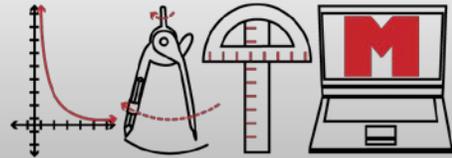


THE NUMBER LINE

September 2015

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.



Visit LATM's
Facebook page and
find out what is
happening with your
organization and
profession!

Click above or visit www.facebook.com/Lamathteachers to "LIKE" our Facebook page.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is so hard to believe that we have started yet another school year. The beginning of the year is a time for excitement. There are new students sitting before you, eager to learn. It is nice if we are able to keep that excitement and engagement going throughout the school year. LATM hopes to offer those of you who are teachers of mathematics the tools and encouragement to help you keep those students motivated to learn throughout the year.

LATM offers an electronic presence through our website (www.lamath.org) and through social media on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/Lamathteachers>). Our hard-working Executive Council members look for items of interest that can be shared with you that will enrich your professional knowledge and enhance your teaching. Items are posted on our page and updated frequently. Please take time to go there and LIKE our page so you can follow us for those updates.

We are very busy planning for our upcoming joint conference to be held November 9-11, 2015 in Baton Rouge. As we did last year, and plan to do again next year, we are partnering with our colleagues in the Louisiana Science Teachers Association (LSTA) to offer STEM-rich extended and concurrent sessions to teachers throughout the state. To enroll in extended sessions, you must register for the conference by the Early Bird deadline of October 9, 2015. This date is also the one that will offer you the greatest financial value. As an educator, I know how important that is to you. Our theme this year is *Enlightening Students, Empowering Teachers*.

As a teacher, I gained far more useful information when I was able to leave my school environment to meet and collaborate with others at state, regional, and national conferences. You learn how others are handling similar situations and gain new ideas on how to teach standards in your classroom. I learned more about teaching topics such as number bonds, double number lines, and how to compose and decompose numbers while attending a recent NCTM conference. It was great for me to then come back to my school and district and have conversations about what I had learned. It was amazing how much more I gained just from sharing what I had learned! With all of this in mind, I look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge in November.

I love the conference theme! This is what we, as professionals, should be doing at all times. LATM wants to do that for its membership. For over a year now, the Executive Council has been creating professional development opportunities that can be shared throughout the year and across the state. Are there topics that you would like addressed? Do you have other ideas that would provide support for our membership? Would you like to talk to someone regarding presenting one of these sessions in your area? Would you like to become more involved with LATM? We all want this organization to offer opportunities for everyone, so if you have questions, please contact me at president@lamath.org.

The Louisiana State Department of Education is asking for feedback with the Standards Review process. Become actively involved in contributing to this dialogue. There are opportunities online and in face-to-face meetings around the state to share your expertise. Go online to www.louisianabelieves.com and click on the Louisiana Standards Review portal to learn more.

I hope each of you is having a fabulous start to your school year.

Sincerely,



Maryanne W. Smith
LATM President

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VICE-PRESIDENTS' CIRCLE

Don't Throw Out Those Geometry Activities

Amanda Perry
Vice-President for Elementary Schools

With the adoption of higher standards, a common misconception is that teachers no longer get the chance to teach geometry skills or use their wonderful geometric manipulatives – pattern blocks, pentominoes, tangrams, etc. Here are some ideas many of us have used in the past and how they are aligned with our current standards.

Pattern Block Stories - <http://www.kinderart.com/across/pattern.shtml>

This is a great cross-curricular activity in which students from PreK-1st can use academic vocabulary in describing their images created with pattern blocks. They can extend their imagination by sharing a story of their image either verbally or in written form.

Relevant standards: K.G.A.1, K.G.A.2, K.G.B.5, K.G.B.6, 1.G.A.1, 1.G.A.2

Puzzling Pentominoes - <http://illuminations.nctm.org/Lesson.aspx?id=4105>

Although this specific activity states relevance for grades 6-8, the discovery activity sheets can be explored in lower grades.

Relevant standards: 3.MD.C.5, 3.MD.C.6, 3.MD.D.8

Radial Letters - <http://www.kinderart.com/drawing/radialletter.shtml>

This activity creates a wonderful piece of art for any portfolio or bulletin board. Using this activity can spark conversation about radial design found in our world, truly applying mathematical concepts. A self-generated rubric can be utilized for identification of various two-dimensional figures.

Relevant standards: 4.G.A.1, 4.G.A.2, 4.G.A.3

So, don't throw out some of your favorite activities. You can still use manipulatives and various art forms in the mathematics classroom. Encourage uniqueness and search for creativity within your higher standards.

