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(T a l k i n g L e a f)

South Dakota Council Teachers of Mathematics Newsletter

Presidential Ponderings

I cannot believe how time is flying. The leaves are changing color, I've pulled my sweaters/cardigans from the back of the closet, several of the fall athletic seasons are coming to a close, and we are planning our first work day for the 2023 SD STEM Ed Conference. Some are even at the end of the first quarter of this school year. I hope you have a moment to sit back with a cup of gourmet hot cocoa or coffee and enjoy the changing of the seasons.

I recently traveled to Los Angeles for the NCTM annual conference. It was such a rewarding experience. So many math minded people at the same venue! I intentionally selected a wide variety of sessions and was rewarded with ones that were top rate! As fantastic as the sessions were, I enjoyed the many conversations with other math minded educators almost as much. It is always eye-opening to hear about the issues impacting education in other parts of the country. Kids (parents) are the same all over, but their reality is not. In one session, a presenter referenced teaching an Algebra II class to students who had not had a math teacher for the past two years. Another presenter is tutoring kids in Ukraine (her native country). One of her students is getting help with Calculus while in a bomb shelter. She told me that she often hears bombs going off in the background when she is working with him. (If anyone has a Ukrainian student or knows of one, that needs help in a math class, let me know and I'll help you get in contact with her. She has started a free tutoring program for displaced Ukrainian students and she offered assistance to those that are here as part of a more traditional international program.)

As much as I enjoyed my trip to LA, it made me that much more excited for our SD STEM Ed Conference. Cindy Kroon, Conference Chair, calls it the math/science family reunion – and that just what it feels like to me! SD teachers are the best! We have some of the most dedicated, inventive, and humble teachers in the nation! Submit a proposal to present a session (if you have not done so yet) at <https://sites.google.com/k12.sd.us/sdsta/sd-stem-ed-conference>. Proposals will be accepted until October 31, 2022. If presenting is not in the cards this year, we'd still love to see you there. The conference theme this year is "My Students Still Need Me" and the banquet speaker is Stephen Pruitt, President of the Southern Regional Education Board and the Math featured speakers are Sharon Rendon, CPM, and Rob Stack, Chadron State College, Chadron, NE. Early Bird Registration is now open: [2023 SD STEM Ed Registration](#). I look forward to seeing you!



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O[†]Gorman High School
SDCTM President
SDCTM/SDSTA JPDC Treasurer & Registrar

Fall 2022-2023

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Calendar Notes:

- Register and submit speaking proposals for the 2023 Stem Ed Conference now!



Higher Ed Viewpoint



I just returned from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference, and I was reminded how wonderful it is to be surrounded by like-minded people. Every-

one there was doing mathematics, talking about mathematics, and loving mathematics. We all had a common goal of how to teach our students how to love, do, and talk about mathematics. I attended sessions about being culturally responsive to my students and improving instruction. I heard from expert teachers throughout the country about what they are doing that has improved their teaching.



It reminded me that we have fabulous teachers here in South Dakota doing fantastic things in their classrooms to benefit their students' understanding of mathematics. So how do the rest of us benefit from their expertise? And then I remembered that the deadline for submitting a talk for our SD STEM Ed Conference has not yet passed. That means you still have time to submit a proposal to present a session for the conference to share all the incredible things you are doing to help our students learn mathematics. If you are not ready to submit a proposal, then put the conference dates on your calendar and participate in a camaraderie that only a conference of math and science teachers can provide. Surround yourself with like-minded people, sharing their joy of math and science and teaching.



“We all had a common goal of how to teach our students how to love, do, and talk about Mathematics.”



I returned from the conference exhausted, renewed, determined, excited, and hopeful. Of course, I was exhausted because it was four jam-packed days of workshops, presentations, and conversations. But I felt renewed as I listened to dedicated teachers making a difference in their classrooms. I was determined to apply what I had learned to improve my teaching. I was excited about the future of mathematics education, and I was hopeful that the changes I saw would have a global impact on teaching mathe-

matics. I hope you can experience all these emotions at the February SD STEM Ed Conference in Huron, SD. See you there!

