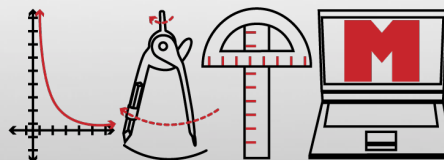


THE NUMBER LINE

February 2016

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
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happening with your
organization and
profession!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new year is upon us which means that the school year is half over, and we are on the downhill ride! I hope your school year ends with your students feeling that their education has been held to very high standards and that they have a foundation that offers them equal footing with others across this nation and the world.

It was great to be in Baton Rouge in November to witness the huge number of teachers from around the state coming together to network with one another as they explored STEM-focused activities. LATM and LSTA worked together to bring you the 2015 Joint Conference, *Enlightening Students, Empowering Teachers*. The whole conference was a wonderful success. This was the first joint conference to be held in Baton Rouge, and we are so excited that our joint conference in October 2016 will return there. Please, mark your calendars. The conference will be held October 24-26, 2016. Keep up-to-date by checking the LATM website at www.lamath.org. I hope to see you there.

Carolyn Sessions served as our LATM representative as Conference Co-chair. She and her co-chair, Jean May-Brett, worked tirelessly to bring us a conference that met the needs of so many educators. Of course, their conference committees worked hard to achieve the standards that Jean and Carolyn set. Just listening to all the positive comments that the participants were making demonstrated the success.

LATM is committed to honoring those educators who have done outstanding work in the field of mathematics education. At our annual conference, we recognize those individuals and will again this fall. Please consider encouraging outstanding teachers you know to submit applications for these awards. In addition, you may submit nominations for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching or for the LATM Lifetime Service to Mathematics Education award. Information for all of these awards can be found on our website and/or in editions of *The Number Line*.

At our annual Business Meeting held on November 11, our membership approved a new slate of officers and voted for a revised Constitution and By-laws. If you would like more information, look for the revised list of officers in this edition of *The Number Line* and find the new Constitution and By-laws on our website.

In the summer and fall, the Executive Council will be busy with our conference, which includes offering travel grants to possible participants. In the late winter and spring, we will work on educator awards, support the Louisiana Science and Engineering Fair, offer Carol Meyer Scholarships to upper-class college students, and plan professional development opportunities for our membership. We work closely with our affiliate organizations around the state. If you are not already a member of your local affiliate, please contact your representative for more information. Contact information is available in the Executive Council list at the end of this newsletter.

To keep our membership informed, we have a presence across media platforms. Also remember that all conference registrations included membership in both LATM and LSTA. LATM sends direct e-mailings, has a Facebook page with weekly postings, keeps an updated website, and is moving into use of Twitter. Stay tuned for updates.

Wishing you simply the best in all your educational endeavors!

Sincerely,



Maryanne W. Smith
LATM President

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VICE-PRESIDENTS' CIRCLE

What Does Math Class LOOK Like?

Tricia Miller

Vice-President for Elementary Schools

For several decades now, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) has promoted instructional practices that focus on critical thinking, reasoning, and communicating in contrast with the traditional methods of teaching memorization and procedural fluency. This “new” vision has not been exempt from resistance and criticism. The Common Core math standards have helped to quiet the debate about content. However, the authors were intentionally silent on the topic of pedagogy. The standards themselves do not dictate the curriculum or methods for the delivery of the content.

We see in classrooms all over the state that teachers use different approaches to instruction of the standards. According to journal article, *Is There Common Pedagogical Core?* (Munter, Stein, and Smith, NCSM 2015), there seems to be two major mathematics instructional models that are worth considering. The models described here represent two distinct perspectives.

The “**direct instruction**” model might include a lesson that follows a structure such as this:

1. The teacher describes the objective, gives motivation for achieving the goal(s), and makes connections to previous lessons.
2. The teacher presents the new concepts.
3. The teacher demonstrates how to work a problem.
4. The students participate in guided practice and/or independent practice as the teacher provides corrective feedback.

During that last portion of the lesson, the teacher may gradually release the responsibility of learning to the students by guiding them through certain steps and then allowing them to complete the problems independently. After working a problem, the student may receive feedback from the teacher in regards to the accuracy of his/her answers. Lessons need to be engaging for students, provide opportunities for them to discover patterns, and help students to develop efficient methods or strategies. The teacher will need to interact with students in a way in which to build relationships with them, keep them on task, and make learning interesting and a worthy cause.

