# THE NUMBER LINE February 2009

www.lamath.org



#### Message from the President of LATM

I am honored to be able to work with such a wonderful group of people as I begin the presidency of LATM. I sincerely thank Jeremy Muse for his work as President of this organization. He has been an inspiration, and I hope that I can meet his standards. I look forward to getting to the work at hand.

A major goal of LATM is to support professional development in mathematics throughout the State. Our board members have worked hard over the past years to provide opportunities that promote the teaching of mathematics and follow the standards set forth by NCTM. Through our annual State conference and joint math/science conference with LSTA every third year, we endeavor to keep you abreast of issues and trends that impact the learning of our students.

To reach out to our membership even more, this past year we offered a one-half day workshop focused on the area of Literacy. This workshop was designed to offer our members practical classroom ideas on how to implement Literacy Strategies that relate most to mathematics and support the revised Comprehensive Curriculum. The first was held in St. Tammany Parish and hosted by SEATM. Teachers from across the southeast region of our state attended. Our literacy experts presented their information again at the State conference in Baton Rouge. We will offer additional workshops upon request.

Our State conference in Baton Rouge was an amazing success. We were a bit overwhelmed by the numbers, but that's a good thing! We certainly thank all that submitted post-conference surveys. Those surveys were compiled and analyzed so that we can use the feedback to improve our future conferences.

The dates set for the LATM/LSTA Joint Conference to be held in Shreveport are November 2-4, 2009. In the fall of 2010, NCTM is bringing its Southern Regional Conference to New Orleans. There will be many opportunities for our teachers to assist and present at each of these conferences.

Please remember to check the LATM website on a regular basis. You will find current information that is updated frequently. Of particular importance is the article concerning the Presidential Award in Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. See info in this newsletter, as well. The website is <a href="http://lamath.org">http://lamath.org</a>

Here's hoping that each of you will have a wonderful new year! The year 2009 should be an exciting and productive year.

Maryanne W. Smith



Nominations are now being accepted for the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This celebrated award, administered by the National Science Foundation for the White House, identifies outstanding mathematics and

science teachers in grades K-12. Competition alternates each year between teachers of K-6 and teachers of grades 7-12. Teachers of grades 7-12 may apply in 2009; teachers of grades K-6 may apply in 2010. Nominations must be made online by April 1, 2009. You may go to <a href="https://www.paemst.org">www.paemst.org</a> and choose the Nomination link.





Individuals who are nominated will be notified by email of their nomination; therefore, it is necessary that you have a working e-mail address for each teacher nominated when the nomination is made. Teachers may self-nominate.

Jean May-Brett serves as the Louisiana PAEMST Coordinator for Math. You may contact her at

jean.may-brett@la.gov or 225.342.8993 for additional information.

# **Congratulations:**

To the new NBCTs whose focus was in mathematics!

Marion Couvillion Catherine Ellzey Jeanne Flynn Seyed Ghorashi

on Lauri Lewis
ey Angie Poche
Deborah Porche
hi Susan Tullier
Sandra Wells









# **QSM 2008 Grant Recipients in Mathematics**

# LATM wishes to congratulate these QSM Grant recipients for 2008:

#### Region 1

Nevisdale Joseph Carla Harrison Gloria Rimawi Jacqueline May Lisa Labue Cindy Weaver Ranell Troxler Tammy Gannoun Susan Block Cindy Wooldridge Janet Lorio B Gail Grush

## Region 2

Jennifer DeJean

Dale Anne Dupre Melissa Maurer Robyn W. Carlin Robert Primus Deanne Lopez Sheila Delk Jennifer Falcon Sarah Theriot Amanda Schenck Laura May Michelle Miller Kathy Straughan Charlene C. Guilbeau Mark Alan Zweig Kay McInnis Julee McDaniel

Kathy Faust

Ms Beverly Conish

### Region 3

Carla Westbrook Susan Rowe Jennifer Blanchard Kristina Miller Tara Portier Tonia Guidry Monica C. Guienze Jeffery Guidry Shannon T. Mack Joycelyn Acosta Kevin Chauvin