The Importance of Deriving Formulas in the Classroom

Vickie Flanders
Vice-President for Colleges

Deriving formulas in the classroom should be a top priority for teachers. Too many times, I see students trying to blindly memorize formulas with no conceptual understanding of where these formulas come from. When this happens, the students usually have a mistake in the formula and/or forget the formula very quickly. Here are some strategies for teachers on how to derive formulas in class.

The teacher should peek the curiosity of the students when beginning to derive a formula. Maybe give a history lesson on what was going on prior to the use of the formula and discuss the mathematician/scientist who discovered the formula. A good example of this is the Pythagorean Theorem. There is a fascinating history involving the discovery of irrational numbers, and it is explained well on this website <https://brilliant.org/discussions/thread/discovery-of-irrational-numbers/>. A simple proof of the Pythagorean Theorem can be found at <http://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/pythagorean-theorem-proof.html>.

Another strategy is to have the students find a pattern to derive the formula themselves. One such example is the formula for the sum of the interior angles of a polygon. Have the students make a chart starting with a triangle, then quadrilateral, pentagon, hexagon, and so on. Have the students measure the angles inside and find the sum. The pattern for the formula is quite simple to figure out. The sum of the interior angles in a polygon with n sides is $(n - 2)180^\circ$. Now, the important part is for the students to figure out **why** it is the formula. One way is to start with the sum of the angles in a triangle is 180° . Then

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we can see that a quadrilateral can be divided into triangles, therefore, the sum of the angles in a quadrilateral is $(2)180^\circ$, which is 360° . Next a pentagon can be divided into three triangles, hence the sum of the measure of the angles in a pentagon is $(3)180^\circ$, which is 540° . The polygons do not have to be regular, but if they are, have the students also figure out the formula for an interior angle. Here is a helpful website: <http://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/interior-angles-polygons.html>.

Another great example of a formula that can be easily derived in the classroom is the quadratic formula. It uses the skill of completing the square, which the students should have learned prior to the quadratic formula. What about all of the trigonometric identities? Well, if you start with the basic identities, all of the other identities are derived from those. Before just giving students formula after formula, show them where those formulas come from. Many times, the textbook includes the derivation or proof, so do not disregard it. Raise the bar for the students, and you will find they will rise up to it. The point is that students will receive the greatest benefit when there is a conceptual understanding of the formula rather than memorization.

LATM Attends NCTM's Affiliate Leadership Conference

On July 14-16, 2015, Maryanne Smith, LATM President, and Mandy Boudwin, LATM Newsletter Editor attended NCTM's Affiliate Leadership Conference held in Phoenix, AZ. The days were spent working with other affiliate leaders from different regions across the United States and Canada. Leaders shared successes and challenges, collaborated about leadership and membership strategies, and discussed current NCTM initiatives. Presentations were given by Diane Briars, NCTM President, and Marilyn Strutchens, Auburn University, in addition to the members of the Affiliate Leaders Conference Committee. LATM attendees took advantage of the time to begin creating a strategic plan for increasing LATM's presence across the state. We look forward to a great new year!



Pictured (l to r): Mandy Boudwin, Diane Briars, and Maryanne Smith – NCTM Affiliate Leader Conference

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2015 LATM/LSTA JOINT CONFERENCE INFORMATION

2015 LATM Travel Grant Application Deadline: September 4, 2015

The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics is awarding ten travel grants for \$300 each to offset the expense of teachers attending its 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Math and Science Conference in Baton Rouge, November 9-11, 2015. The money can be used to cover conference registration, short course registration, lodging, meals, parking, and/or travel. Grant applicants will be notified of their status at least one month prior to the conference. The money will be awarded at the conclusion of the conference. Awardees must attend a minimum of two days of the conference, participating in no less than 9 hours of conference presentations. They will be responsible for full conference registration and are encouraged to attend all three days of the event.

Principal Verification Sheets must be postmarked no later than September 4, 2015. The LATM Travel Grant Coordinator will select a committee of math leaders from throughout the state to score the applications. Order of receipt or geographic location will not be considered in the awarding of the travel grants.