The “**dialogic instruction**” model does not necessarily fall into a particular pattern for each lesson, but instead provides students with opportunities to engage in tasks that are carefully designed and sequenced to build understanding based on previous knowledge. This means that a teacher must:

- Engage students in tasks that help to deepen their understanding of concepts and help them be more confident in their use of skills that they already know;
- Make use of learning progressions which will allow students to reach learning goals and sequence the classroom activities;
- Encourage students to use tools and representations that have longevity, which means they will work over time as students’ understanding grows; and
- Promote productive discussions that make the mathematics accessible to all learners.

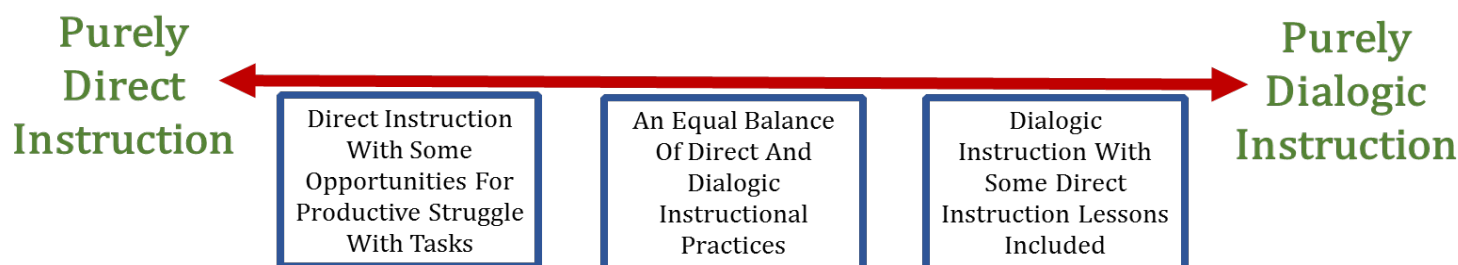
This model allows students to learn mathematical concepts as they are embedded in contexts that are connected to the real world and promotes the use of multiple representations and strategies that support a deep understanding of the mathematical concepts.

Is it possible to use both of these models successfully in the same classroom? Both dialogic and direct instruction can be used for different purposes. In fact, teachers in dialogic classrooms may very well use direct instruction to demonstrate certain mathematical procedures, just as students in predominantly direct instruction classrooms may engage in real-life problem solving tasks. It is important to understand

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the two models and recognize teacher rationales for choosing the particular practices that they do. Munter, Stein, and Smith agree that both models can value the importance of teaching conceptual understanding and fluency. Good instruction, whether in a dialogic or direct classroom, should provide opportunities for students to apply conceptual understanding and fluency in real-world problem-solving situations.

So where are you on the continuum below? What works best for your students? Do you see any benefit in moving in one direction or the other on the continuum?



Don't forget that you can find engaging tasks and activities at <https://illuminations.nctm.org/>

Pi Day Celebration

Vickie Flanders
Vice-President for Colleges

As we embark upon a new year, Pi Day is just around the corner. We celebrated the Pi Day of the Century last year, 3-14-15. However, March 14th of every year is a great day to teach the fascinating aspects of the number pi. An interesting fact is that March 14th is also Albert Einstein's birthday!

There are some great Pi Day activities to incorporate into your classroom. A Pi Day scavenger hunt is loads of fun for students. There are many different ways to go about this. You could give each student a particular topic related to pi and have them create a poster presentation on their topic. For example, one poster could have the number pi written to 100 decimal places. When all of the presentations are completed, you can put them on display at the school and create a scavenger hunt of pi facts found on the posters. An example of a scavenger hunt question would be to find the digit in the 56th decimal place of pi. Another idea is to read the books Sir Circumference and the Knights of the Round Table and Sir Circumference and the Dragon of Pi to the class. You might think that middle and high school students are too old for this, but you will be surprised how much they will enjoy having story time. There are numerous geometry activities that can be done. One easy, but significant, activity is to have the students measure different sizes of circles to estimate the value of pi. There are also great food and craft ideas to help celebrate Pi Day. Pizza pies are great and can be ordered and delivered for convenience. Actually, pies of any kind will do – apple, blueberry, pecan, etc. There are individually wrapped pecan pies that work really well.

