

# THE NUMBER LINE

February 2011

[www.lamath.org](http://www.lamath.org)



LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION of  
TEACHERS of MATHEMATICS

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Look for this icon on articles which spotlight members of our Executive Council who work tirelessly as volunteers on behalf of the organization.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the transition to a fully electronic newsletter, we are now able to expand the possibilities for this venue. I would like to thank Carolyn Sessions for accepting the responsibility of LATM Newsletter Editor. I am sure as you explore this edition of *The Number Line*, you will see, through Carolyn's efforts, the metamorphosis that is taking place. While enjoying this edition, please explore some of the following topics:

Each year LATM is pleased to be able to honor outstanding mathematics teachers across our state. Overall winners and finalists in each category are recognized at the LATM Conference Banquet. Completed applications are due by May 2, 2011. LATM Teacher Awards information is being distributed to all school principals and appropriate college officials through a mass mailing and LATM members can find information regarding nominations and submissions in this newsletter and on the LATM website ([www.lamath.org](http://www.lamath.org)). Each school is encouraged to nominate one teacher. Those teachers will complete and return the application forms.

High School seniors are encouraged to submit applications for the LATM Carol Meyer Scholarships. Two \$500 scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding students who plan to major in mathematics, mathematics education, elementary education, or educational technology. High school guidance counselors around the state will be receiving this information shortly. LATM members also can find this information on our website. Please remember the deadline is March 18, 2011.

The 2010 NCTM Regional Conference in New Orleans was quite a huge success with over 4,000 participants. Educators from across the country as well as many from our state found a wonderful venue through which to network with others. *Mark your calendars for next year's conference in Monroe. It will be held at the Monroe Civic Center Conference Hall on October 19-21, 2011.*

I look forward to seeing you in Monroe!



Beth Smith

LATM President

[bethsmith1124@gmail.com](mailto:bethsmith1124@gmail.com)



President Beth Smith has served on the LATM Executive Council since the fall of 2006. For the past 12 years, she taught at the University of Louisiana at Monroe but has returned to the high school classroom this year teaching PreCalculus and Algebra II at Neville High School. She has been married to her husband, Lon, for 24 years. They have two wonderful children. In addition to her activities with LATM, Beth was a founding member of the Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM) and has served on their Board in varying capacities for the past five years.



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# RECOGNITIONS

## 2010 LATM Outstanding Teachers and Finalists

LATM proudly recognizes the following finalists and award winners of its 2010 Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Awards. The recognition ceremony was held Thursday, October 28, 2010, during the NCTM Regional Conference in New Orleans.

### Outstanding Elementary Math Teacher Finalists

**Bianca Deliberto**

Zachary Community, Zachary Elementary

**Angie Griffith**

East Baton Rouge Parish, Westminster Elementary

### Outstanding Elementary Math Teacher

**Tara Soudelier**

Terrebonne Parish, Mulberry Elementary School



### Outstanding Middle School Math Teacher Finalists

**Dianne Greer**

Episcopal of Baton Rouge

**Chad Guillory**

Lafayette Parish, Broussard Middle School

### Outstanding Middle School Math Teacher

**Debra Gilmore**

Bossier Parish, Haughton Middle School

### Outstanding High School Math Teacher Finalists

**Ledenilla Panganiban**

Jefferson Parish, Thomas Jefferson High

**Kem Ferguson**

East Baton Rouge Parish, Woodlawn High School

### Outstanding High School Math Teacher

**Barbara Rourke**

Diocese of Baton Rouge, St. Michael the Archangel



## Quality Science and Math Grant Award Recipients

Congratulations to the 2010-11 Quality Math and Science (QSM) Grant recipients. The QSM Program is funded by the Louisiana Legislature for providing materials to enhance standards-based instruction in K-12 math and science classrooms in public schools. Awards are made annually on a competitive basis to individual teachers. This year 230 teachers representing all eight service regions received grants. A complete list of winners as well as more information about the QSM program may be found at <http://cain.lsu.edu/>. The deadline for the 2011-12 grants is Friday, September 16, 2011.

