

Stanislaus County Office of Education
April 2007 Math and Science Newsletter

Stanislaus County Elementary Science Fair

Stanislaus County Office of Education is proud to announce that we are hosting a **county elementary science fair for grades K-6 the week of May 1 – May 4, 2007**. The science fair will be held at the Salida Regional Library, located off Highway 99 in Salida. More details about the county science fair are available on the county web site at <http://www.stancoe.org>. Click on *programs*, then click on *science fair*. Science fair projects may be submitted for individuals or small groups of students not to exceed 6 students per group. In grades K-3, an entire class may submit a science fair project. The SCOE science fair is intended to showcase student work and to be a celebration of science. All projects must include a student journal that is handwritten and documents the scientific process that accompanies the science fair project. **Sponsoring schools agree to hold a school science fair to select the best projects to submit to the county fair**. Every teacher who has a student project entered into the county science fair will have their name put into a drawing for gift certificates to NASCO.

Saturday Math at CSUS

Here are some upcoming dates and topics:

- Saturday, April 21st, 2007 - titled "***Making and Breaking Codes – Applications of Arithmetic***" for teachers in grades 6 – 12. The instructor is Bix Beeman, who currently teaches high school in Merced.
- Saturday, May 12th, 2007 – titled "***Iterate as Needed – Making Mathematics Dynamic***" for teachers in grades 6 – 12.
- The cost of any Saturday workshop is only \$ 20 dollars, with a continental breakfast and lunch included. Workshops are Saturday from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m. Walk in registrations are also accepted the day of the workshop.

You can register for any of these workshops at <http://csmp.ucop.edu/cmp/ccmp/calendar.php>

School Garden Workshop

The Modesto Junior College Agriculture Department will be offering their annual "School Garden Workshop" on Wednesday, April 25th from 3:45 – 8:00 p.m. Participants will learn about the school garden network, finding grants, thematic gardens, and cooking and nutrition. There will be many free educational resources and raffle prizes. Questions? **Contact Don Borges at MJC 209-575-6449**. The deadline to register is April 18th and the cost is only \$ 25 dollars, and includes materials, dinner, and refreshments. You can download the informational flyer from this link

<http://wwwstatic.kern.org/gems/region6b/2007SchoolGardenFlyer.doc>

NEED/PG&E Solar Schools Workshop :

Saturday, May 12th at the Salida Regional Library off Highway 99. 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Explore language arts, math, social studies, and other ways to pull solar energy education into the classroom. **NEED Schools Going Solar** education kits will be given **FREE** to all participating schools. Teachers will receive a \$400 Science of Energy kit and a Solar Kit of their choice worth \$250-\$350, depending on grade level. Teachers who attend the Saturday, May 12th workshop will also receive a \$ **100 dollar stipend** for attending.

<http://www.need.org/pgesolarschools/>

This workshop will be held at the Salida Regional Library Community Room, located at 4835 Sisk Road in Salida, adjacent to Highway 99 and Kiernan Ave. This workshop is being sponsored by the Stanislaus County Office of Education. There is no cost to attend this workshop; a continental breakfast and lunch are included in the workshop for all participants.

Summer Math Academy – Five Steps to a Balanced Math Program

Stanislaus

County Office of Education is offering a summer math academy **June 13 – 15, 2007** featuring Larry Ainsworth, author of the book “**5 Steps to a Balanced Math Program**”. Larry is also the Executive Director of Professional Development at the Center for Performance Assessment in Denver. He works along side Doug Reeves in designing summer workshops at the Center for classroom teachers. This workshop series will help teachers to deliberately deliver a balance of instruction and assessment that will help students solve problems and build their computational skills. The cost of the 3 day workshop is \$ 300 dollars, and registration will be limited to 50 participants. Additional information can be found at the county web site at <http://www.stancoe.org> Click on *workshops*, and then click on *5 Steps to a Balanced Math Program*.

Science Resources for the Elementary schools

Principals and classroom teachers - are

you looking for a great resource to help you meet the science requirements of the 5th grade science CST test? If so, then you should check out this resource offered by the California Science Teacher Association. The grade 5 science standards are mapped in a spiral fashion leading back to Kindergarten. **Each strand of science is represented. (Earth, life, physical)** So, a school site team could easily identify the key science standards for every grade leading up to 5th grade, and incorporate these into the school plan for science achievement at every grade. This is a simple and easy to use document that every elementary school could benefit from looking at. Here is the web site www.cascience.org/4-5spiral.pdf

AB 466 / SB 472 Math Training

Looking for an opportunity to attend a 40 hour summer institute aligned to your mathematics textbooks? The Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting two sessions this summer for interested teachers. Funding is available from the state to reimburse schools that send teachers to this 40 hour training.

- June 11-15th K-6 teachers who use **Houghton Mifflin Mathematics**
- July 30 – August 3rd **McDougal Littell** Concepts and Skills, Algebra 1, Course 1 and Course 2

All institutes are from 8:30 – 3:30 daily with a continental breakfast and lunch included. Cost is \$ 750 dollars per participant, with state funding available for reimbursement upon completion of the training. For more information, go to our web site at <http://www.stancoe.org> and click on the **Workshops** link.

Modesto Area Partners in Science (MAPS)

Invites you to join them on **Friday, April 20th, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Forum Room 110 at the East MJC campus** for an evening with Dr. Adrienne Zihlman. The focus of the evening lecture is **The Secret Life of Teeth**. Dr. Zihlman is UCSC Professor of Anthropology and has been featured in TIME magazine. Her lecture will explore how new scientific tools flesh out the emergence of our species. This lecture is open to the public and free of charge.

Scholarship Opportunities for high school seniors

CSU Stanislaus is looking for high school seniors to apply for the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. (CSU – LSAMP) This **scholarship** is for the 2007 summer academy and is available to any student planning on attending CSUS, MJC, or San Joaquin Delta College in the fall of 2007. The LSAMP program seeks to provide scholarships for members of groups that are historically **under-represented in careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics**. If you know a high school senior who meets these qualifications, or you want additional information on this academy, please contact Rita Glynn at CSU Stanislaus. The number is 209 – 667 – 3780. Email is rglynn@csustan.edu