

THE NUMBER LINE

May 2011

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.

Hyperlinks in the Table of Contents may be used to quickly access specific articles.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I know it sounds cliché, but this year really appears to have flown by. It seems like it was only a few weeks ago that we were enjoying the NCTM Regional Conference in New Orleans. And now the LATM 2011 Conference in Monroe is just around the corner where we will focus on **Learning, Applying, and Teaching Mathematics**. Save the dates: October 19 – 21, 2011.



To help you with expenses for attending the conference, LATM will be offering ten, \$300 travel grants this year. Our summer mail-out will have details about the travel grants, the LATM travel grant application forms, conference registration forms, and hotel information. I hope to see you all in Monroe in the fall.

October will be here before you know it. That means it's time for you to get ready to present! The conference committee is now accepting proposals for **Extended Sessions (due June 1)** and **Regular One Hour Sessions (due June 30)** for the 2011 LATM Conference. Consider sharing your experiences, discoveries, or creations with other teachers by presenting at our fall conference. Scared to present? Ask a colleague to co-present with you. The proposal form, submitted online, is quick and easy to complete. Links to the online form are provided in the 2011 Conference Information section of this newsletter.

I am proud to announce that LATM has once again donated \$1000 to the NCTM Mathematics Education Trust (MET) Foundation. Ellen Daugherty, LATM's NCTM Representative, presented our donation at the President's Breakfast at the 2011 NCTM Conference in Indianapolis this month. MET "provides funds to support classroom teachers in improving classroom practices and increasing teachers' mathematical knowledge." MET grants are also offered for prospective teachers and NCTM's Affiliates. [Clicking here](#) will take you to the various grant funding opportunities provided by MET. Consider applying for one of these grants.

Please remember to check the LATM website on a regular basis. You will find current information that is updated frequently. The website is <http://lamath.org>.

Thank you for all you do to support mathematics education in our state.



Beth Smith

bethsmith1124@gmail.com



Tonya Evans has served on the LATM Executive Council for the past six years. She has worked in the Caddo Parish Public Schools for nearly 30 years in various positions from classroom teacher, K-3 Master Teacher, Coordinator, and Mathematics Supervisor. For the past five years, she has served as the K-12 Mathematics Supervisor for the Title I schools. She has been married for 31 years and has three wonderful children. Tonya has served on the board of the Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association (NLMA) for the past seven years, serving as president for the last six years. In addition, she serves on Executive Board of the Louisiana School Supervisors Association representing Region 7.

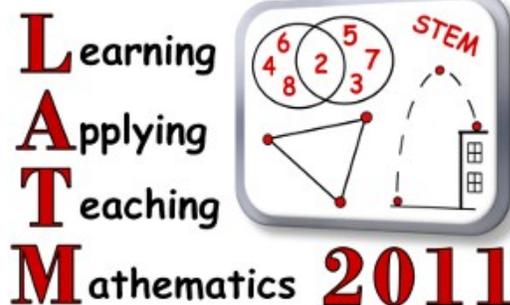


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2011 LATM Conference

Make Plans to Join Us!

2011 LATM Conference
October 19-21, 2011
Monroe Civic and Convention Center
Monroe, LA



Plans are underway for the 2011 LATM Conference in Monroe, LA. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 19 – Friday, October 21, 2011. This conference promises to be a wonderful professional development experience of **Learning, Applying, and Teaching Mathematics**.

One hour presentation proposals as well as extended session proposals are now being accepted online. **All proposals must be submitted online using the appropriate link below.** Please consider sharing your classroom experiences and professional knowledge by being a presenter.

Extended Session proposals (otherwise known as Short Courses and Field Trips) are due by June 1, 2011. Presenters may submit a proposal for a 3 hour or a 6 hour session on Wednesday, October 19, 2011. Computer labs are available for technology sessions. Lead presenters will be given a reduced registration rate. All submissions must be made online. Visit the LATM website (<http://www.lamath.org>) or [Click Here to Submit an Extended Session Proposal](#). For questions regarding the submission process, please contact Joan Albrecht at joan.albrecht@jppss.k12.la.us.