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# RECOGNITIONS



## Presidential Awards Program

**Pamela Goodner**, Louisiana's 2009 Presidential Awardee for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching, traveled to Washington, DC to be recognized along with the other 2009 Awardees last December. She teaches at Episcopal High School in Baton Rouge.

**Pamela Goodner** (below right) and **Lisa Hartmann**, Louisiana's 2009 Presidential Awardee for Excellence in Science Teaching, pose for a picture at the PAEMST Recognition Ceremony in Washington, D.C. Lisa teaches at Benjamin Franklin High School in New Orleans.



Pamela was also recognized along with **Paige Falcon** (left), Louisiana's 2010 Presidential Award State Finalist, at a fall BESE meeting and honored during the annual PA Luncheon at the Governor's Mansion. The announcement regarding the recipient of the 2010 Presidential Awardee should be received sometime this spring.



## Contributions of Many Make NCTM Regional Conference Outstanding Success

LATM and Affiliates Share Portion of Profits

In deference to NCTM's Southern Regional Conference, held in New Orleans in November, LATM did not hold its 2010 annual conference. Instead, we gave our full support and worked in partnership with NCTM. Several LATM Executive Council members held key leadership roles on the Conference Committee. **Ellen Daugherty** was a Program Co-Chair. Other EC members who served on the Local Arrangements Committee were **Jean May-Brett**, **Sabrina Smith**, and **Joan Albrecht**. Jean and Sabrina were LAC Co-chairs, and Joan served as the Volunteer Coordinator. Also serving on the LAC were **Nell McAnelly**, **Emily Rash**, **Carolyn Sessions**, **Beth Smith**, **Maryanne Smith**, and **Jeffrey Weaver**. Due to their efforts, and especially the Committee Chairs and Volunteer Coordinator, the conference was a tremendous success.

All EC members served in some capacity at the conference. They assisted at the LATM booth and as presiders or floor chairs during the sessions. Those members not previously mentioned are **Suzanne Buras**, **Tonya Evans**, **Penny Gennuso**, **Vicky Hand**, **Jacob Hesselschwardt**, **Kay Kussman**, **Stacey Magee**, **Ellen Marino**, **Pam Martin**, **Cat McKay**, **Kay McInnis**, **DesLey Plaisance**, and **Jean Ware**.

The registration at the New Orleans regional exceeded that of any other NCTM regional held in 2010 with an attendance of over 4,600. For our partnership, LATM receive 12% of the profit which yielded a check for \$88,000. As with each annual conference after covering expenses, the state organization splits the profits with its eight affiliates.

On January 29th, each of LATM's eight affiliates received a check for \$2,890. This check is intended to provide the affiliate with funds to promote professional mathematics experiences for its membership. LATM will use its share to offer travel grants to the annual conference and to support other mathematics activities.

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# NOMINATION OPPORTUNITIES

## 2011 LATM Outstanding Mathematics Teacher

Each year LATM honors outstanding mathematics teachers across our state. This award recognizes teachers at the elementary, middle, secondary and college levels that have shown tremendous dedication to students, continually grow as a professional, and who model and promote standards-based mathematics teaching and learning.

An application for the 2011 LATM Outstanding Teacher Award is now posted under the Awards link of the LATM website ([www.lamath.org](http://www.lamath.org)). Applications are scored on professional experience, professional development activities, professional memberships, essay, and professional references. Nominations are limited to one teacher per school. Applications must be postmarked by May 2, 2011.

Nominees, finalists, and awardees will be recognized in Monroe at the LATM Conference, October 19 - 21, 2011. Finalists receive a one-year membership to LATM and a commemorative plaque. The four awardees will receive a one-year e-membership to NCTM, a \$200 cash award, and a commemorative plaque. All nominees will receive a Teacher-of-the-Year certificate.

## 2011 Presidential Awards Nominations

Nominations for the 2011 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are now being accepted. 2011 is a secondary teacher (7th-12th grade) cycle. Information can be found at [www.paemst.org](http://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 a working e-mail

address is entered for each teacher when the online nomination is made. LATM members are encouraged to nominate outstanding secondary teachers for this award. Teachers may self-nominate. For more information, contact [jean.may-brett@la.gov](mailto:jean.may-brett@la.gov).