A great resource website is www.teachpi.org, where you can "find more than 50 ideas for ways to make Pi Day entertaining, educational, tasty, and fun." Another resource website is www.piday.org/2008/2008-pi-day-activities-for-teachers/. Happy Pi Day!

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2015 LATM/LSTA JOINT CONFERENCE RECAP

2015 LATM Travel Grant Awardees

Congratulations to the 2015 LATM Travel Grant Recipients for the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference. The following individuals received \$300 to offset the expense of attending its annual conference in Baton Rouge, November 9-11, 2015. The money was used to cover conference registration, short course registration, lodging, meals, parking, and/or travel.

Tracie Ellerman of Ruston
Rachael Erminger of Slidell
Tonya Guidry of Cut Off
Ronda Lloyd of Gilbert
Laura Long of Shreveport
Donna McClue of Slidell
Candace Young of Lake Charles

2015 LATM Outstanding Teacher Awards

Congratulations to those teachers recognized as 2015 LATM Outstanding Teachers at the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference. An award ceremony was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at the Louisiana Art and Science Museum to recognize each of the teachers listed below.

Outstanding Elementary School Math Teacher:

Finalist - Emily DeLatin – Claiborne Fundamental Magnet

Finalist - Kathy Parenti – RJ Vial Elementary School

Awardee - Amanda Mire – St. Rose Elementary School

Outstanding Middle School Math Teacher:

Finalist - Lana Duvall – Krotz Springs Elementary School

Finalist - Lindsey Weeks – JB Martin Middle School

Awardee - Emily Moran – Woodlawn Middle School

Outstanding High School Math Teacher:

Finalist - Jana Panos – CE Byrd High School

Awardee - Mark Landry – Runnels High School

Outstanding New Math Teacher:

Finalist - Ashley Atkins – Oil City Magnet School

Finalist - Taffy Sexton – Bains Elementary School

Awardee - Whitney Saucier – Parkway High School

Outstanding Math Educator:

Finalist - Karen Matthews – Runnels High School

Finalist - Mandi Wolfe – Winnfield Primary School

Awardee - David Thomas – Centenary College

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2015 LATM Lifetime Service to Math Education Award

The Lifetime Service to Mathematics Education Award recognizes an LATM member for distinguished service in the field of mathematics education. The award is designed to recognize an LATM member who has made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of math education in mathematics and/or mathematics teaching over a significant period of time.

The recipient of the 2015 LATM Lifetime Service to Mathematics Education Award is Carolyn Sessions. Carolyn served on the LATM Executive Council for over 20 years. During her tenure with LATM, she served as President, Newsletter Editor, Department of Education Representative, and State Presidential Awards Coordinator. She has also been a conference chair or committee chair for various LATM and joint conferences, having recently served as the conference co-chair for the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference.

In her time at the Department of Education, Carolyn has worked with hundreds of teachers of mathematics and district curriculum staff. She led the development of the Grade Level Expectations and the Comprehensive Curriculum, as well as the transition to the Common Core State Standards. Carolyn has developed multiple professional development modules, which were delivered around the state. She also developed "Self Learning Modules" teachers could use to understand and better implement the Common Core State Standards in their classrooms. Former students remember Carolyn for her classroom instruction and outside club activities. Perhaps most importantly, she is held in high regard by the parents of her former students for her dedication to learning.

At the national level as a long time NCTM member, Carolyn has had a major role in multiple NCTM New Orleans Conferences. A member of the Association of State Supervisors of Mathematics, Carolyn was elected secretary of the association and served in a leadership position for multiple terms. A member of the state Presidential Awards in Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching selection panel Carolyn has served at the invitation of the National Science Foundation on the National Selection Panel. Carolyn was a Presidential awardee herself.

Carolyn is an esteemed educator who truly deserves an honor of Lifetime Achievement in Mathematics for her impressive career that has greatly improved the education of students throughout Louisiana.