Regular One Hour Sessions Proposals are due by June 30, 2011. Lead presenters will be given a reduced registration rate. All submissions must be made online. Visit the LATM website (<http://www.lamath.org>) or [Click Here to Submit a Regular One Hour Session Proposal](#). For questions regarding the submission process, please e-mail Jeffrey Weaver at weaverj@mybrcc.edu.

With the exception of extended sessions that require a computer lab, presenters must provide all equipment (computers, LCD panels, Internet access, and other items) needed for the presentation. A special registration form will be sent to the lead presenter upon acceptance of the proposal. Co-presenters must also register for the conference.

Look for registration and hotel information in your July Pre-Conference mail-out. This information will also be available on the LATM website (<http://lamath.org>) in July.



Ellen Daugherty currently serves as the K-2 Literacy Coach at the LSU Laboratory School in Baton Rouge and has been on staff there for the past 7 years. Prior to this position, Ellen taught in East Baton Rouge Parish as a first grade teacher and Reading Recovery teacher. She has served on the LATM Executive Council for the past 4 years; first as the affiliate representative for BRACM and now as the NCTM representative. In the past, Ellen has served as the President for BRACM and also co-chaired the 2010 NCTM New Orleans Regional Conference. Although her current position is in the field of literacy, she continues to pursue her interests in mathematics by attending various math conferences throughout the year and sharing new knowledge gained with her colleagues.



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PAST PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

The Four Fours

Maryanne Smith
Past-President

One of my favorite activities to do with students - no matter the age - is *The Four Fours*. As I present the activity, I tell the students about a very wise mathematician who once lived in and traveled throughout the Middle East. According to this man, "the four fours are a wonder of calculus: using four fours, we can get any number whatsoever."

Do you want to get zero? Nothing could be simpler. Just write: $44 - 44$.

I go over all of the rules with the students.

- *You may only use the digit **4***
- *You must use the digit four times.*
- *You may use any mathematical symbol*
- *You must always consider the Order of Operations*
- *You should write the equation in the simplest format.*
- *Keep in mind, if you use an exponent, it may only be a 4 (that will count as one of your fours)*

I provide the students with a table on which to record their responses: 0-99. There is also a large table posted on the wall in the classroom. To get a student response listed on the classroom wall, there are rules for this.

- You may choose the number you present, as long as it is not already posted.
- You must present to the whole class and get their approval. (They will be verifying that is indeed a correct equation for the given number.)

This activity was used with sixth graders and is a wonderful way to introduce factorials.

PAEMST

Congratulations to Paige Falcon (right) from Terrytown Elementary in Jefferson Parish who was named on April 28, 2011, by the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching program as the Louisiana 2010 Awardee for Mathematics Teaching.



Sincere thanks to Presidential Awardees Suzanne Buras (2006), Pam Goodner (2009), Mary Lou Jumonville (2003), Ellen Marino (1996), Kim Melancon (2007), and Debra Reynolds (2008) who served as mentors to several of the 2011 nominees. The state selection panel will convene to view 2011 applications in the coming weeks.

Nominations for the 2012 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) will be accepted later this year. Use the nomination link at www.paemst.org to nominate outstanding math teachers in grades K-6. Nominees will be notified by e-mail of their nomination; therefore, it is necessary that a working e-mail address be provided when the nomination is made. Teachers may self-nominate. For more information, contact jean.may-brett@la.gov.

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LATM Board members meet in Monroe on March 25, 2011, to plan the 2012 Annual Conference.

Left: Clockwise from left are Kay Kussman, SWLTM rep; Kim Melancon, LDE rep; Stacey Magee, secretary; Kay McInnis, Middle School VP; and Jeffrey Weaver, College VP.



Above: Emily Rash, LCSM rep, and President Beth Smith review a committee report.

VICE-PRESIDENTS' CIRCLE

***Illuminations*: Resources for Teaching Mathematics**

Sabrina Smith
Elementary Vice-President

There is not likely another profession in which colleagues share ideas and resources as educators do! And, now with the accessibility of the Internet, the availability of teacher and student resources is practically endless. LATM is an affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), which is the world's largest organization dedicated to improving mathematics education in PreK-12. One of the services offered by NCTM is the vast variety of resources acquired for mathematics teachers. One of the most widely used resources is the ***Illuminations*** site (<http://illuminations.nctm.org>). This site provides standards-based resources that improve the teaching and learning of mathematics for all students and provides materials that "illuminate" the vision for school mathematics, as established by NCTM. On this site educators will find 106 online activities and 605 lesson plans that include effective questioning, assessment options, and extensions of activities that can be used for differentiation. Additionally, there are web links that offer 724 math resources for teachers and students.