Qualifications and regulations for grant eligibility are as follows:

1. Applicants must be LATM members on or before August 1, 2015. Membership can be confirmed by Beth Smith (bethsmith1124@gmail.com).
2. Awardees must attend a minimum of two days of the conference, participating in no less than 9 hours of conference presentations. They will be responsible for full conference registration and are encouraged to attend all three days of the event.
3. Awardees are expected to use information and skills gained at the conference to improve their teaching skills and classroom instruction.
4. Awardees are not eligible to reapply for the travel grant until the 2018 Annual LATM or LATM/LSTA Joint Conferences.
5. Awardees that decline to attend the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Math and Science Conference, by October 15, 2015, cannot apply the money to other conferences or transfer it to another individual.
6. Awardees who have not notified the LATM Travel Grants Coordinator by October 15, 2015 are not eligible to reapply for the travel grant.
7. LATM Executive Council Members and Travel Grant Committee Members are not eligible for the grant.
8. Awardees cannot submit expenses that will be paid by other funding sources.

Applications that do not meet the requirements or provide false information will be disqualified.

After submitting your application online, send the **Principal Verification Sheet**, postmarked no later than September 4, 2015, to:

Beth Smith, 711 Comanche Trail, West Monroe, LA 71291

Certified Letters will not be accepted.

Upon receipt of the Principal Verification Sheet, a confirmation email will be sent.

Questions can be e-mailed to Beth Smith bethsmith1124@gmail.com.

[2015 LATM Travel Grant Online Application Form](#)
[2015 LATM Travel Grant Principal Verification Sheet](#)
Or Visit: http://lamath.org/LATM_Travel_Grants.htm

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**Joint Math and Science Conference:
Enlightening Students, Empowering Teachers
Baton Rouge River Center – November 9-11, 2015**
http://www.lsta.info/2015_PreConference_Mailout.pdf

Draft Conference Overview

- Monday, Nov. 9, 2015 Extended Sessions and Field Trips: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Exhibitor Registration and Set-up: noon – 4:30 p.m.
Conference Participant Check In: 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Exhibits Showcase: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Exhibits Social: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 Conference begins
Conference Participant Registration: 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Exhibit Hall Open: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
LATM/LSTA Awards Ceremony: 4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
(at Louisiana Science and Arts Museum)
- Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015 Conference continues
Conference Participation Registration: 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Exhibit Hall Open: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Take Advantage of Registration Discounts!

Be an Early Bird! Postmark your registration no later than October 9, 2015, and **save \$50 off the full registration rate**. With the conference registration PayPal option, it is now easier to get your early bird payment submitted! October 9 is also the deadline for registering if you want to attend an Extended Session/Field trip.

October 23, 2015 is the last postmark date for the pre-registration discount of \$25 off the full registration rate. Remember, anything postmarked on or after October 24, 2015, will be charged the full registration rate. Any payment made after October 29 must be made on site or via PayPal.

Conference Registration Information
(Registration is not complete until payment is received.)

All registrations are to be completed online at
<http://lamath.org/conference2015/registration>

- Conference registration may be completed by check or credit card. Registration costs are based on 1) the postmark date when payment is made by check and submitted with a copy of the printed form, or 2) the date on which payment is made via PayPal when using a credit card. All payments after **October 29** must be made on site or via PayPal.
- If paying by check or via PayPal using a credit card, complete the online form. (Do not print the online form. Print the invoice page that follows after hitting the submit button.) Links are provided within the form to view the extended sessions listings and registration rates.
- Extended Sessions: Be sure to list all 3 choices if you are registering for the extended sessions. We will do our best to place you in your first choice, but second and third choices are needed in case your first choice is not available. The earlier your payment is received, the greater the likelihood that you will be placed in your first choice.
- Once the form is completed, check the yellow box and hit the submit button below it. You will then be provided an invoice to print and submit by mail with payment.

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For those coordinating group registrations:

1. If paying by check, have each individual complete and submit a registration form online, print the invoice that follows, and provide a copy for you to submit with payment.
2. Individuals who registered for events for which the funding agency will not pay, i.e., extended/short course session(s) are to write a personal check made payable to LATM/LSTA 2015 Joint Conference for the costs of those events and secure it to their registration invoice with a paper clip, not a staple.
3. Total the amounts that are covered by the funding agency for all invoices. Submit a funding agency check for the total that is funded by the agency and the printed invoices with attached personal checks from the individuals to the address specified on the invoices.
4. Keep a copy of all forms and checks submitted.
5. If you need to pay for the group registration by credit card, please contact shannonlafont75@gmail.com.
6. Remember, the earlier the payment is postmarked, the greater the discount. All extended session/short course registrations must be postmarked by October 9, 2015. The earlier the payment is received, the more likely it is that the attendee will get their first choices of extended sessions.

For questions regarding registration, e-mail Dr. Shannon Lafont at shannonlafont75@gmail.com. Additional information on registration rates and discounts is found at <http://lamath.org>.