Christine Larson
Post-Secondary Liaison
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Musings from Dan

By the time you read this, the semester will be about half over already. Hopefully your students will have settled down and the new normal for students is now being able to learn some mathematics in a classroom with their peers. This past week I was at a Rotary luncheon where the superintendent of the Vermillion School district gave a report on the system. One of his statistics pointed to the truth in the saying, “Bad habits are hard to break.” He mentioned that there is a small population that is having a hard time with attendance and getting to school. We are seeing the same thing in some of our classes at the university where some students have a hard time making good choices of showing up for class. Hopefully this population of students will continue to dwindle over time and they will see the need to be in class in order to learn. I know all of you have great things to teach and make your classes interesting. Who wouldn’t want to attend, right?

I would like to bring to your attention some important deadlines coming up.

- Nov 4-5 next meeting for the Math Circle groups
- Jan. 5 deadline for the Kelly Lane Earth and Space Science Grant
- Jan. 5 deadline for the Daniel Swets Robotics Materials Award
- Computational Astronomy has started but you could probably still join
- Dec. 1 deadline for the Marian Fillbrandt Stem Ed conference stipend
- Dec. 1 deadline for the Daktronics Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Award

All these award descriptions and application directions can be found on our website <http://www.sdctm.org>

Thanks to Cindy Kroon for doing such a great job keeping the website up to date. Also, while you are checking out all these activities, be sure to register for the upcoming StemEd conference the first weekend in February. You really deserve the break and opportunity to enjoy some time with your fellow educators in the state. You will come back feeling re-energized!

In closing, I do hope to see you all in Huron in February. Until then, keep up the good fight in educating our youth. I know it can be discouraging at times, but please know you are making a positive difference in your students lives.

Sincerely,

Dan VanPeurse

President Elect-SDCTM
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“You really deserve the break and opportunity to enjoy some time with your fellow educators in the state.”



9-12 Spotlight

Math Scavenger Hunts

Students have cell phones, friends all around, and many responsibilities. With all those distractions, keeping students engaged in the classroom is a big part of the teaching battle. Our math department is currently reading **Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics** by Peter Liljedahl. The book is filled with research-supported techniques to improve student engagement. I have not started to implement those ideas in my classroom yet, but be looking for future articles on the benefits of working at Non-Permanent Vertical Surfaces (students standing at white boards) and visibly-random grouping strategies. Until I am ready to tackle some of those bigger changes, I am working on small tweaks to lessons to keep students engaged.

This year, my students and I have been enjoying using math scavenger hunts. Scavenger hunts have been successful in keeping students engaged in a sustained math practice for several reasons:

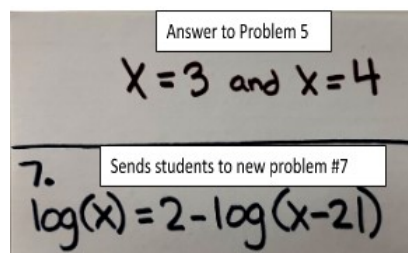
- Scavenger hunts start with students putting everything away except one piece of paper and a pencil. With less material in front of students, it is easier to stay focused.
- Scavenger hunts allow students to move around the room. This keeps energy levels high.
- Scavenger hunts are self-checking. This allows students to feel a sense of accomplishment with each correctly solved problem. It also lets them know if they are making a mistake.
- Scavenger hunts feel like a game. I don't even offer a prize at the end, but students feel motivated to complete the hunt.
- Scavenger hunts allow students to work with peers. We all know that using positive peer interaction is a powerful motivator for teens.

Scavenger hunts work best to practice math that has already been introduced. They are easy to create from any existing problem set. I just create a quick map that takes me from one question to the next.

Sample Question Map

Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sends you to Question	5	10	9	8	7	1	2	3	6	4

Then I write each problem out on the bottom of a sheet of paper with a colorful marker. On the top half of the paper, I use a different color marker to write the answer to the prior problem. Then I hang the papers up around the room in random order.



“Scavenger hunts have been successful in keeping students engaged in a sustained math practice...”

(continued p. 5)



9-12 Spotlight *continued*

Students set up their own sheet of paper with space to work the correct number of problems. Each pair of students starts with the problem closest to their desk. When they complete the problem, they hunt around the room for the answer. That answer gives them the next problem to work. If they don't see their answer, they know they need to re-check their work.

Scavenger hunts are a fun break from the daily grind. They are easy for teacher to set up, and they help students to stay motivated while completing necessary practice. Hopefully they can help keep student engagement high in your classroom. Happy hunting!

Jennifer Haar
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Would you like to be a Presenter at the February Conference?