With the challenge of meeting the diverse needs of today's students, it is imperative to provide students with activities and tasks that engage them in the mathematics that is important for them to learn. Resources such as ***Illuminations*** offer teachers easily accessible activities that support the NCTM standards.

Math Learning Stations

Kay McInnis
Middle School Vice-President

Math Learning Stations can easily be implemented into any classroom. They are a great way to meet the needs of diverse learners and encourage communication and collaboration. They allow the teacher time to work with small groups or individuals on targeted skills. A Math Learning Station is simply a set of directions and materials that students can take to any location in the room to complete. Stations can include activities for remediation, reinforcement and enrichment. For additional information on how to successfully implement learning stations and see examples that have been used in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade classrooms visit <http://mathlearningstations.wikispaces.com>.

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Being a Math Teacher

Jeffrey Weaver
College Vice-President

The art of teaching mathematics is based on two separate levels of understanding. One level is understanding the procedures and processes of problem solving and the other level is the conceptual understanding of why it works that way and what you have when you get your result.

Procedural knowledge and conceptual knowledge are both essential to truly understanding mathematics. To this end, it is important in my philosophy that an instructor of mathematical discourse be a M.A.T.H. teacher. A M.A.T.H. teacher is someone who presents four aspects of the world of mathematics to their students and gives the students the opportunity to see the mathematics in each of these characteristics:

M is for Meaning. The student must not only understand the process but must understand what the result means. Definitions should be clear and connected to each other. If a formula is used to solve a problem, then the origin of the formula should be derived for the student to understand where it comes from. A formula often appears to our students as having no relevance and is often forgotten because it lacks significance. Students should be given a reason for everything we do in the mathematics classroom.

A is for Application. No matter the topic covered, it is essential to connect the content with the “real world”. The student should be able to connect the ideas to an event or moment and be able to state where the mathematics is used. A teacher should make the pact with their students that any content taught in the undergraduate curriculum should be “applied to the real world” or should be removed from study. A small percentage of our students will be mathematicians and most will not share the same level of appreciation for mathematics for its own sake. Connect the concept or do not cover the content is a simple statement.

T is for Thinking. There is no subject that promotes the exercise of our critical thinking more than mathematics. In our daily lives, convenience and automation remove many of our opportunities to practice critical thinking. In a mathematics course, we establish procedures to solve equations, simplify and/or evaluate expressions, and perform other tasks. Promote the thinking of your students by supporting all part of the process with stated reasons for each step. Annotating the process with statements of reason as one does with geometric proof may assist the student in being able to see the logical progression in a problem opportunity. Whenever possible, the student should then look back to see what happened to be reminded of the steps until such time that reminders are no longer needed. Another thing to help promote critical thinking is to make use of nonstandard problem solving activities to promote thought at different levels. There exist all kinds of challenging problems that require little background knowledge but help to strengthen their problem solving skills.

And finally, **H is for History.** Whenever possible, the student should be given the information of “who developed the concept?”, “where are they from?”, “how did they come to this discovery?”, “why did they need this?”, and “when did it happen?” By putting this into context, the student will see that the content is a part of a very rich history and it will seem less mysterious. More students would listen to your description of the mathematics if it were wrapped up and delivered in a story.

Mathematics should be a complete and total experience for our students. These four aspects of mathematics offer the student the opportunity to increase their understanding and their success.

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AFFILIATE NEWS

Acadiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ACTM)

ACTM is sponsoring a 3-day math retreat on June 6-8, 2011 at the Vermilion Training Center in Lafayette. Developing Problem Solving Skills is the focus of the retreat which starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Those interested in attending should contact Cat McKay at cmckay7930@earthlink.net.