*A group of Louisiana Presidential Awardees in science and math were in attendance at the 2010 state recognition ceremony held at the Governor's Mansion in September. Nominations are now being taken for the 2011 award for math and science teachers in grades 7-12.*

## Nominate a High School Senior for Carol Meyer Scholarship Award

Each year the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics awards two \$500.00 scholarship in memory of an outstanding mathematics teacher and fervent worker on our Executive Council, Carol Meyer. These awards are made to a high school senior who have expressed an interest in pursuing a career in mathematics, mathematics education, or elementary education. An application form is provided in this newsletter. If you know an outstanding senior who plans to go into one of the designated careers, please encourage him/her to apply.

*Note:* Application forms were mailed to each high school to the attention of the senior school counselor. High school teachers, please check to determine that forms were received. If not, a copy of can be accessed using the Awards link at [www.lamath.org](http://www.lamath.org). Multiple students from a single school may submit applications if they meet the criteria. The application deadline is March 18, 2011.

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# VICE-PRESIDENTS' CIRCLE

## Teaching the Concept of Elapsed Time

Sabrina Smith  
Elementary Vice-President

The concept of elapsed time is traditionally a difficult concept for elementary students to master, but, ironically, its real world application and relevance is undeniable. So, why do students struggle with this concept?

In *Teaching Student-Centered Mathematics: Grade 3-5* by John A. Van de Walle and LouAnn H. Lovin (Pearson Education, 2006), the authors propose that figuring elapsed time is a multi-step process involving end times, start times, durations of events (elapsed time), and often AM and PM. Considering the various skills and concepts, it is no wonder that students (and teachers) find this difficult.

Included in their Measurement chapter, Van de Walle and Lovin explore the use of a time line to teach elapsed time. This model for elapsed time problems, which can be sketched by students, provides a systematic way of keeping track of time intervals. This simple sketch helps students "count" the intervals and is useful with any type of elapsed time problem.

For samples of student sketches of time lines and other resources for educators, refer to the above-referenced book.

## Graph 4.3

Penny Gennuso  
High School Vice-President

I create many benchmark exams for Algebra I and Geometry in my district. I use the free version of **Graph 4.3** which allows the creation of a graph of a function on a coordinate system which can easily be pasted into another program or document. The graph can also be used with an interactive board which can bring a graph to life for students. It is also possible to do some mathematical calculations on the functions. You can find this open source application at [www.padowan.dk](http://www.padowan.dk).

## Guides and Travelers

Jeffrey Weaver  
College Vice-President



Mathematics is the language that was used to write the very nature of the universe and we as teachers of mathematics are those responsible to teach this language and its purpose to the rest of the civilization. I have had the pleasure of teaching mathematics for almost a quarter of a century and I would choose to do it again if given the chance. I have tried to create an environment of discovery and inquiry that stimulates my learners to want to find the answers on their own with help and guidance.

As we teach our learners the very fabric of this universe, we should treat our efforts as if we were going on a journey and we are the guides, the facilitators of the trip. Teachers need to see

that the journey of the learner is much like a continuous river and the learner is meant to “paddle” their way in that river as we point out to them where they should go.

Each “guide” should see that their “travelers” complete their distance on the river so that there is no gap and there is only clarity as to the next destination. We are all responsible for each and every moment on that river and we hope that if we guide them well, we can create a desire to continue downstream without us for the rest of their lives.

Regardless of the tools we are giving (GLEs, Comprehensive Curriculums, Common Core State Standards, etc), we are the architects of the structure of the learning process and only through our willingness and dedication can we provide the map that will send our students downstream.

As a part of your willingness and dedication to your profession, I encourage you to become an ACTIVE member in professional organizations that provide each of us access to the world of colleagues and research outside of our own teaching environments. The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (LATM) is just one of many organizations dedicated to help strengthen your professional skills and teaching strategies. No matter how strong a teacher is, there is always more to learn and more to master. As teachers, we must be advocates of lifelong learning and we are not exempted from the need to learn more.