We are planning a face-to-face professional development conference in Huron. We are looking for STEM activities at all levels. Please consider putting together a session or two to share with other educators around the state.

- Proposals are due by October 31, 2022
- Submit as many sessions as you wish, but all your session proposals may not be accepted.
- The first listed speaker will receive confirmation of acceptance with the day(s) & time of session around the first weekend of December.
- Projectors will be supplied, but not every type of cable connection is necessarily available. (Presenters are welcome to bring their own devices.) All other materials or technology will be the responsibility of the presenter.

New this year, we are offering a smaller time slot to those that wish to share just one small item or lesson. We're planning on sorting those that want 10 or 15 minutes to present together in a session on either Friday afternoon or Saturday afternoon. Fill out the same Speaker Submission form and select Mini-Session & we'll do the rest.

{{As a reminder, we will still have a Thursday night sharing session that you can just attend or present at without advance notice. We usually offer pizza & pop to everyone in attendance after people have presented.}}

Submissions are taken online at speaker.SDSTA.org

James Stearns
SD STEM Ed





SD STEM Featured Speakers Sneak Peak

**Battling Ignorance:
4 Words That Can
Change the World**

**Featuring Keynote Speaker
Dr. Stephen Pruitt**



Plan to attend the 2023 SD STEM Ed Conference Banquet Supper where Dr. Stephen Pruitt will include his keynote titled: "Battling Ignorance: 4 Words That Can Change the World."

Educators want to change the world. Educators are the ones that can. Join Dr. Pruitt, former science teacher and science/policy leader for a funny, yet current look at the role of teachers in changing the world. Dr. Pruitt will share his experiences, both personal and professional, to remind us of the power of teachers in his life and as we recover from COVID.

Dr. Pruitt has long been a member of NSTA and has worked for national importance of science education and support of teachers. His humorous storytelling and somewhat unique look at the world will engage you and inspire you as we all continue the fight against ignorance.

Dr. Astrid Northrup will join the 2023 SD STEM Ed Conference as the science featured speaker.

Dr. Northrup obtained her B.S. and M.S. in petroleum engineering, working in the petroleum industry for several years before completing her Ph.D. in science education. She found her home as Professor of Engineering Science and Mathematics at Northwest College in Powell, WY. She serves on the Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board, on the Wyoming NASA Space Grant Board of Directors, and as Regional Coordinator for MathCounts. She is a published author on topics of women in engineering and K-12 computer science initiatives. Plan to attend her exciting conference sessions that will help you bring engineering into your classroom.



Dr. Astrid Northrup

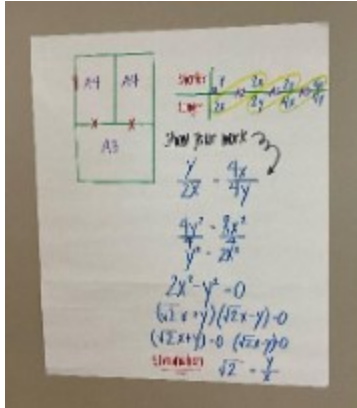
Rob Stack is a Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the Mathematical and Natural Sciences Department at Chadron State College in Chadron, Nebraska. For the past 28 years, Rob has taught classes at the college level (4 years at the University of South Dakota and the past 24 years at Chadron State College) in all areas including math education, applied mathematics, and statistics. He has junior high and high school teaching experiences in Marion, SD, as well as Rosenberg, TX. Rob is a past president of the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Mathematics, and was named the recipient of the 2004 Teaching Excellence Award for the Nebraska State College System. He also coached baseball for more than 15 years (including 4 as head coach at USD) and softball for 10 years (all as head coach at Chadron State). He graduated with a B.S. in Mathematics Education, an M.A. in Mathematics, and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, all from the University of South Dakota. Rob grew up in Tabor, South Dakota, and, while attending USD, met his wife Jill, who was from Hoven. They have been married for 25 years, have a perfect number of children, and the first prime of grandchildren.



