition Dinner.

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Find LATM news and more online: <http://www.lamath.org/>

LATM Executive Board

E-mail contacts for Officers and Local Affiliate Representatives...

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Jeffrey Weaver VP Colleges jtweaver81@hotmail.com	Stacey Magee Secretary stacey.magee@stpsb.org	Jacob Hesselschardt Parliamentarian jacobhessel@yahoo.com
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NCTM 2010 Annual Meeting & Exposition
San Diego, CA • April 21-24, 2010
Connections: Linking Concepts with Context

NCTM Lessons and Resources

NCTM offers much free information to teachers. Visit www.nctm.org for valuable *Lessons and Resources*. Featured articles in the month of December are highlighted below. When you visit the site, there is a wealth of information including links to math challenges, strategy games, literature connections, templates, hands-on activities, and problems of the day. The site also provides background information on featured topics, in this case, swine flu. NCTM makes sure the activities are balanced across all grade spans. Please utilize these rich experiences in your classroom.

Keepin' up on Math Skills over Winter Break

Make a family effort over winter break to keep up on math skills.

Tips include: playing strategy games, reading math-related books, doing projects at home, investigating the symmetries in snowflakes, and seeking out volunteer opportunities to spread the holiday cheer!

Swine Flu

Explore how the logistic curve models the population affected by the spread of the Swine Flu. The applet allows the user to manipulate four factors that influence the spread of a virus and then displays a graph of how disease will spread or die out based on the settings.

Happy Holiday Season from LATM!





Suzanne Moyers
198 Arthur Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71105

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LATM Membership Form

All information provided is confidential and not available to outside sources without the express written permission of the LATM Executive Council. Please PRINT or TYPE. Use the address (school or home) at which you wish to receive LATM correspondence.

Name _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

LATM needs at least one working e-mail address. This allows us to get information to you quickly.

E-mail address 1: _____ E-mail address 2: _____

School Name _____ Parish _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Annual Dues: \$15.00 _____ *Full time, Non-teaching Student:* \$5.00 _____

Renewal New Membership

Make checks payable to LATM. Mail membership form and check to:

***Vicky Hand, Calcasieu Parish Schools – C&I,
600 South Shattuck Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601.***