#### Region 4

Angie Leger Bridget Soumeillan Jalel Ben Hmida Alverna Champion **Emily Simon** Darnell Fontenot Amanda Lee Claire Pettit Leeann LeBouef Trasima Richard Natalie Guzzetta Natalie Johnson Donna Victorian

#### Region 5

Lana Guidry LaDeisha George Nicole Smith Shena LaFleur Erica LeBlanc

#### Region 5 (cont.)

Leslie Deshotel Katie Butts Susan Aymond Mary Marcantel Gretchen Monk Sophie Jolene Broxson Cynthia Johnson

#### Region 6

Nancy Dunn Cheri Hillman Jessica Gauthier Nicole Gagnard Jennifer Pastor Valerie Bordelon Johanna Bowman Marianne Little Kara Stevens **Donita Poteat** Renee Floyd Monica Alphonso Wiley M. Cummings, Jr

# Region 7

Randall Brazell

Michael Rachal Jeanne Flynn Amanda Porterfield Lena Harris Amanda Nottingham Lynda LeBlanc Lori Gore

Melissa Phillips

#### Region 7 (cont.)

Jacob Hesselschwardt Melissa Whiteside **Amanda Thomas** Debra Gilmore Vicki Martin Eugene H. Weitzel

### Region 8

**Darron Underwood** Ann Pentecost Kathy C. Sims Alexis DeFreese Helen Collins Megan Shelby Tracy Hill Jacqueline Bradley-Brown Maria Theresa G.Yabut Jennifer Kimble Ella Taylor **Emily Crum** 

# LATM Supports LCSM's Position on Algebra

On January 14, 2009, LCSM President Emily Rash and LATM Vice President Sharon Thomas presented LCSM's position on Algebra I as well as LATM's letter of support for this position to BESE's High School Redesign Committee. BESE members unanimously voted to accept this position and encouraged both groups to work with the Louisiana Department of Education to follow the guidelines listed below.

The following are LCSM's position on Algebra I and LATM's support position.

# LCSM Position on Algebra I

December, 2008

The Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM) is an organization of math leaders. Persons at the district and school level that work with mathematics teachers in a variety of roles are eligible for membership. These individuals include district curriculum supervisors, math specialists, lead teachers, and university faculty. After a called meeting in Alexandria, LA, on December 4, 2008, this organization agreed on the following regarding Algebra I.

- 1. Algebra I should remain a high school graduation requirement for all.
- 2. Because so many students leave the eighth grade lacking the basic skills needed to be successful in Algebra I, there is a need to re-examine the content of the GLEs at prior grade levels, and possibly reduce the number of GLEs per grade level so that required and needed concepts can be understood in more depth.
- 3. Because of the high dropout rate, there is a need to re-examine the Algebra I curriculum to make it more relevant and institute a change in the way that the content is developed and delivered.
- 4. There should be an increase in funding for professional development which focuses not only on increasing the content knowledge of our highly mobile Algebra I teachers, but also on the pedagogy needed to make Algebra I more relevant to all. Additionally, there is a need for long term, content-based professional development for mathematics teachers at all grades.

Emily Rash, President

Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics

#### **LATM Algebra I Position Statement**

The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (LATM) is a state organization of approximately 1800 mathematics educators, primarily PreK –12 classroom teachers. Its goals are to promote excellence in the teaching and learning of mathematics in Louisiana's schools, and to assist and collaborate with other organizations promoting interest in mathematics in Louisiana. The association holds its long-standing, working relationship with the Louisiana Department of Education in high regard and reserves a position on its Executive Board for the State Supervisor of Mathematics to ensure that its members are fully apprised of state initiatives and policies. The association's 2008 Annual Conference provided over 150 sessions to approximately 1300 mathematics educators on the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum, GLEs, literacy strategies for the mathematics classroom, assessment, technology, and best practices for the teaching of mathematics.