Carolyn Sessions (center) with LATM Past President Jeffery Weaver and LATM President Maryanne Smith

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Scenes from the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference

With over 1,500 attendees, the 2015 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference, *Enlightening Students, Empowering Teachers*, was a great success. LATM would like to take the opportunity to thank all those who attended and to invite everyone back to Baton Rouge for the 2016 LATM/LSTA Joint Conference to be held October 24 – 26, 2016. Stay tuned to future editions of the *The Number Line* for registration and hotel information. For now, enjoy just a few of the pictures taken during the conference.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching



Congratulations again to the Louisiana State Finalists for the 2015 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching who were honored during the recent joint math science conference in Baton Rouge.

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

Unfortunately there has been no White House proclamation for the 2014 Presidential Awardees for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). Perhaps in 2016 both the 2014 and 2015 Awardees will be announced and honored.

The 2015-16 academic year is an elementary cycle for the Presidential Award program. Teachers of math, science, computer and engineering courses in grades K-6 are eligible in 2016. The nomination process is under way. Several Louisiana teachers of mathematics have been nominated and many have already declared their eligibility and begun work on the application packet.

For additional information on the Louisiana PAEMST program contact Jean May-Brett at jam05@bellsouth.net or visit <https://www.paemst.org/home/view>

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LATM Outstanding Teacher Award Nominations

Please take advantage of the opportunity to recognize your outstanding colleagues in mathematics education. The Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics honors outstanding elementary, middle, and high school teachers from participating schools each year. We also honor an outstanding new teacher who is in his/her first three years of teaching. This award will go to a teacher who has completed one, two or three years of teaching with the completion of the third year being no later than the end of the 2015-2016 school year. We also honor a Leader in Mathematics educator, which can include supervisors, coaches, lead teachers, university instructors, Department of Education personnel or others who have made a significant contribution to mathematics education (nominees may not be an LATM Executive Council member nor a K-12 classroom teacher). One of the goals of our organization is to honor and recognize those individuals who model and promote standards-based mathematics teaching and learning for their students. All nominees must be current members of LATM. The membership form can be found at <http://lamath.org> under the membership link.

A copy of the award application can be found at <http://lamath.org> under the awards link on February 15, 2016. **The nominee should complete all portions of the application and must return them to LATM at the address on the bottom of the application postmarked by April 1, 2016.** A panel of outstanding Louisiana educators will evaluate the applications to select finalists and overall awardees for each grade level based on the following criteria: professional experience, professional development activities, professional memberships, reflective essay, and professional references.

LSU-S Math Circle Participants Ready for Spring 2016

Math Circle, hosted monthly by Dr. Judith Covington of LSU-S, provides a cost free opportunity for math teachers to participate in a professional development opportunity for educators of different grade levels and varying teaching experience.

Meetings begin at 5 PM with dinner provided. Following dinner teachers are engaged in mathematical conversation through presentations and the exploration of activities. Monthly presenters include university professors from several colleges and teacher leaders from Northwest Louisiana.

This past fall Dr. David Thomas of Centenary College, the 2015 LATM Outstanding Math Educator, was the featured presenter one evening. Dr. Thomas's presentation was centered around the concepts of number sense and the Standards of Mathematical Practice. Teachers attending discovered several strategies to better engage students, including the games "Fraction Combat" and "Krypto."

The next Math Circle meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, at LSU-S beginning at 5 PM. Additional details regarding this meeting will be available as the date approaches. Future meetings for the remainder of this school year will take place on April 5, and May 3. Math Circle is free to participants and is a fantastic opportunity to advance mathematical content knowledge. Mark your calendars now!

Mathematical Association of America Louisiana Mississippi Section Meeting
LSUS February 25-27, 2016 of 2016.
<http://sections.maa.org/lams/meeting/>

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Carol Meyer Scholarship Applications Being Accepted

LATM is pleased to honor the memory of Carol Meyer, an elementary school mathematics teacher who died unexpectedly at an early age. Carol loved mathematics and was a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She was an outstanding math teacher and a fervent worker on the LATM executive board. She was always generous in sharing her love of math with her students and fellow teachers.

In Carol's memory, the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics is pleased to award two \$500.00 scholarships each year to college upperclassmen with a declared major in elementary education, mathematics education, or mathematics. In addition to the scholarship, the awardees shall receive complementary LATM student memberships. It is our hope that another future outstanding mathematics teacher or mathematician will be helped along the way by this award.

Follow this link for the 2016 application: <http://lamath.org/CarolMeyerScholarship.htm>.

The application must be postmarked by Friday, March 18, 2016.