Conference Hotel Information

Belle of Baton Rouge

103 France St Baton Rouge, LA 70802
TEL: +1-800-266-2692 (*No online option)
\$89.00 plus tax • Group Code: LSK08A
Free Parking • Closest hotel
<http://www.belleofbatonrouge.com>

Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

201 Lafayette Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70801
TEL: +1-800-955-6962 • FAX: +1-225-906-0595
\$99.00 plus tax • Online reservation: <http://tinyurl.com/kkgtdzq>
Self-Parking: Available in area lots/garages (walk to hotel required) • Valet Parking: \$16
<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/louisiana/hilton-baton-rouge-capitol-center-BTRCPHF/>

Hotel INDIGO Baton Rouge Downtown (Holiday Inn property)

200 Convention Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70801 • TEL: 1-225-343-1515
\$119.00 plus tax • Group Code: LSM • Online reservation: www.hotelindigo.com
Self-Parking: Available in area lots/garages (walk to hotel required) • Valet Parking: \$16
www.hotelindigo.com



Beth Smith, LATM Web Editor, has served on the LATM Executive Council since the fall of 2006. She teaches high school mathematics at Neville High School in Monroe, where she serves as a Teacher Leader for her school. She has been married to her husband, Lon, for 28 years. They have two wonderful grown 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 since its inception.



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Do You Want to Help With the Conference? Session Presider Volunteers Needed

How can an individual help make this conference a success? Consider volunteering as a session presider. In order to protect the integrity of the CLU program, presiders are responsible for distributing the CLUs to those who attend the entire session. Presider volunteers will be assigned to session(s) of their choosing.

Many sessions fill quickly. Presiders have the advantage of being guaranteed a seat at the session over which they are presiding! Take advantage of this opportunity and volunteer as a session presider. You may volunteer by marking the days available on the presider line of the registration form and/or contact conferencepresiders@gmail.com. You will be contacted approximately two weeks prior to the conference regarding the session(s) for which you would like to preside. Thank you in advance for your help making this year's LATM/LSTA Joint Conference a success!

LATM General Membership Meeting

The annual LATM General Membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 beginning at 7:30 am. The meeting will be held at the River Center on the first floor near the registration desk. During this membership meeting, members will be asked to vote on the proposed constitutional changes. Members will also elect officers for the upcoming term.

Current active members should visit the links below to read the current constitution and bylaws and the proposed revisions to the constitution and bylaws. Please read through both documents and be ready to vote on the revisions during the annual meeting.

Current constitution: <http://lamath.org/ConstitutionBylaws.htm>

Proposed revised constitution: <http://lamath.org/CONSTITUTIONANDBYLAWSproposed2015.pdf>

Nominating Committee Report

The LATM Nominating Committee has submitted the following nominations for election of officers:

- **President Elect:** Mandy Boudwin
- **Secretary:** Amanda Perry
- **Vice-President of High Schools:** Lori Fanning
- **Vice-President of Middle Schools:** Penny Gennuso
- **Parliamentarian:** Stacey Magee

If you have additional nominations for these positions, please e-mail them to Jeffrey Weaver at weaverj@brcc.edu no later than September 21, 2015, so that a ballot can be prepared for voting at the annual business meeting which is held during the LATM/LSTA Joint Conference.



Jeffrey Weaver currently serves as the past-President of LATM, completing his eighth year on the LATM Executive Board. He has served as Parliamentarian, Vice-President of Colleges, President-Elect, President, and now Past-President. Jeffrey has been a teacher for 28 years. He has taught middle school, high school, college, and university. He is currently teaching at Baton Rouge Community College and serves as an associate Professor of Mathematics. Jeffrey has had over sixty-five professional presentations at local, regional, state, and national conferences in his career.



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You Can Do It: Tips for First-timers to Present a Successful Workshop

Maryanne Smith
President

Let's say you just got your email notification that indeed your concurrent session proposal has just been accepted. Now what?!?!? Don't panic. This is a good thing. Breathe in; breathe out; and get busy!

You should first look over that proposal. Your participants will use this description to determine whether to walk into your session. Don't disappoint; make sure you stay true to the description.

If you followed the suggestions in the last issue of The Number Line (<http://lamath.org/numberline/NumberLineMay2015.pdf>), you have already collected student work and examples of what you want to share. Now, focus on what you will say. Before you begin, reflect on some of the best presentations you have attended. What made them so memorable? Try to emulate them. I imagine some of those qualities you remember may be: they moved about the room as they talked, they made eye contact with the audience, they showed emotion by smiling, laughing, and moving, they stayed on point and didn't waste your time, and they offered you good ideas that you could take back to your classroom and use right away.