## Menu Math

Kay McInnis  
Middle School Vice-President

Old restaurant menus make a great teaching tool. Restaurants frequently update their menus, all you have to do is ask and most will gladly give you a set to use in your classroom. Use them to plan activities that cover several GLEs while really engaging your students. Here is an example activity based on an old Chili's menu. This activity was used in a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math class (GLEs 5, 6, and 7), but can be adjusted for 6<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mrs. Schinetsky, Ms. Yarborough, Ms. Gunter, Mrs. Bier and Mr. Soto are going out to dinner to celebrate Ms. Yarborough's birthday. For starters, they will order Stuffed Jalapeno Peppers and Chicken Nachos with Guacamole. Mr. Soto will order the Solano Strip Steak. Mrs. Schinetsky likes the Dinner Salad and Caliente Catfish. Mrs. Gunter and Ms. Bier will share a full order of Cadillac Fajitas. Ms. Yarborough loves burgers. She wants the Oldtimer. They will all order a coke to drink. For dessert they will share Strawberry Cheesecake, Hi and Mighty Ice Cream Pie, and Southwest Sling.

- A. How much will their bill be before tax and tip?
- B. If they want to leave a 20% tip, how much extra should they pay? (Hint: multiply the amount of the bill times 0.2)
- C. If Mrs. Schinetsky, Mrs. Bier, Mr. Soto, and Ms. Gunter split the bill evenly, how much will each person pay? (Not including tax or tip)
- D. If they give the waitress a \$100 bill, how much change should they receive? (Not including tax or tip)

Early Finishers: Make a list of the items you would order. You may only order items with prices. Calculate how much your bill would be and then figure out your bill including a 20% tip.

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## AFFILIATE NEWS

### Acadiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ACTM)

ACTM is sponsoring a three day math retreat June 7-9. The focus is on developing problem solving skills for middle and high school teachers. One PhD and three instructors from the University of Louisiana Lafayette will facilitate. Meetings will be held each day at the Vermilion Training Center from 8:30 until 3:00. Lunch will be provided. Any and all teachers who are interested may register by e-mailing [cmckay7930@earthlink.net](mailto:cmckay7930@earthlink.net). There is no charge and documentation for CLUs will be provided.

### Baton Rouge Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics (BRACTM)

The Baton Rouge Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics held its annual mini-conference at the University Lab School on February 12. The theme was "Math from Head to Toe." Sessions were provided for preschool through high school teachers of mathematics. We will begin to plan next year's conference soon and release the date as soon as possible.

BRACTM will hold its next meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, behind Woman's Hospital on Goodwood Boulevard. Please make plans to join us from 5-6:30 p.m. on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Refreshments will be provided. This meeting will be a good opportunity to learn new ideas to use with next year's class. You might even win a door prize!

Contact Shannon Hannaman via e-mail at [shannama@lsu.edu](mailto:shannama@lsu.edu) for further information regarding BRACTM membership or meetings.



*Project AIM teachers from the Baton Rouge area participate in an outdoor measurement activity.*

### Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics (GNOTM)

The Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics hosted its annual conference on January 29 at the Pan American Life Building in New Orleans. This year's theme was *Making Mathematical Connections*. Karla Russo, a math strategist in Jefferson Parish, gave participants an introduction and timeline for the state's implementation of the Common Core State Standards. Thirty-six presenters and co-presenters engaged the 145 participants with rich mathematical content connections. A great time was had by all!

GNOTM is in the planning stages of its Spring Teacher Recognition Reception. The reception usually takes place in May. It allows GNOTM to help principals recognize outstanding teachers of mathematics.

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## **Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM)**

NELATM will hold its 5th Annual Mini-Conference on February 26th, 2011, on the University of Louisiana at Monroe campus. Over 280 educators/pre-service teachers are expected to participate in 30 sessions with 29 different presenters.

Lacy Caime is the invited guest presenter. Participants will enjoy her enthusiasm for teaching hands-on mathematics. She is a great inspirational speaker.

Exhibitors requested space and we have been able to accommodate them. We know that teachers will welcome this new addition to the Mini-Conference. We hope to expand this area next year.

A special thank you to all who helped plan the mini-conference and to those who will present.