The LATM Executive Board, on behalf of its membership, unanimously supports the position presented today by the Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics that completion of Algebra I should remain as a graduation requirement. The Board further supports the need to examine the course content of all math courses PreK – Algebra I and offers the assistance of both its members and that of the organization in recruiting committee members to do this work.

Maryanne W. Smith, President Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics January 9, 2009

# Mathematical Journeys: Infinite Possibilities A Great Success!

by

Carolyn Sessions, Conference Chair

Over 1250 mathematics educators and approximately 135 exhibitor representatives were in attendance at the LATM Annual conference held in Baton Rouge from November 5-7, 2008. A change in the LSU football schedule necessitated an adjustment in dates. Our normal Thursday, Friday, and Saturday conference was moved to Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday to avoid the conflict. Despite this, the Conference Committee's goal for attendance was exceeded, with everyone excited about the opportunity to participate in this excellent professional development experience.

Attendees were able to choose from nine, three-hour Extended Sessions on Wednesday and from 158 concurrent sessions held Thursday and through noon on Friday. A record 66 tables were purchased by our exhibitors, who provided participants an opportunity to see the latest in instructional materials for the mathematics classroom. A complete listing of exhibitors is printed in another article of this newsletter. Please thank their representatives for supporting LATM the next time you see them!

Dr. Keith Devlin, co-author of *The Numbers Behind NUMB3RS: Solving Crimes with Mathematics* and researcher at Stanford University, was the banquet keynote speaker. Dr. Devlin also provided a concurrent session on Friday about the first *NUMB3RS* television show that centered on a crime that occurred in Louisiana. A book signing was held at each of these events.

Special thanks go to the following conference chairs, their committee members, and LATM affiliates for the excellent job they did in putting on the conference:

Program: Maryanne Smith, Stacey Magee, Ellen Marino, Kay McInnis, and Jan Demeyere, SEATM

Extended Sessions: Pam Martin, NELATM

Registration: Jean Ware and Tonya Evans, NLMA

**Hospitality:** Ellen Daughtery and Sharon Besson, BRACTM **Exhibits and Keynote Speaker:** Jean May-Brett, LDE

Finance: Nell McAnelly, BRACTM

Certificates, CLUs, and Ribbons: Kay Kussman, SWLTM

Awards: Beth Smith, NELATM

Publicity: Suzanne Buras, SEATM, and Suzanne Moyers, NLMA

Signs: Cat McKay, ACTM

T-Shirts: Sharon Thomas, GNOTM

Book Signings: Jeffrey Weaver, BRACTM

**Evaluation:** Joan Albrecht, GNOTM

Our gratitude goes to both the participants and those who volunteered during the conference to serve as presenters, presiders, assist at the registration tables, and many other jobs too numerous to mention. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks to you our conferences get bigger and better each year.

# 2008 Annual Conference Supporters and Exhibitors

## **Platinum Level Supporters**

Bill Lohman and Promethean ActiveBoard™
Brenda Collins and Glencoe/McGraw-Hill
Louisiana Department of Education, MSP Program

### Silver Level Supporters

Ellen Johnston and Texas Instruments

#### 2008 Conference Exhibitors

A+PEL Holmes Educational Consultants Promethean Activeboard™

Accessories, Etc. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Qwizdom, Inc.

**Publishers** 

Amsco School Publications I Can Learn Education Systems Renaissance Learning

Anne Lind & Associates Kaplan Early Learning Rosen Classroom
Benchmark Education Company Key Curriculum Press SRA Wright Group
Carnegie Learning Lakeshore Learning Sadlier-Oxford, Inc.
CHARISM LPB PBS TeacherLine Saxon Publishers

Curriculum Associates, Inc. Louisiana Virtual School Scholastic

Delta Education M&M Monograms Sopris West

ETACuisenaire Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Systems for Learning, Inc.

Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta,

New Orleans Office

MathLine Howbrite Solutions Tom Snyder Productions

Frog Street Press/Rhymes N Times Neufeld Learning Systems, Inc. Texas Instruments

ExxonMobil Options/Buckle Down Publishing The Math Gym
Geolegs Pearson Triumph Learning
Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Pearson Digital Wireless Generation

Great Source Peoples Education

Please thank the representatives of these exhibitors for their support!

# **LATM Outstanding Mathematics Teachers**

LATM proudly recognized the following 2008 finalists and winners at the LATM Banquet on Thursday, November 6 at the Hilton Capital Center in Baton Rouge.

#### **Outstanding Elementary Math Teacher 2008 Finalists:**

Paige Falcon of Barataria who teaches at Terrytown Elementary Emily Mull of Slidell who teaches at Riverside Elementary School Jennifer Pastor of Pineville who teaches at J.I. Barron Elementary School

#### **Outstanding Elementary Math Teacher 2008:**

Terrie Willard of New Orleans, Benjamin Franklin Elementary Mathematics and Science School

#### **Outstanding Middle School Math Teacher 2008 Finalists:**

Kayla Hopkins of Florien who teaches at Hornbeck High School Heidi Nolan of Prairieville who teaches at Glasgow Middle School

#### **Outstanding Middle School Math Teacher 2008:**

Nancy Callaway of Prairieville, Episcopal High School

#### **Outstanding High School Math Teacher 2008 Finalists:**

Roberta LeBlanc of Lafayette who teaches at Teurlings Catholic High School Aleshia C. Taylor of Zachary who teaches at Northeast High School

#### **Outstanding High School Math Teacher 2008:**

Patricia Flad Edmiston of Abita Springs, Covington High School

#### **Outstanding College Math Teacher 2008 Co-Winners:**

Dr. Tommy Awtry of Alexandria, Louisiana State University at Alexandria Kathie Smart of Rayville, University of Louisiana at Monroe

#### Louisiana Department of Education Update

by Carolyn Sessions

It's a busy time at the Department and there are many things in progress that affect mathematics education.

 A revised policy for placement of middle school students in Algebra I was approved by BESE in October 2008 and now reads:

Students who intend to take a GLE-based course for Carnegie credit in middle school should successfully complete a seventh grade course in that content area that addresses both the seventh and eighth grade GLEs. Upon completion of the course, the LEA shall administer a test based on the eighth grade GLEs. The purpose of the test is to determine student readiness for the Carnegie credit course. Upon request, the DOE will provide a test, if available, to the LEA for its use. The LEA shall publish in its Pupil Progression Plan the criteria for placement of students in the Carnegie credit course, one of which shall be the student's performance on the eighth grade GLE test. Other suggested criteria include the student's performance in the seventh grade course, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendation.

The policy will be in place for the current school year. A letter informing schools of the process for administering the state test for schools that wish to use it will be sent soon. Check with the mathematics supervisor in your school system to determine if a locally developed test will be provided.