PLANNING THE TALK:

Many people get nervous standing in front of a group to talk. I have found that this is much easier to do when you know exactly what you are going to say and you have a crutch with you. For my crutches, I have used notecards, outlines, and PowerPoint presentations. I may not follow them exactly, but I have them with me for comfort and guidance.

Make sure your talk unfolds logically. Make it like a story with a beginning, a middle, and an end. Know how long you will need to deliver each part so you do not feel rushed. Practice is always a good thing, even if you are practicing in front of your dog. Share personal stories with your audience, especially ones that relate to your topic. For those who use Twitter, you may create a hashtag for your audience to tweet out your best quotable comments.

PRODUCING THE TALK:

Many people today like to use presentation software. Having that visual aid is a good thing, but don't make your whole talk dependent on it. One reason for this is that sometimes..... even with our best efforts..... technology fails us. If everything is riding on that electronic presentation, you will have to go into survival mode.

Another thing you need to keep in mind is that presentation software should only offer a brief visual aid to
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your audience. It was NEVER intended to have your entire talk typed out on it. A slide should contain a graphic or a couple of bullet points (not complete sentences). If you want the audience to have details, offer them in a handout, only. Don't try to get more than one point or topic on a single slide.

DELIVERING THE TALK

You may not be an expert on everything, but you are an expert on your talk. Make sure you act like one. It's okay to let the audience know this is your first time and you are a little nervous, but after that.... drop it. If you start apologizing, the audience is going to wonder why they are there. Have fun; share stories and laughter. If you are excited and upbeat, it will wear off on your audience.

DRESSING FOR THE TALK

As the presenter you should dress professionally, wearing more "dressy" attire than your audience members. Long ago, I learned another important tip: Avoid distractors. A distractor is something you wear that makes the audience member focus on it instead of on what you are saying. It could be something like a bangle bracelet, funny socks, a large necklace, shiny jewelry, a revealing neckline, or tight pants. I'm not saying that everyone would be distracted by each of these, but I am giving you food for thought.

Good luck to all who are presenting for the first time. I hope it turns out to be a wonderful experience!

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Conference Exhibitors to Date

LATM and LSTA would like to thank the following exhibitors and conference sponsors for their participation and sponsorship of the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference in November 2015.

A+Pel Educators

Ascend Math
Brain Child
Carnegie Learning
Cord Communications
CPM Math
Cyber Innovation Center
Earth Tools
Explore Learning
Frey Scientific
Holmes Education Consultants
JASON Learning
Keep Louisiana Beautiful
LA Dept of Agriculture and Forestry
LA Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries
Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation
LSU Ag Center
NASCO
Nutrients for Life
PEARSON
Speaking on Science
Think Through Math

Algebra Readiness Educators

AXI Education Solutions
BTNEP
Coastal Env Ed Program
Core Element
Curriculum Associates
Delta/School Specialty
ETA hand2mind
FIRST Robotics
Great Minds
Houghton Mifflin
Kaplan, Co
LA Ag in the Classroom
LA Dept of Environmental Quality
LAE
LIGO
LUMCON
National Sc Teachers Association
Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Scientific Minds
Spring Board
United States Geological Survey

USM Gulf Coast Research Lab

Several more conference exhibitors will join us in Baton Rouge
We look forward to seeing them and you in November.
For information on exhibiting contact Natalie Lirette at
natalie_lirette@houmachristianschool.com

Announced 2015 Conference Sponsors

Community Coffee
Think Through Math
Visit Baton Rouge
Pearson

For information on Sponsorships contact Maryanne Smith (president@lamath.org)
or Nathan Cotton (nathancotten@tpsd.org)

Please remember to support our conference sponsors and exhibitors
whenever possible.

VisitBatonRouge.com

OFFICIAL TRAVEL RESOURCE



PEARSON

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching



LATM is pleased to congratulate the 2013 Louisiana Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching awardee Lerrri Cockrell from David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy in Lafayette. Since the White House announcement Lerrri has been honored by the Lafayette School Board and celebrated with a trip to Washington, D.C. to meet with the other 2013 Presidential Awardees including Michael Simoneaux from Dutchtown High

School the Louisiana 2013 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching

The state selection panel convened last spring to review and score the 2015 applicants' written components and classroom videos. Louisiana State Finalists for the 2015 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching are:

Amanda Lafollette, Mansfield High School, Mansfield, LA
Lorraine Naquin, Larose Cut-Off Middle School, Larose, LA
Donna Patten, West Monroe High School, West Monroe, LA
Darron Underwood, Ouachita Parish High School, Monroe, LA

These state finalists and their science colleagues will be honored during a recognition luncheon at the Governor's Mansion in Baton Rouge on September 16th. LATM will also recognize the state finalists during the Conference Award Ceremony November 10th at the Louisiana Arts and Science Museum in Baton Rouge.