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

The next BRAC TM membership meeting will be held Monday, May 2, 2011, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Good "summer" reads (recommended math curriculum books) will be discussed allowing teachers to make good use of their limited summer time. We will also nominate and elect officers, including a new LATM representative, for the 2011-2012 school year. Committee BRAC TM members who have attended all sessions will have an opportunity to be rewarded with classroom supply money in the amount of \$200. Winners will be chosen at random from a list of those who have attended each meeting during the 2010-2011 academic year. The membership meeting will be held at St. Luke's on Goodwood Boulevard from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Contact Shannon Hannaman via e-mail at shannama@lsu.edu for further information regarding BRAC TM membership or meetings.

Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics (GNOTM)

GNOTM will host a Teacher Reception on May 10 at Smilies Restaurant in Harahan. GNOTM is proud to partner with principals to honor deserving teachers.

Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM)

NELATM hosted a successful 5th Annual Mini-Conference on February 26, 2011. Thanks to the University of Louisiana at Monroe for allowing the association to use the Airway/Computer Science building for this annual event. Special thanks to all who helped with planning and presenting at this year's Mini-Conference.

Over 300 educators/pre-service teachers attended 32 sessions with 29 different presenters. Conference organizers would like to thank presenters for sharing their teaching expertise and enthusiasm for teaching with others. Thanks also to Lacy Caime for serving as the invited guest presenter. Conference participants were able to enjoy and appreciate Lacy's enthusiasm for teaching hands-on mathematics. She was a great inspiration to those in attendance.

The next NELATM meeting will be held May 10, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting location will be announced via e-mail to current members.

NELATM is always looking for 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. www.nelatm.org



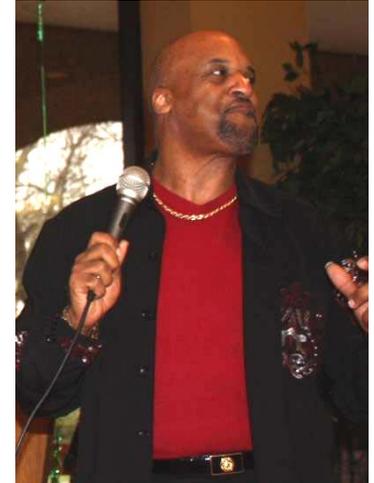
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Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association (NLMA)

The Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association's Winter Conference, *March Math Madness*, held on March 5, 2011, was a great success! Over 300 teachers were in attendance. The keynote speaker was Dr. Fairest Hill, international motivational speaker, author and recording artist. The Champions for Education awards were presented to Ms. E. Jean Ware and Dr. David Thomas for their contributions to mathematics education. For more information e-mail tevans@caddo.k12.la.us



Left: Jean Ware and Dave Thomas receive the Champions of Education award from Tonya Evans, president of NLMA.



Right: Dr. Fairest Hill motivates Math March Madness attendees.



Northwest Board members are all smiles after a successful mini-conference.

Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM)

Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM) will hold its spring membership meeting at the Rapides Parish Learning Center in Alexandria on Thursday, May 5. The address is 1410 Neel Kearby Boulevard, Alexandria, LA. Beth Cocuzza from Student Achievement Partners in New York will speak on the Common Core State Standards. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be served.

SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)

SEATM's spring dinner meeting recognizing teachers who have made a difference was held Tuesday, April 5th. All teachers in the SEATM parishes who achieved National Board Certification this year, PTA Educators of Distinction and individual schools' Teachers of the Year were invited to the dinner meeting and were recognized with a SEATM Certificate and an "Award Winning Teacher" t-shirt. The board will be meeting soon to plan for next school year. Check out our website at SEATM.org.

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LATM JOURNAL

Contribute to Your LATM Journal

Do you have an innovative teaching idea that you think other teachers could benefit from in their classroom? For example, do you have a way of teaching "comparison of fractions" that provides for student understanding of that concept and not just manipulation of numbers? Have you been using this method and know how well it works? Or, do you conduct professional development and have a great strategy for demonstrating to teachers how to teach the quadratic formula? Great teaching strategies should be shared. Maybe you have conducted a mathematics education study and have some results to share? Share your knowledge! Write an article. Submission information can be found through a link on the LATM webpage at <http://www.lamath.org/>. If you have any questions or suggestions, the *LATM Journal* contact editor is Dr. DesLey V. Plaisance (desley.plaisance@nicholls.edu).