A Word from Stephanie

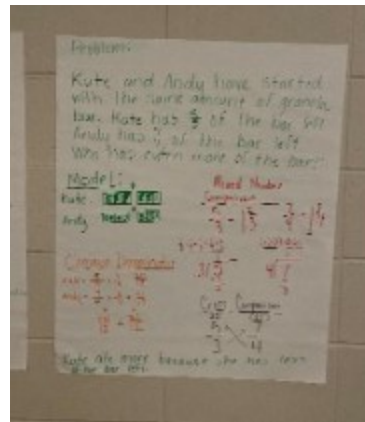
Greetings,

I hope you all have had a wonderful start to your school year! It seems crazy that the end to the first quarter is either approaching quickly, or has already passed, depending on when you started the school year.



The first Best Practices in Teaching Mathematics Regional Math Circle events were held in late September. There was a good turn out for both the Sioux Falls and Rapid City locations, with the hope that the Watertown and Pierre locations will have enough registrations for the next event. In September, educators first engaged in the “Fit for Photocopying” task, causing some productive struggle and a lot of great discussion. Educators then switched gears to the progression of how students develop their understanding of fractions, ratios and proportions and linear equations.

The Best Practices in Teaching Mathematics Regional Math Circle events are open to all K-12 educators who are interested in building their own understanding of mathematics, as well as, building their confidence and their students’ confidence in learning mathematics. The November events will focus on the place value, numbers in base ten and exponents. Please consider joining us for a great day of engaging in rich mathematics, great conversations, and meeting educators from across South Dakota.



Educators who have participated in Math Circles have said:

- *Being reminded what it is like to be a student was refreshing. I found myself wanting to persevere when the problem was challenging.*
- *I have a better understanding of how the standards progress through the grades and how important it is to teach your grade level standards fully. Our struggling learners still need to be working on grade level standards, but maybe they start that standard and a more concrete representation and move up to the more abstract.*
- *I really appreciate the connections between the early elementary all the way to the high school.*
- *I loved the emphasis on giving students time to problem solve and at the end giving them a chance to explain their problem solving so they feel validated. Keeping the emphasis off of the answer and more on the process gives them a chance to feel okay to share.*



“...educators first engaged in the “Fit for Photocopying” task, causing some productive struggle and a lot of great discussion...”

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A Word from Stephanie (continued)

Remaining Regional Math Circle dates and topics.

- Nov. 4 or 5: Numbers in Base 10, Place Value, Exponents and Number and Quantity
- Dec. 2 or 3: Geometry
- March 24 or 25, 2023: Patterns and Algebraic Thinking

Please note the days for each location:

Friday dates- Sioux Falls and Watertown

Saturday dates- Pierre and Rapid City

One graduate credit will be available if participants attend three of four unique Math Circle events. All travel expenses and district cost for substitutes, for Friday dates, will be reimbursed by the South Dakota Department of Education.

As always, encourage colleagues to sign up for the Listserv, at the K-12 Data Center Mailing Listing site: <https://www.k12.sd.us/MailingLists>.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or needs.

Take care,

Stephanie Higdon
Stephanie.Higdon@state.sd.us
SD State Math Specialist

Mark's Thoughts

Twitter & Math PD, v2.0

Greetings! I hope the new school year is going well for each of you. It's crazy to think that most schools are wrapping up the first quarter. My father used to say, "Time flies when you are having fun!"

If you look back into the archives of this newsletter, you will see that I am a fan of using Twitter to find useful math ideas and resources.

I've recently been captivated by Howie Hua's twitter feed (@howie_hua) and the TikTok videos he posts. Howie is a professor at Fresno State University where he teaches math to future elementary teachers. Knowing his background sheds some light on the types of videos he posts. Many of his videos are of elementary and middle school topics in which he explains the "why" behind the concept. Some of my favorites include "Adding left to right is underrated", "Why does it make sense that a negative divided by a positive is a negative?", and "Why can we flip the second and multiply when dividing fractions?"

I've appreciated his insight into these elementary and middle school concepts. I've realized there are a lot of things in elementary & middle school mathematics that I "know" but didn't ever really understand "why". These videos have deepened my understanding of mathematics and are a treat to watch.

Mark Kreie
SDCTM Vice President
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Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

We are awaiting the announcement from the White House for both the 2021 and 2022 Awardees. Again, here is a list of outstanding teachers from each award year who are South Dakota's state-level finalists.

2022 South Dakota State-Level Finalists (Mathematics)

Chelsey Coverdale, Jodi Neugebauer, Rebecca Van Roekel

2021 South Dakota State-Level Finalists (Mathematics)

Brittany Green, Mark Kreie, Amy Schander

Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Overview

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. Since 1983, more than 4,000 teachers have been recognized for their contributions to mathematics and science education. Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education.