We always need more educators to volunteer for NELATM duties. If you would like to become an active member on the Executive Board or work on the Mini-Conference Committee, please call Kathie Smart (318-342-3337) or Pam Martin (318) 342-1921.

Check our website ([www.nelatm.org](http://www.nelatm.org)) for our updated calendar.

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## **Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association (NLMA)**

The Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association's Winter Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon at Louisiana State University in Shreveport. The conference theme is *NLMA 2011: March Math Madness*. The keynote speaker is Dr. Fairest Hill, international motivational speaker and recording artist.

For more information e-mail [tevans@caddo.k12.la.us](mailto:tevans@caddo.k12.la.us)

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## **Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM)**

The Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics held its winter meeting on Friday, January 21, 2011, at the Vermillion Conference Center in Lafayette, Louisiana from 10:00 – 1:00. Major topics of discussion were STEM - Dr. Guillermo Ferreyra, Update on Common Core Standards - Carolyn Sessions, and Presidential Awards - Jean May-Brett. The next meeting will be in Alexandria in May.

LCSM members will assist with the Registration Booth for the upcoming LATM Conference in Monroe on October 19-21, 2011.

For more information on joining LCSM, contact one of the officers listed below:

- President, Sabrina Smith– Jefferson Parish Schools
- Vice President, Michelle Blouin-Williams – Jefferson Parish Schools
- Secretary, Stacey Magee – St. Tammany Parish Schools
- Treasurer, Jean Ware – Retired Math Educator (Caddo Parish Schools)
- LATM Representative, Emily Rash – Monroe City Schools
- NCTM Representative, DesLey Plaisance – Nicholls State University

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## SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)

SEATM is planning its Spring Teacher Recognition Dinner. All members are invited. It will be held Tuesday, April 5th at Casa Garcia in Mandeville from 6:00 p.m. to 8 p.m. All teachers in Tangipahoa, Washington, and St. Tammany parishes who achieved National Board Certification this year, LATM Math Teachers of the Year, Presidential Awardee finalists, PTA Educators of Distinction, and individual schools' Teachers of the Year will be invited to the dinner meeting and will be recognized with a SEATM certificate, dinner, and a "Star Teacher" t-shirt.

A Math Common Core State Standards Awareness meeting is being planned for the spring.

Information about the Carol Meyer Teacher Mini-Grant, travel grants for the 2011 LATM Math Conference in Monroe, and other organizational information is available on our website at <http://seatm.org/>.

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## Southwest Louisiana Teachers of Mathematics (SWLTM)

A mini-conference for Southwest Louisiana math teachers was held on February 19th at Lake Charles Boston Academy in Lake Charles. Math teachers from around the region shared ideas which have successfully inspired students in the classroom. The conference concluded with a short business meeting with the election of new officers.

The organization also accepted mini-grants from area teachers. The deadline for submitting these was January 14, 2011. The recipients were announced at the mini-conference. Congratulations to those who received the money!

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## YOUR LATM JOURNAL

The *LATM Journal* is a peer-reviewed, online publication. 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? Publish your idea in the *LATM Journal*. Submission information can be found in the latest issue and through a link on the LATM webpage. If you have any questions or suggestions, the *LATM Journal* contact is Dr. DesLey Plaisance ([desley.plaisance@nicholls.edu](mailto:desley.plaisance@nicholls.edu)).

The newest issue (Volume 7) of the *LATM Journal* can be accessed via a link on the LATM homepage (<http://lamath.org/>). In this volume, you can read articles on fractions, area/perimeter, and "closing the achievement gap" as well as an update from Louisiana's new STEM chief, **Dr. Guillermo Ferreyra**.

Past issues of the *LATM Journal* are available via a link in the upper right hand corner of the LATM home page.



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# UPCOMING STUDENT EVENTS

## Louisiana State Science and Engineering Fair

LSU

March 22<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>

<http://www.outreach.lsu.edu/Sciencefair/default.asp?Home=1>

There are two divisions for the fairs: Junior Division for projects by students in grades 6-8, and Senior Division for grades 9-12. LATM sponsors cash awards for a first, second, and third place mathematics project in both the junior and senior divisions of the LSEF.