Unfortunately there has still not been a White House announcement for the 2014 Presidential Awardees for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

The 2015-16 academic year will be an elementary cycle for teachers in grades k-6 of math, science, computer and engineering courses. The nomination process will begin later this semester.

For additional information on the Louisiana PAEMST program contact Jean May-Brett at jam05@bellsouth.net.

YOUR LATM JOURNAL

Have you read the latest volume of the LATM Journal? The latest volume is available at <http://lamath.org/journal/LATMJournalVolume102014.pdf>. The journal has something for everyone. Be on the lookout for an announcement about a special 2015 issue coming in December! Also, you can find past volumes of the LATM Journal by visiting <http://lamath.org/journal/index.htm>.



LATM JOURNAL

Articles are accepted year round for the journal. Articles should be submitted by early summer 2016 for possible publication in the 2016 volume. Submission information can be found at <http://www.lamath.org/journal/LATMJournalSubmissionInformation.pdf>

The LATM Journal Editorial Board is always looking for reviewers. Journal articles typically fall under one of two categories – mathematics-based or mathematics education-based. Sometimes articles blend the two categories. If you have any university contacts that you think would be interested in reviewing, contact the editor or send contact information to the editor.

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In addition, the LATM Editorial Board is always looking for guest column writers. You may have an opinion about a current mathematics or mathematics education topic and would like to share that opinion with your fellow LATM members. Contact the editor if you are interested in writing a guest column. If you or anyone has any questions or suggestions about the *LATM Journal*, contact editor, DesLey Plaisance, at desley.plaisance@nicholls.edu.

MATH COMPETITIONS

Teachers are invited to have their students join an online math competition at Perennialmath.com. It's a great way to expose them to 2 and 3 step problems to improve their math, reading, and critical thinking skills.

Join for:

- 4 tests per year (Nov-Feb)
- Free PowerPoint Practice Questions to get your team prepared
- Team and Individual awards, certificates for all students
- 3 different levels Rookie (grades 3-4), Intermediate (5-6) and Advanced (7-8)
- Online testing or printed version with scores entered by teacher
- \$75 per team of up to 30 students at 1 level
- \$20 per individual student if parent wants to buy a membership
- District Pricing available

MATH GRANTS

Deadline: November 6, 2015

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is offering dozens of grants for math educators. Through the organization's Mathematics Education Trust, educators can apply for grants, scholarships, and awards, and there are programs for all different types of work, from in-class projects, to math-related research and professional development. Grant programs are available for in-service and pre-service math educators.

Prize: Funding ranges from \$1,200 to \$24,000.

<http://www.nctm.org/Grants/>

LDOE UPDATE

Jill Cowart
LDE Representative

Grade-level specific math groups have been created in Edmodo for teachers and curriculum specialists to network with other educators, share resources, and discuss successful strategies. Educators can visit: <http://www.edmodo.com>, create an account, and use the code LKEAQ4 to join the group.

MDC registration for Lafayette (September 22) and Bossier (September 23) trainings will open on September 1, 2015. Visit <http://www.solutionwhere.com/ldoe/cw/showcourse.asp?4213> to register.

Teacher Leader Collaborations will be in Lafayette, Jefferson, Bossier, and Baton Rouge the week of September 14. Math breakouts will focus on new tools available in EAGLE, Proactive and Responsive Remediation Strategies, and the Progression of Addition and Subtraction. More detailed information can be found at: <http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/teacher-leader-summit/2015-2016-september-tl-collab-event-overview.pdf?sfvrsn=2>.

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AFFILIATE NEWS

Acadiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ACTM)

No news submitted from ACTM. Send your news, information on resources, pictures, etc. to Cat McKay (cmckay7930@earthlink.net).

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

The executive board will begin planning for the 2015-2016 school year. Members are encouraged to offer suggestions as to what type of professional development would be useful during the upcoming year!

To begin receiving BRAC TM emails by becoming a member, please contact Trisha Fos at bractm@gmail.com.

Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics (GNOTM)

No news submitted from GNOTM. Send your news, information on resources, pictures, etc. to Joan Albrecht (joan.albrecht@jppss.k12.la.us).

Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association (NLMA)

Each member of the NLMA is encouraged to attend the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Math and Science Conference, November 9 - 11, 2015 in Baton Rouge, and volunteer to serve as a session presider. Don't forget that registrations postmarked by October 9th will save \$50 off the full registration rate. Participants who register for the conference from October 10-23rd will save \$25 off the onsite registration fee. Complete your registration NOW and save. Visit <http://www.lamath.org> for more information.

Northeast Louisiana Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM)

We hope the school year is off to a wonderful start and wish everyone a great school year. The Northeast Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM) will hold a fall meeting with some professional development on October 10th. Details will be forthcoming. For questions or to help plan the meeting, contact Beth Smith at bethsmith1124@gmail.com.

SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)

SEATM attended St. Tammany Parish's New Teacher Induction at the end of July to introduce incoming teachers to our organization, share how SEATM can help them, and sign up new members. If you are interested in joining SEATM, please contact either Susan Carter, President, at susan.carter@stpsb.org or Jamie Bateman, Vice President, at Jamie.bateman@stpsb.org.

SouthWest Louisiana Teachers of Mathematics (SWLTM)

No news submitted from SWLTM. Send your news, information on resources, pictures, etc. to Tricia Miller (tricia.miller@cpsb.org).

Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM)

The Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics will hold its fall general membership meeting in conjunction with the Math and Science Conference: *Enlightening Students, Empowering Teachers* to be held in Baton Rouge. Join us at the River Center on Monday, November 9th from 3:30-5:00 to network with other math leaders from across the state.

LCSM welcomes all math educators, so if you are not currently a member of the organization, membership information will be available at the meeting. If you would like more information prior to the general membership meeting, contact Penny Gennuso, President, at pcgennuso@lpsonline.com or Sabrina Smith, Secretary, at Sabrina.smith@jppss.k12.la.us.

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NCTM UPDATE

Welcome to **Jeremy Zelkowski**, the NCTM Southern 2 Affiliate Representative for the Affiliate Services Committee for 2015-2017. The Affiliate Services Committee members serve as liaisons between the Affiliates, such as LATM, and NCTM in addition to promoting the goals of the organization. He may be reached at jzelkowski@bamaed.ua.edu.



Subscribe to Bright Ideas from NCTM Illuminations for a monthly newsletter of ideas and lessons to use in your classroom. <http://illuminations.nctm.org/content.aspx?id=5319>

Here are examples of resources that may be found there:

Pre-K–Grade 2 Lesson: How Many Letters Are in Your Name?

[Review the numbers 1–10 with this Illuminations classic.](#)

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Lesson.aspx?id=3263>

Grades 3–5 Lesson: Exploring with Math Trails

[Find math in the real world using this customizable lesson.](#)

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Lesson.aspx?id=3718>

Grades 6–8 Lesson: Sticks and Stones

[Explore probability concepts in this game-based lesson.](#)

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Lesson.aspx?id=1915>

Grades 9–12 Lesson: Supply and Demand

[Solve systems of linear equations by analyzing supply-and-demand problems.](#)

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Lesson.aspx?id=2544>

NCTM Accepting Applications for Research Grants from Teachers of Grades 7-12

Interested in funding an idea on mathematics education? Consider applying for one of these grants from NCTM. <http://www.nctm.org/Grants-and-Awards/grants/7-12-Classroom-Research-Grants/>

Grants of up to \$6,000 will be awarded to support and encourage classroom-based precollege mathematics education through collaborations of a university math educator and one or more 7-12 classroom teachers. The project may include but is not restricted to research on curriculum development and implementation; involvement of at-risk or minority students; students' thinking about a particular mathematics concept or set of concepts; connection of mathematics to other disciplines; focused learning and teaching of mathematics with embedded use of technology; and/or innovative assessment or evaluation strategies.



Lori Fanning is the Vice-President of High Schools. Her career in education has spanned 27 years in education in Caddo Parish, Rapides Parish, and Fulton County, Georgia. Lori has been a classroom teacher, a middle school assistant principal, a district mathematics supervisor, and an elementary principal. Presently, she is teaching at the LSU Laboratory School where she has assisted with providing leadership to professional development for elementary teachers in mathematics.



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MSP UPDATE

Louisiana's 2015-16 Math Science Partnership (MSP) project year is off to an exciting start. Hundreds of Louisiana teachers of mathematics have returned to their classrooms after two-week summer math instructional institutes. MSP project activity was found in every corner of Louisiana offering teachers in dozens of districts ongoing professional development opportunity.