- Some members of the legislature are pushing to do away with the **Algebra I requirement for graduation**. Members of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met with some of the legislators in the fall and indicated that it does not support such a change. Department staff have been gathering information to help convince the legislative members to keep the requirement. An article on LATM's support to keep the requirement is in this newsletter.
- Plans are being made for a professional development pilot workshop for teachers of the new Math Essentials course. If you are teaching the course or plan to teach it next year and would like to be involved in the pilot, please e-mail me.
- BESE policy requires that the Louisiana Content Standards be reviewed once every seven years. School system superintendents have been asked to nominate teachers to serve on Standards, Benchmarks, and GLEs Revision committees. There will be two committees for math: one to review Standards and Benchmarks and a second to revise GLEs. One of the goals is to reduce the number of GLEs in each grade level/course. All teachers are encouraged to participate in the online review of the revised standards. The proposed Standards and Benchmarks are projected to be posted on the Department's website for review in late May 2009 and proposed GLEs posted in October 2009.
- The state **Literacy and Numeracy Conference** will be held April 28 May 1, 2009. Numeracy day is May 1. You may register on Coursewhere for one or more days at <a href="https://www.solutionwhere.com/ldoe/cw/pro">https://www.solutionwhere.com/ldoe/cw/pro</a> reglogon.asp?action=logon. The cost is \$25 per day.
- A Louisiana Math Fellows Academy is being established to serve as a state PreK-12 mathematics advisory panel through June 2009. Members of the Math Fellows Academy will advise Superintendent Pastorek and his cabinet and staff of issues relevant to mathematics education. Information on his project can be obtained from Lynne.Tullos@la.gov.
- We have received additional **GLE handbooks and posters** from our supplier. If you need replacements, please contact your principal. He/she can secure an order form from me and submit one order for the school. Orders are being filled on a first-come, first-served basis until the supply is exhausted.
- State budget cuts are affecting all agencies. The Department of Education has indicated that current year budget cuts will be handled by a freeze on hiring and cutting programs that don't have a major impact on students and schools. The freeze has placed the hiring of a new math supervisor on hold. I will continue to do this job until the position can be filled.

Please feel free to contact me via e-mail at <a href="mailto:Carolyn.Sessions@la.gov">Carolyn.Sessions@la.gov</a> for additional information on these or other topics.



#### MEMORANDUM

TO: Experienced Science and Math Educators

FROM: Lora Johnson, Content Seminar Support Manager, Louisiana Practitioner

Teacher Program

RE: Content Seminar Leader Positions – Earn over \$4,000 in stipends!

The New Teacher Project is recruiting 2009-2010 Content Seminar Leaders for its alternate certification program, which serves Teach For America, teachNOLA, and teach Baton Rouge teachers in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas. CSLs lead content seminars 2 evenings per month during the school year for new first year public school teachers. Seminars are focused on backward design planning and content-specific teaching strategies.

Content Seminar Leaders are typically public school teachers with three or more years of teaching experience. Some CSLs also have some previous experience training or mentoring other teachers. CSLs will be paid \$4,500 for leading 18 content seminar sessions and attending CSL Training.

If you are a strong experienced Science or Math teacher who might be interested in this opportunity please contact Lora Johnson at <u>Ljohnson@tntp.org</u> for more information on this part time position and to receive an application to apply.

We are currently recruiting multiple Content Seminar Leaders for the following content areas:

- Middle School Math
- High School Math
- Middle School Science
- High School Scienc e

If you would like to learn more about The New Teacher Project's mission, please visit our web site at <a href="https://www.tntp.org">www.tntp.org</a>. The New Teacher Project is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer

# **Affiliates in Action**

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

Our final membership meeting for the year will be held on Saturday, March 7 at 9:00am in room 225 of Peabody Hall on LSU's campus. Annette Breaux, from Nicholls University, will be our guest speaker. Her topic is <u>How to Impact Student Achievement and Make a Difference.</u> In this inspiration and information-packed presentation, you will learn practical and proven, easy-to-implement techniques for doing just that-reaching and teaching every student without programs and without money. All participants will walk away with 5 steps (handouts included) that can be implemented in the classroom instantly! Door prizes and refreshments will also be provided.

Any questions or comments, contact Ellen Daugherty, BRACTM President at edaugh1@lsu.edu

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

The Greater New Orleans Teachers of Mathematics hosted its annual conference Saturday Math-i-nee, "Take Two on Saturday", January 10, 2009. There were 27 presenters and over 100 participants from PK-College. Arthur Hardy was the keynote speaker.

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

The LCSM (Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics) met Wednesday, November 5, 2008, during LATM at the Baton Rouge Hilton. Following a brief business report, Carolyn Sessions shared LDE updates as they related to Mathematics, End of Course Testing, and High School Redesign. Amy Westbrook, Executive Director of BESE, reported on current BESE issues involving mathematics. Members requested that a meeting be set to discuss Algebra I issues that are currently being discussed by the legislature and BESE.