For students the road to the Louisiana Science and Engineering Fair (LSEF) starts with school science fairs all around the state. Students compete to advance from their school-level fairs to a regional/district fair, and then to the Louisiana state event. Top Senior Division winners from around the state have the opportunity to take part in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) to be held in Los Angeles, California May 8-13, 2011.

### 2011 LSEF Schedule

<b>Junior Division (6-8)</b>	Set Up & Inspection	6-9pm, Tuesday, March 22
	Judging & Awards	8am-4:30pm, Wednesday, March 23
<b>Senior Division (9-12)</b>	Set Up & Inspection	6-9pm, Wednesday, March 23
	Judging & Awards	8am-4:30pm, Thursday, March 24

## Louisiana Mu Alpha Theta

Baton Rouge Crowne Plaza Hotel

March 24-26, 2011



Louisiana Mu Alpha Theta (LaMA $\Theta$ ) is the state chapter of the national Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society. LaMA $\Theta$  runs a three-day math tournament for high school students each spring, with tests on subjects from geometry to calculus to the history of math. The competition is loosely structured on the national Mu Alpha Theta convention and regularly attracts several hundred participants.

Additional information, including competition rules and previous tests, can be found at <http://lamao.org/information.asp>.

## LSMSA Annual Math Competition

May 5, 2011

All activities will take place in LSMSA's classrooms, gymnasium, auditorium, and its new Center for Performance and Technology. The contest will consist of individual and team competitions. Eligible students should be in the ninth grade or below and may not be enrolled in or have already taken Algebra II or any higher *mathematics course*. Each school may bring a maximum of 12 students.

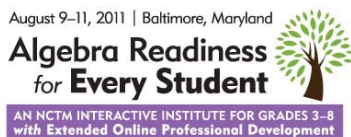
The exercises on each contest will come from Algebra, Geometry, and other areas of mathematics, and not from any specific curriculum. The questions will be designed to challenge students to draw from their knowledge of mathematics, to think, to synthesize concepts, and to solve problems. Teams should be registered prior to April 8th.

[Registration Form for 14th Annual Math Competition](#)

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# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## 3–8 Institute



This full year of learning is a \$1,400 VALUE for the low rate of **\$375** for NCTM members, with discounts available for groups of three or more. Your registration includes 3 full days of face-face professional development followed by 6 modules of online learning throughout the school year, including online interactive workshops, seminars, and facilitated discussion groups. Registration opens in February so mark your calendars. Use this link below to get more details!

<http://www.nctm.org/profdev/content.aspx?id=27438>

## 2011 Annual Meeting



With more than 650 presentations covering hot topics like **Differentiated Instruction**, **Common Core Standards**, **Intervention**, **Technology**, and more, this meeting has something for everyone. Plus you'll get to explore one of the most tourist-friendly metropolises—named one of "America's most walkable downtowns." You'll find surprises around every corner in Indianapolis. Register by March 4 and receive 25% off. For more information, go to <http://www.nctm.org/conferences/content.aspx?id=25947>.

## NCTM 2011 Regional Conferences & Expositions



Advance and enhance your professional skills, knowledge, and career. With **more than 200 sessions and workshops** to choose from, NCTM Regional Conferences offer so much to help you move in the right direction. Take the time to invest in yourself; plan for the future and make 2011 a rewarding year for YOU!

**Atlantic City, New Jersey—October 19–21**  
**St. Louis, Missouri—October 26–28**  
**Albuquerque, New Mexico—November 2–4**

## NCTM Membership

NCTM membership connects you with one-of-a-kind exclusive resources and mathematics education expertise, the support of a network of 90,000 people who care about mathematics education, and the ongoing effort to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics.

If you are not already enjoying the many benefits of NCTM membership, we invite you to learn what membership offers you and encourage you to join today! (**Be sure to choose LATM as your affiliated group so that we get credit.**)

<http://www.nctm.org/membership/default.aspx?id=56>

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# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## 2011 LATM Conference

You are invited to join over 1000 mathematics educators in Monroe on **October 19-21, 2011**, for the LATM annual conference. Sessions will be held at the Monroe Civic Center Conference Hall, where there is free parking each day. Registration will be held at the Monroe Civic Center Arena beginning at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Extended sessions will be held on **Wednesday, October 19**, and require advanced reservations. That evening, the Exhibitors' Showcase will begin at 5:00 PM in the Civic Center Arena with the Exhibitors' Reception starting at 6:00 PM at the same location. Both the Showcase and the Reception are free to all registrants. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to browse through the most up-to-date educational items, socialize with colleagues, and have some great appetizers as well.