Thirteen MSP projects began a second year of professional development in content and classroom best practices and were joined by five new first year projects in holding a 2015 summer institute. Alongside the instructional time, MSP projects took advantage of unique informational and learning opportunities. Participants in EBR had a visit from their new Superintendent Warren Drake, St Bernard MSP teachers enjoyed a field trip to LIGO and in Jefferson a break occurred between the two weeks of the institute to accommodate participant schedules.

In addition to the summer institutes the teachers will continue their efforts to improve their content knowledge and develop additional teaching strategies by meeting during the academic year. The extension of the MSP projects into the school year provides the participants with ongoing opportunities to collaborate around efforts to improve their teaching and increase student academic success.

Project partnerships bring together school districts and university departments of mathematics, engineering and technology. Participation is open to teachers from partner districts and teachers from non-public schools in the geographic reach of the project.

John Hanley john.hanley@la.gov is the LDOE MSP contact.



Lafourche Parish MSP Project Lafayette Parish MSP Project



Superintendent Warren Drake addresses the East Baton Rouge MSP Project.

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MDC UPDATE

Summer 2015 and Louisiana's MDC Initiative

The Louisiana Math Design Collaborative (MDC) efforts were highly successful this summer. Several MDC sessions were offered during the June Teacher Leader Summit. Teachers from the MDC Integration districts of Bossier, Jefferson, Lafayette, Terrebonne and West Baton Rouge facilitated sessions for participants new to and experienced with the Math Assessment Project materials for high school and middle school.

Core Element (<http://core4kids.org/profdev.htm>) supported an MDC introduction opportunity for teachers in the metro New Orleans area. A one-day session, Mathematics Assessment Project/Math Design Collaborative: *Supporting 21st Century Math Teaching*, was offered July 7th.

Teachers around the state had the opportunity to attend a training institute funded by the LDOE. MDC trainer teams in Bossier and Lafayette provided one-day institutes in late July for teachers and administrators.

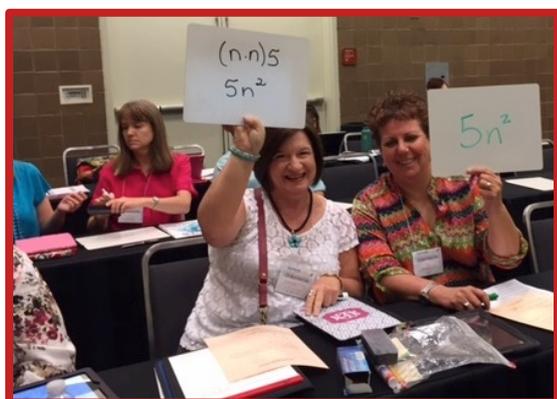
Math Teachers in Monroe City and Ouachita parish met together for a two day MDC institute in late July. The schedule included time for the teachers of each district to meet separately in order to prepare for the 2015-16 academic year while discussing a plan for implementing the MDC lessons and tasks into their classroom instruction. Ouachita teachers Anna Foster, Donna Patten, Janyce Rawls and Kara Williams presented a MDC based session "Got Pairs? Got Pairs That Work? We Do!" at the SREB Conference.

What's next?

On September 22nd two one-day sessions will be offered: one in Bossier and one in Lafayette. The CourseWhere registration for these workshops will open on September 1st at the link <http://www.solutionwhere.com/ldoe/cw/showcourse.asp?4213>. These trainings are free and open to all secondary (grades 6-12) mathematics teachers. Watch for more information on times from the LDOE in upcoming Superintendent's newsletters and on the Department website.

There will be several MDC concurrent sessions in the program of the joint math and science conference in Baton Rouge November 9th – 11th.

The MDC materials are available to all math teachers. The Math Assessment Project website <http://map.mathshell.org> with the formative lesson challenges and tasks is free and easily accessible. The website offers both Problem Solving and Concept Development lessons for middle and high school courses. The three levels of tasks (similar to Extended Constructed Responses) - Novice, Apprentice and Expert - provide a wide range of items for teachers to select from. With the tasks are scoring rubrics, ungraded and graded samples of student work. All the materials are aligned to state math standards for both content and mathematical practices.



MDC Session at the Teacher Leader Summit



MDC Session in Ouachita Parish

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Renew your Membership

Are you attending the 2015 Joint Math and Science Conference in Baton Rouge in November? Then your membership renewal is already included in your registration!

Unable to attend the conference in November? Then it's time to renew your membership for 2015-2016 by visiting <http://lamath.org/Membership.htm>. Submit the renewal information, print the renewal receipt, and mail the renewal receipt and \$15 payment to the address specified on the receipt. If you have any difficulties with the online form, please contact Beth Smith at bethsmith1124@gmail.com.



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