State-Level Finalists automatically become candidates for the National Presidential Award. Two teachers from each state may be selected as the state's Presidential Awardees and will be notified officially by the White House. This will take place after a national committee reporting to the National Science Foundation makes its selection from the state-level finalists submitted by each state.

Presidential awardees receive a citation signed by the President of the United States, a trip to Washington DC to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities, and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation.

State-Level Finalists are nominated because someone thought of them as teachers who exhibit a passion for the subject they teach; who approach their work with creativity and imagination; and who strive daily to improve individual teaching practices.

Anyone--principals, teachers, parents, students, or members of the general public--may nominate a teacher by completing the nomination form available on the PAEMST website. For more information, please visit www.paemst.org.



“...more than 4,000 teachers have been recognized for their contributions to mathematics and science education.”

(continued p. 10)



PAEMST *continued*

Why else would a nominee want to complete the application process?

45 continuing education contact hours from the South Dakota Department of Education can also be earned toward certificate renewal by completing the application process. To be eligible, a PAEMST candidate must complete all components of the application process and submit a scorable application that can be sent on to the state selection committee. All applicants submitting a scorable application will earn credit, not just the state finalists whose materials will be sent on to a national selection panel.

Now that you know more, Do YOU:

Teach mathematics in grades 7-12?

Have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution?

Have at least 5 years of full-time employment prior to the 2021-2022 school year?

Teach students full-time at least 50% of a school's allotted instructional time?

Have a passion for the subject you teach, approach your work with creativity and imagination, and work to improve your individual teaching practice daily?



If you have answered YES to the previous questions and are a mathematics or science teacher in grades 7-12, consider applying for the 2022-2023 PAEMST award this FALL! The nomination window is now open. For more program information, visit www.PAEMST.org

If you have any questions, please contact:

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SD PAEMST Mathematics Coordinator
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605.553.8095

Jennifer Fowler
SD PAEMST Science Coordinator
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NCTM Representative Tips

Once again, the math community will get together to network, collaborate on new ideas, and learn from professionals across the country as the NCTM Regional Conference and Exposition will be held in Baltimore, Maryland from November 30 – December 2, 2022. The theme this year is Spark your Math Passion. Regular registration ends on November 29, with onsite registration still available the day of. The Wednesday night speaker is Kenneth Williams.

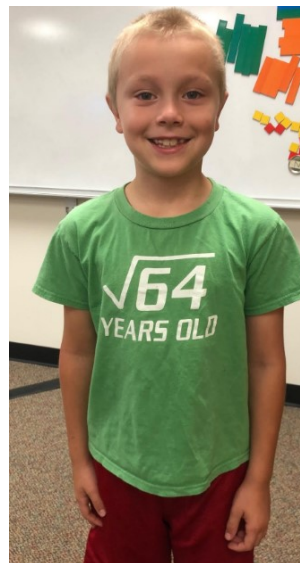
Looking for something a little closer to home? The 2023 SD STEM ED Conference is being planned for Feb 2-4 in Huron SD. This year's theme is "My students still need me!" Join educators from across the state to collaborate and learn about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Pre-registration is available now for those who would like to attend. Early-Bird Registration ends December 15 -your cheapest option. Get your registration in now! Pre-Registration is available till January 15th. You can still attend if you miss the January 15th deadline, but you will be paying the On-Site fee at the door. Registration for those who would like to present is open until October 31. Any submissions after that time will be considered at the discretion of the conference committee. This is always a highlight of my year. I can't wait to see everyone there.

Susan Gilkerson
NCTM Representave
Susan.Gilkerson@k12.sd.us



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Celebrating a birthday in style! I think we can all agree to “root” for this young man from Montrose!





**NCTM Grants, Scholarships, and Awards
Mathematics Education Trust (MET)**

NCTM established the Mathematics Education Trust (MET) in 1976 to channel the generosity of donors by creating grants for teachers from preservice to leadership that span a range of learning, teaching and research opportunities.