The regular conference begins at 8:00 Thursday morning and continues until just after noon on Friday. You can choose from a vast number of motivating and informative one-hour sessions to attend over that time span and still get home for those Friday night activities. Remember, all one-hour sessions are held on a first-come, first-served basis.

Are you interested in presenting at the conference? Be sure to check the LATM website ([www.lamath.org](http://www.lamath.org)). Presentation proposal forms for extended sessions and one-hour sessions will be available in early April.

We look forward to seeing you in October in Monroe!



## 2012 Joint Math and Science Conference



The LATM and LSTA Executive Councils have agreed to hold their third joint conference. Based on the outstanding success and fabulous evaluations of the 2006 and 2009 joint conferences the 2012 event will again be held in Shreveport, November 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The conference will return to a Monday through Wednesday program. This arrangement allows the participants to take advantage of reduced hotel rates and keeps Fridays open for teachers, particularly those at the high school level who have duty assignments for school sporting events and programs.

## Marathon High School Teacher Engineering Awareness Program

*"Learn how to infuse engineering into your class through active-learning strategies, problem-solving and critical thinking skills for your students!" Earn a \$1,000 stipend, \$200 in materials and MORE!!!*

**June 6-10, 2011 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

Applications must be submitted by a pair of certified science and math teachers from the same high school. Activities are correlated to the Louisiana GLEs and guaranteed to charge up your classroom! Interested? Go to [www.cain.lsu.edu](http://www.cain.lsu.edu) to apply or download the application at [www.eng.lsu.edu/diversity/precollege/hsteap](http://www.eng.lsu.edu/diversity/precollege/hsteap). APPLICATION DEADLINE: **March 31, 2011**

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# LA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UPDATE

**Common Core Standards Implementation** - Plans for the implementation of the Common Core State Standards are still being developed. During this spring 2010, the department will create a crosswalk aligning CCSS with current standards and GLEs. A Grade-Level Content Comparison (GLEs to CCSS) will be developed for each grade identifying what content will remain the same, what will be new, and what will be dropped. Information (awareness) sessions for district-level staff will begin once those documents are ready. During these sessions, the Department plans to share the crosswalks and Grade-Level Content Comparisons. A plan to transition from current standards to CCSS starting in 2012-13 will be developed and then presented to a committee of educators for input. The transition plan will identify CCSS standards that can be integrated in to the current curriculum during the transition period. The ELA and math Comprehensive Curriculum documents will be revised to align with CCSS in 2011-12. Full implementation of CCSS is to occur in grades PreK through 1 in 2012-13, grade 2 in 2013-14, and other grades and high school courses in 2014-15. New assessments based on CCSS will be implemented in 2014-15 as well.

**Standards for Mathematical Practice** - Although the transition to the CCSS will occur over a span of two years, the CCSS also include standards that specifically address mathematical practices. The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe what mathematics educators should attempt to develop in all of their students. These practices are closely aligned with the NCTM process standards. Consequently, each description of the Standards for Mathematical Practice begins with the phrase, "Mathematically proficient students....."

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

A detailed description of each of these mathematical practice standards can be found on the website [www.corestandards.org/the-standards](http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards). The Standards for Mathematical Practice can be used with any set of standards and therefore integrated immediately into our current curricula. National groups are working to provide materials to assist teachers with their understanding of these standards and what they look like when implemented in the classrooms.

**PARCC Common Assessments** - Louisiana is a governing state in the Partnership for Assessment of College and Career Readiness (PARCC) consortium. States in the Partnership are committed to building their collective capacity to increase the rates at which students graduate from high school prepared for success in college and the workplace. This consortium is currently working on an assessment design system to correlate to the CCSS. Although final decisions on assessments have not been made yet, below are the ideas that have been discussed.