Have you read the most recent *LATM Journal*? You can find the current volume online at <http://www.lamath.org/LATMJournalVolume72011.pdf>. Be sure to check out Volume 7. Read articles on fractions, area/perimeter, and "closing the achievement gap." Read an update from Louisiana's new STEM chief officer, Dr. Guillermo Ferreyra. You can also read the past issues of the *LATM Journal* (<http://www2.selu.edu/orgs/LATM/>).

TEACHERS' TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Backpack Designer Relies on Measurement & Geometry

An essential part of any student's gear is a good backpack. But have your students ever stopped to think about who designs them and how? Introduce them to Columbia Sportswear Designer Chris Araujo. Whether he's measuring the shoulder straps for comfort, calculating the backpack's volume, or designing the shape of the front pouch, math is critical to a good design. Watch the movie and download the classroom activity here: http://www.thefutureschannel.com/dockets/realworld/designing_backpacks/

Provide these to parents for children's summer activities – for home or at the library!

Linear Measurement: Students go online to practice measuring the length of items with a virtual ruler. <http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/de/math1-3/virtual%20manipulatives/OLCruLer.html>

Online Tangram Game: <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games/area/area.html>

Cyberchase Games Central: <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games.html>



Maryanne Smith was first involved with the LATM Executive Council in 2006 as the representative for SEATM, where she served as President. She is currently Past-President having held positions of President-Elect and President of LATM. Maryanne is a National Board Certified Teacher in Early Adolescence Mathematics and recently submitted her paperwork for renewal. In 1999, she was chosen as the Louisiana Elementary Mathematics Awardee for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Currently, she is the Coordinator of the Gifted Program for St. Tammany Parish Schools. Maryanne and her husband are the parents of two children.



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NCTM Update

NCTM Annual Meeting Now History!

On April 13-16, 2011, over 8000 teachers converged on Indianapolis, Indiana for the NCTM 2011 Annual Meeting and Exposition. Ellen Daugherty, LATM's NCTM Representative, and Beth Smith, LATM President, represented LATM as the official delegate and alternate. They participated in the Southern Regional Caucus and the Delegate Assembly where one resolution was presented. It reads as follows:

Be it resolved that the Delegate Assembly recommend to the NCTM Board of Directors that the NCTM Board of Directors strive to avoid scheduling NCTM Regional conferences on dates that conflict with other significant annually scheduled mathematics conferences in that region.

-Initiated by the Western Caucus

The Annual Meeting offered 590 sessions on topics ranging from Geometry, Understanding the Common Core, Equity in the Mathematics Classroom, Specific Math Strategies and Games to foster fluency, Differentiation and more. Between the two of them, Ellen and Beth were able to attend over 20 different sessions. Several of the sessions were videotaped and are now posted on the NCTM website at www.nctm.org/webcasts. You definitely don't want to miss the opening session *Flatland: The Power of Story in Mathematics*; the President's session, *The Power and Beauty of Geometry: Reasoning, Constructing and Transforming*; *The Common Core: Where Do We Go from Here?*; and US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan on *The Department of Education's Priorities*. There are several others as well.



On the last day, Ellen attended the Affiliate Breakfast and presented an LATM check for \$1000 to the NCTM President, Mike Shaughnessy, to support the MET Scholarship fund. (see picture right)

Mark your calendars for next year's meeting. It will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on April 25-28, 2012.

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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OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS



NASA's Interdisciplinary National Science Project Incorporating Research and Education Experience, or INSPIRE, encourages students in the 9th through 12th grades to become the next generation of explorers, by pursuing an education leading to a career in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

INSPIRE's Online Learning Community

INSPIRE is a year-round program, the centerpiece being an Online Learning Community (OLC) which provides a place for INSPIRE students to interact with their peers, NASA experts and STEM education specialists. It makes available chats and discussion boards allowing students and their parents to explore the many professions and opportunities at NASA. In addition, the OLC offers grade appropriate activities and parents the resources to help champion their students' education and career goals.