Grant Name	Applicants	Grade Level(s)	Maximum Award	Due Date
Scholarships and Awards for Preservice Teachers				
Prospective PK-6 Elementary Teacher Course Work Scholarship	Preservice Elementary School Teachers	PK-6	\$10,000	May 1
Prospective 7-12 Secondary Teacher Course Work Scholarship	Preservice Secondary Teachers	7-12	\$10,000	May 1
Grades 7-12 Pre-Service Teacher Course Work Scholarship	Preservice Secondary Teachers	7-12	\$10,000	May 1
Mathematics Grades 6-12 Preservice Teacher Course Work Scholarship	Preservice Secondary Teachers	6-12	\$4,000	May 1
Prospective Teacher NCTM Annual Meeting Attendance Scholarship	Preservice Teachers	PK-12	\$1500 plus conference registration	May 1
Opening Gates for Prospective Teachers	Mathematics Educators	PK-12	\$490	May 1

Coursework and Scholarship Grants for In-Service Teachers				
Advanced Mathematics Education Coursework Scholarship for Grades 9-12 Teachers	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	9-12	\$3000	Nov. 1
Mathematics Graduate Coursework Scholarship for Grades PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12 Teachers (3 different scholarships)	Teachers	PK-5	\$3200	Nov. 1
		6-8	\$3200	Nov. 1
		9-12	\$3200	Nov. 1
Professional Development Scholarship Emphasizing History, Number Theory, or Discrete Mathematics	Teachers	6-12	\$3000	May 1

Research Grants				
Classroom Research Grant (PK-6 and 7-12) (2 different grants)	Teachers, Mathematics Educators	PK-6	\$6000	Nov. 1
		7-12	\$6000	Nov. 1
Action Research on Mathematics Teaching Practices Grant	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders, Preservice Teachers	PK-12	\$6000	May 1

Professional Development Grants				
Emerging Teacher-Leaders in Elementary School Mathematics Grant	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	PK-5	\$6000	Nov. 1
Fostering Support of Mathematics Learning for Multilingual Learners (PK-12) (co-funded with TODOS)	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	PK-12	\$4000	Nov. 1



Grant Name	Applicants	Grade Level(s)	Maximum Award	Due Date
Professional Development Grants (cont.)				
Future Leader Initial NCTM Annual Meeting Attendance Scholarship	Teachers	PK-12	\$1500 plus conference registration	May 1
School In-Service Training Grants for PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12 (3 different grants)	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	PK-5	\$4000	May 1
		6-8	\$4000	May 1
		9-12	\$4000	May 1
Teacher-Leader Professional Learning Grant (PK-12) (co-funded with NCSM)	Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	PK-12	\$4000	Nov. 1
Teacher Professional Development Grants for PK-5, 6-8, and 9-12 (3 different grants)	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	PK-5	\$3000	Nov. 1
		6-8	\$3000	Nov. 1
		9-12	\$3000	Nov. 1

Other Grants				
Connecting Mathematics to Other Subject Areas Grant (9-12)	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	9-12	\$4000	Nov. 1
Designing Innovative Lessons and Activities for Mathematics Teaching (K-8)	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	K-8	\$5000 plus up to 2 renewals of \$5000 each	Nov. 1
Engaging Students in Learning Mathematics Grant (6-8)	Teachers	6-8	\$3000	Nov. 1
Enhancing Student Mathematics Learning through the Use of Tools and Technology Grant	Coaches, Teachers, Teacher-Leaders	PK-12	\$3000	May 1
Equity in Mathematics Grant (6-12)	Teachers	6-12	\$8000	Nov. 1
Improving Students' Understanding of Geometry Grant (PK-8)	Teachers	PK-8	\$4000	Nov. 1
Partnership for Transition to College Readiness Grant	Higher Education and Teachers	9-12	\$8000	Nov. 1
Using Music to Teach Mathematics Grant (PK-2)	Teachers	PK-5	\$3000	Nov. 1

Lifetime Achievement Awards

An award presented annually at the NCTM Annual Meeting and honoring NCTM members with a lifetime of achievement in mathematics education at the national level. Nominees should have a minimum of 25 years of distinguished service to mathematics education. Applications are due May 1.

Affiliate Grants

Three grants are available to NCTM Affiliates: The Kenneth B. Cummins Grant for Partner Affiliates (up to \$3,500), the Associate Affiliate Grant (up to \$2,500), and the Student Affiliate Grant (up to \$2,000). These grants are awarded to Affiliates in good standing to initiate professional activities or programs that might otherwise not be possible. Applications are due May 1.

For additional information about all MET grants and application details see www.nctm.org/Grants.





2021-2023

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