- The through-course component will be administered after approximately 25 percent, 50 percent, and 75 percent of instruction.
- An end-of-year component will be administered after approximately 90 percent of instruction; results will be turned around quickly so as to be able to be included in course grades.

- An overall assessment system will include a mix of constructed response items, performance tasks, and computer-enhanced, computer-scored items.
- Assessments for grades 6-12 will be administered via computer while grades 3-5 will be administered via paper and pencil (in the short term).
- Combination of artificial intelligence (AI) and human scoring will be employed; states will individually determine the extent to which teachers will be involved in scoring.

**Elementary Math Specialist Certification** – Requirements for obtaining Elementary Math Specialist certification were submitted to BESE in January. If approved by BESE in February, the certification will go into effect in the fall of 2011. The *Standards for Elementary Math Specialists: A Reference for Teacher Credentialing and Degree Programs*, developed by the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) in June 2010, outline the graduate course requirements of the certification. The descriptions of required courses can be found on pages 3-8 of the AMTE standards at [http://www.amte.net/AMTE\\_legacy/EMS%20Standards\\_FinalColor.pdf](http://www.amte.net/AMTE_legacy/EMS%20Standards_FinalColor.pdf).



Kim Melancon joined the Louisiana Department of Education staff as Mathematics Program Coordinator in December 2010 and now is the LDE Representative on the LATM Executive Council. Kim has served as a high school math teacher, TAP Master Teacher, and Assistant Principal in Ascension Parish. She is a National Board Certified Teacher and was the recipient of the 2000 Louisiana Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching. Kim has served on numerous committees at the state level and is the author of the Algebra I Comprehensive Curriculum. She and her husband have four children (two sets of twins!) and are new grandparents.



## TEACHERS' TECHNOLOGY CORNER

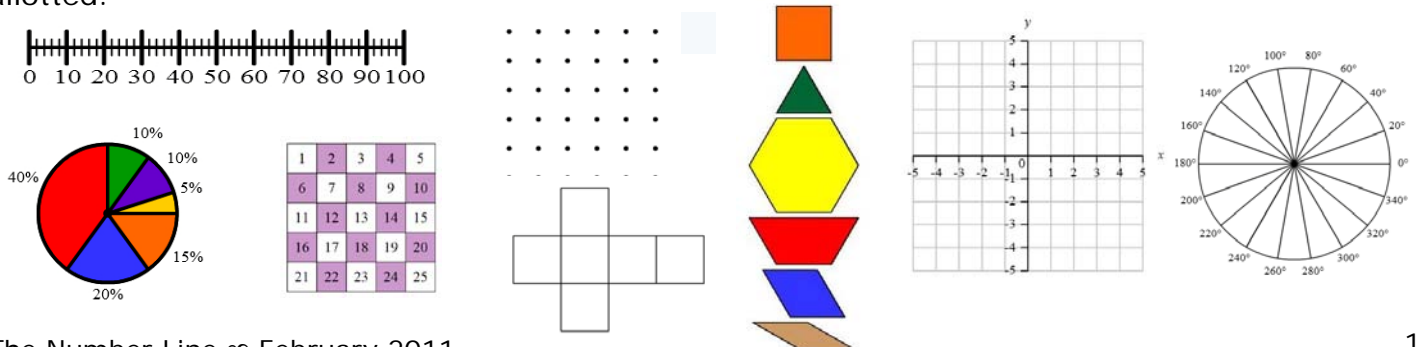
### Microsoft Mathematics 4.0

(<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.aspx?FamilyID=9CACA722-5235-401C-8D3F-9E242B794C3A>)

Microsoft Mathematics provides a graphing calculator that plots in 2D and 3D, step-by-step equation solving, and useful tools to help students with math and science studies. Additional math tools help you evaluate triangles, convert from one system of units to another, and solve systems of equations.

### Dynamic Paper from NCTM's Illuminations

This resource allows for custom design of a variety of math related images. These images can then be downloaded and printed. The images can also be saved and pasted into Word documents and used as needed. Dynamic Paper can be found under the *Activities* tab at [illuminations.nctm.org](http://illuminations.nctm.org). The images below were made with this tool and reduced to fit the space allotted.



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