LDOE UPDATE

Kyle Falting
LDE Representative

The third round of Teacher Leader Collaborations were held at the end of January. The math content sessions focused on the learning progression of equations and inequalities for grades 5 through high school and the learning progression of functions for grades 6 through high school. The sessions devoted a large portion of the time to participant-led activities focusing on diagnosing student mastery of a particular Standard and how to respond. The sessions not only highlighted the mathematics of two of the most important topics of middle and high school math, but also provided teachers with concrete, teacher-friendly tools that will aid in the process of responding to student work.

Planning has already begun for this summer's Teacher Leader Summit. Majority of the math sessions will focus on building content knowledge of the most important topics at each grade band. For example, K-2 teachers will have the opportunity to dive deep into the foundations of our base-ten number system, while middle school teachers will have the opportunity to explore linear expressions including adding, subtracting, and factoring linear expressions. Teachers will have the opportunity to attend several content-rich sessions lead by experts from the Cain Center at LSU. Additionally, teachers will again get the opportunity to learn from experts at Eureka with sessions focused on specific strategies fundamental to Eureka in addition to sessions focus on developing stronger content knowledge.

We hope to see you all at these events and look forward to diving deep into the mathematics of your grade/course!

Editor's Note: LATM will again be providing sessions on a variety of topics at the upcoming Teacher Leader Summit this summer. Stay tuned to future editions of The Number Line and to the sessions released by the LDOE for more information about the sessions LATM will offer.

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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)

BRAC TM is currently in the planning stages to collaborate with the Capital Area Reading Council to hold a spring event/meeting.

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)

The Northwest Louisiana Mathematics Association's Winter Conference is scheduled for Saturday, February 20, 2016 from 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Bossier Parish Community College. Please note that this is a new location from previous years. The conference theme is *NLMA 2016: Leaping Into Mathematical Success*. The keynote speaker for the conference is Dr. Matthew Peterson, co-founder, Chief Executive Officer and Senior Scientist at the MINDS Research Institute. Dr. Peterson is a seasoned speaker and writer on math learning, comprehension, and proficiency, and the science of learning. You may download conference information at <http://caddomath.org>.

For more information e-mail Tonya Evans - tevans@caddoschools.org.

Northeast Louisiana Teachers of Mathematics (NELATM)

NELATM will be hosting a spring mini-conference Saturday, March 19 at Neville High School. Information will be sent to districts shortly or you can visit <http://nelatm.org> for more details.

SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM)

SEATM will host a professional development for Pre-K through 12th grade teachers on Thursday, February 18, 2016, from 4:30 to 6:00 at Honey Island Elementary School located at 500 South Military Road, Slidell, LA. Jill Cowart, Manager of Math and Science with the Louisiana Department of Education will be in attendance. Participants will analyze assessment items for the components of rigor (skill and fluency, application, and conceptual understanding). They will leave with a better understanding of how to design and/or analyze math assessments for quality. St. Tammany Parish Curriculum Specialists will work with teachers from their respective grade levels as they evaluate Math assessments for validity and rigor. Teachers are being asked to bring a teacher-created math question or assessment in order to participate more fully in the session. The cost of the event is \$10, which represents a one-year membership to the SouthEast Area Teachers of Mathematics (SEATM). Registration will begin at 4:00 p.m. in front of the school office. Membership forms will be available for completion on-site.

SouthWest Louisiana Teachers of Mathematics (SWLTM)

The SWLTM held a mini-conference on January 30th at the local technical college, SOWELA. Math educators from across Southwest Louisiana came together to collaborate and share their knowledge regarding math education. At the conference, classroom grants, up to \$750, were awarded. Be sure to check out our new website at <https://sites.google.com/site/swlrm2015/>.

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Louisiana Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (LCSM)

Election of officers will take place at the May 2016 General Membership Meeting, which will be held in Alexandria. We are currently considering May 11th as the meeting date. A nominating committee, led by Sabrina Smith, is accepting nominations for vacancies on the LCSM Executive Board. The offices for which we are accepting nominations are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and LATM Representative. If you would like to nominate someone, please submit his/her name and contact information no later than May 1, 2016 to Sabrina Smith at Sabrina.smith@jppss.k12.la.us or sabsmith@cox.net. Elections will be held during the May membership meeting.