INSPIRE's Summer STEM Experiences

NASA accepts applications to join the OLC each spring. Once accepted, members in good standing have the opportunity to compete for grade-appropriate, expense paid, Summer STEM Experiences designed to provide hands-on opportunities and the chance to learn more about the education path required for a STEM career.

Experiences Include:

- A one-day VIP tour and workshops at a NASA facility
- A two-week learning experience at the campus of a participating university
- An internship working with NASA scientists and engineers

Applications to join the INSPIRE Project are accepted in the spring of each year.

Interested?

To receive updates on current activities and future opportunities, register at:
<https://inspire.okstate.edu/index.cfm?lftoff.LoginForm>

For the latest information about this exciting project visit our website at:
www.nasa.gov/education/INSPIRE

www.nasa.gov
SP 2011-3-66 KSC

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS

Great Opportunity for K-12 Public School Math and Science Teachers!

Need materials to supplement and support math and science projects in your classrooms? Why not apply for a Quality Science and Mathematics (QSM) grant? The online form is easy to follow and may be found by using the QSM link at cain.lsu.edu or by directly accessing <http://www.seasystem.net/cgi-bin/qsm/> beginning June 1. The deadline for submission is Friday, September 16, 2011.

2011-12 Math Science Partnership Program ... Louisiana Style



This summer several Elementary Math Science Partnership (MSP) Projects for third and fourth grade teachers of math and science will enter their second or third year of their three year cycle. Each of these projects will hold a summer content institute where the teachers will meet with Higher Education Institution instructors for three weeks. Additionally, the teachers will continue to improve their teaching and learning of math and science by meeting several days during the academic year and participating in field experiences and/or conferences.

There will be a new look for 5th and 8th grade MSP math projects. These projects involve two components: a 10-day summer content institute and 9 days of training aligned to the corresponding *Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum* math course. Each of the funded projects will have district lead Curriculum Implementation Teams (CIT) that will come to Baton Rouge for training on each of the units in the curriculum which they will redeliver to their project participants.

CITs for the 5th grade math course will meet June 1-3, 2011, and the 8th grade teams will meet for the first time June 14-16, 2011. Teams will engage in professional development that provides an overview of the curriculum for the specified grade and for the first two units of the course. Teams will return to their districts and redeliver to project participants just in time for teachers to implement the first two units in their classrooms. Three, two-day trainings will be held during the course of the school year to provide professional development on the remaining six units in the respective courses.

Teachers interested in receiving this training on the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum should check with their middle school math coordinators to determine if their district will be participating.



AIMS teachers visualize a cubic meter!



Monroe teachers think learning is fun.

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



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 5 - 7, 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.

LA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UPDATE

Kim Melancon, Mathematics Program Coordinator

Common Core Standards Implementation – A teacher committee reviewed the crosswalk and transition plan that aligns the CCSS with Louisiana’s current standards and GLEs. The transition plan identifies CCSS standards that can be integrated into the current curriculum during the years 2012-2014. Information (awareness) sessions for district-level staff will begin once those documents are finalized. During these sessions, the Department plans to share the crosswalks and Grade-Level Content Comparisons. Full implementation of CCSS is to occur in grades K and 1 in 2012-13 and grades PreK and 2 in 2013-14 with all other grades fully implementing the CCSS in 2014-15. New assessments based on CCSS will be implemented in 2014-15 as well.

Elementary Math Specialist Certification – This add-on certification will be implemented in the fall of 2011. A small group of college faculty met with Department personnel on April 28, 2011, to discuss the certification requirements and the possibility of establishing common course outlines for the required courses.

Uniform Grading Policy - A uniform grading policy has been approved by BESE and will be in effect for the school year 2011-2012. The policy states that LEAs shall use the following uniform grading system for students enrolled in all grades K-12 for which letter grades are used. The policy gives the local education agency the authority to determine grading options for Honors, Gifted, AP, dual enrollment, and IB courses.

Grading Scale for Regular Courses	
Grade	Percentage
A	100-93
B	92-85
C	84-75
D	74-67
F	66-0

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LATM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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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: _____

Provide at least one working e-mail address as all communication, including newsletters, is via e-mail.

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**

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