The spring meeting of LCSM will be held in Alexandria on May 8 at 10:00 at the Rapides Parish Media Center and new members are welcome. Anyone serving as a math supervisor, curriculum specialist, math coach, etc. is invited to join. Membership is \$10. Please contact Jean Ware for membership information and dues can be paid at the spring meeting.

#### LCSM officers are:

President - Emily Rash, Monroe City Schools

Vice-President - Sharon Thomas, Jefferson Parish Schools

Treasurer - Jean Ware, Caddo Parish Schools

Secretary - Stacey Magee, St. Tammany Parish Schools

LATM Representative - Tina Armand, Avoyelles Parish Schools

NCTM Representative - DesLey Plaisance, Nicholls State University

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If you are not currently on our mailing list, please send contact information to Stacey Magee, Secretary, at stacey.magee@stpsb.org or Emily Rash, President, at emily.rash@mcschools.net

## Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association (NLMA)

The NLMA winter conference "*Math's Everywhere: You've Gotta Love It!*" will be held on February 14, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the LSUS University Center. Dr. Gerald Dawkins, Superintendent Caddo Parish Public Schools, will be the keynote speaker.

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

NELATM will hold their annual mini conference February 28th. The conference sessions will meet in the Airway Sciences building located on the University of Louisiana at Monroe's Campus. Presenters proposals are still being accepted. Additional information can be found at <a href="https://www.nelatm.org">www.nelatm.org</a>.

# **LATM Executive Board**

Mawaaaa Coolth	Violar Hand	Tina Armand
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Past President	Community Relations	NCTM Representative
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Treasurer	GNOTM Representative	Web Site Editor
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# **NCTM NEWS**

# NCTM Affiliate Rebate Program More Funds for You!

Earn \$3.00-\$5.00 a year for each participating NCTM member in your area by encouraging participation in the NCTM Affiliate Rebate Program.

Beginning June 1, 2008, the Affiliate Rebate Program was revised to centralize the collection of NCTM dues payments and redirect the efforts of NCTM Affiliates towards promotion of the program, rather than administrative and financial management. NCTM now encourages Affiliates to promote the availability of the online application and renewal form for NCTM membership and to discontinue the collection of NCTM dues payments.

New and renewing members select the Affiliate of their choice at www.nctm.org:

Want help promoting NCTM membership and the Affiliate Rebate program to your members? Contact affiliates@nctm.org and request ready-to-print advertisements you can include in your member newsletters!



#### How It Works:

- Any individual who joins or renews membership online will be given the option to select an Affiliate to
  receive the rebate. Rebates are not offered for members who join via any other method.
- Only one Affiliate may be selected on the form for the rebate. The list shows only those Affiliates in the individual's state, as well as multi-state and at-large Affiliates.
- Affiliates will not be required to verify an individual's membership status in the Affiliate for this program.
   Rebates will be provided to Affiliates from any individual who selects them on the online application or renewal.
- Rebate amounts:
  - \$3 for renewing full and e-members
  - \$5 for new full and e-members
- Existing business rules will apply to lapsed members who return to NCTM. Currently, an individual is considered new after one year of non-membership in NCTM.
- Multi-year rebates will be provided on multi-year memberships (e.g., a 3-year membership renewal will result in a \$9 Affiliate rebate).
- No rebates will be provided for emeritus, student, institutional, or K-8 school memberships.
- Rebates will be submitted to Affiliates on a quarterly basis. NCTM will discontinue rebates for any dues collected directly by NCTM Affiliates.

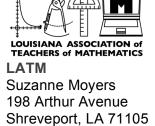


# **LATM Membership Form**

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

Name	
Street Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
LATM needs at least one working e-mail address	s. This allows us to get information to you quickly.
E-mail address 1:	E-mail address 2:
School Name	Parish
Home Phone ()	
Annual Dues: \$15.00 Full time, N	Ion-teaching Student: \$5.00
☐ Renewal ☐ New Men	nbership

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.



#### Inside News:

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- NCTM Rebates