MDC UPDATE

Teachers around the state had two fall opportunities to attend Math Design Collaborative (MDC) trainings funded by the LDOE. MDC trainer teams were in Bossier and Lafayette. Instructional materials, such as the PowerPoints from the fall sessions, are available on the Edmodo MDC site.

A new feature for the MDC Edmodo site is the monthly posting of technology spotlights by Jacob Hesselschwardt, a member of the Bossier MDC instructional team. The December Technology focus provided some online tools for fun in preparation for the holidays and in January Jacob shared web resources for virtual trips.

Why MDC

Several studies have been completed by Research for Action related to the academic success of students associated with the implementation of the MDC Formative Assessment Challenges. Strong points of MDC are the level of student engagement, the rigor of the math content and the development of teachers' skills and knowledge. <http://www.researchforaction.org/?s=MDC>

What's next?

Two one-day sessions will be offered after the first of the year: February 24th in Bossier (this is a change from the date announced during the November session in Bossier) and March 2nd in Lafayette. These trainings are free and open to all grades 6-12 mathematics teachers. The registration link is: <http://www.solutionwhere.com/ldoe/cw/showcourse.asp?4328>

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. Below are pictures from MDC trainings around the state.



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NCTM UPDATE

NCTM's Advocacy Toolkit

NCTM's Advocacy Toolkit can provide you with basic resources to act on behalf of teachers on issues that affect you, your students, our schools, and mathematics education. The Toolkit includes an NCTM Communications Guide to help you get started. The Guide offers tips on interacting with legislators and legislative staff. Important information about NCTM and position statements is also included.

<http://www.nctm.org/Research-and-Advocacy/advocacy-toolkit/>

The Hunt Institute and NCTM

NCTM and [The Hunt Institute](#) have produced a series of videos to enhance understanding of the mathematics that students need to succeed in college, life, and careers. Beginning in the primary grades, the videos address the importance of developing a solid foundation in algebra, as well as laying the groundwork for calculus and other postsecondary mathematics coursework. The series also covers the Standards for Mathematical Practice elaborated in the [CCSS-M](#) and examines why developing conceptual understanding requires a different approach to teaching and learning.

<http://www.nctm.org/standards-and-positions/common-core-state-standards/teaching-and-learning-mathematics-with-the-common-core/>

NCTM Illuminations

Illuminations is a project designed by NCTM and supported by the Verizon Foundation. NCTM serves as a content partner for Thinkfinity, the Verizon Foundation's free online professional learning community, where Illuminations is the primary contributor of resources for teaching and learning mathematics for grades pre-K–12.

Illuminations lessons and interactives are searchable by NCTM's [Principles and Standards](#) and by the [Common Core State Standards](#). The site offers more than 700 [lesson plans](#) and more than 100 [activities](#). [Illumination lessons are not just for students](#)—see how Illuminations lessons are used for professional development too!

Let's work together to build a well-connected mathematics education community!

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/>

Write or Referee for NCTM Publications

The NCTM publishing program looks to the mathematics education community for expertise, insights, and accurate content. Our authors, who include some of the most respected professionals in the field from the classroom, academia, coaching, and administration, develop professional materials for our teachers, administrators, counselors, and parent members. Covering pre-k-14, NCTM publishes approximately 15 books and 5 journals over the course of a year.

Why referee manuscripts? The answer is simple—you always learn something. As a **referee**, you learn something about writing, pedagogy, and mathematics—every single time.

Why write a manuscript? The reasons are many. For example, teachers and other professionals with excellent lessons, assessments, or ideas about classroom research and practice can share them with everyone in the mathematics education community.

Learn about writing or refereeing for NCTM publications [here](#).

Nominations Sought for NCTM Board of Directors

Do you know someone who would bring valuable experience, perspective, and judgment to the NCTM Board of Directors? Help the Nominations and Elections Committee identify talented, energetic individuals who are qualified to assume leadership roles in the Council. Get complete details on the process, procedures, qualifications and responsibilities, and school incentives. <http://www.nctm.org/nominations/>

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LATM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Maryanne Smith President president@lamath.org	Mandy Boudwin President-Elect m.s.boudwin@me.com	Ellen Daugherty Treasurer edaugh1@lsu.edu
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Renew your Membership

Were you 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 online, print the renewal receipt after submitting, and pay with PayPal or mail the renewal receipt with your \$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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