

Stanislaus County Office of Education
February 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 April 30 – 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 will be available in late February on the county web site. Information will also be sent to every elementary school in the county by email.

Saturday Math at CSUS

Here are some upcoming dates and topics:

- Saturday, February 10th, 2007 - titled "*Literature and Mathematics Part 1*" for teachers in grades 1-3. The instructor is Judy Lewis
- Saturday, March 3rd, 2007 - titled "*Literature and Mathematics Part 2*" for teachers grades in grades 1-3.
- 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>

NEED/PG&E Solar Schools Workshop : Saturday, March 10th at the San Joaquin County Office of Education or **Saturday, May 12th at the Stanislaus County Office Of Education. 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 at the Stanislaus County Office of Education will also receive a \$ **100 dollar stipend** for attending. **Contact Information:** Barry Scott, 209-468-9119 bscott@sjcoe.org or <http://www.need.org/pgesolarschools/>

Summer Math Academy for Region 6

Mark your calendar for the week of June 13– 15, 2007 as the Stanislaus County Office Of Education will feature Larry Ainsworth, Executive Director of Professional Development at the Center for Performance Assessment (Doug Reeves center) as he presents "**Five Easy Steps to a Balanced Math Program**". Larry is the co author of the book of the same title, and this three day seminar is for teachers looking to further refine and deliver their math programs. The cost of the three day workshop will only be \$ 300 dollars a person, and attendance will be limited to the first 60 participants. Registration will all be handled online at the Stanislaus County Office of Education website at <http://www.stancoe.org> Click on workshops to register online and also to download further information.

California Math Council presents "*An Algebraic Thinking Symposium*" featuring John Martin as the banquet keynote speaker. This conference is scheduled for March 9 – 10, 2007, in Monterey California. The host hotel is the Embassy Suites in beautiful Monterey. This is a Friday evening dinner with keynote speaker, followed by Saturday workshop sessions. This symposium meets all of the requirements of NCLB for professional development. Details can be found at www.cmc-math.org or calling 1-888-cmc-math.

Extreme Science:

"Extreme Science is the place online to find the biggest, baddest, and the best in the world of extremes and to learn about the science behind what makes each the most extreme example of its kind." Created

and maintained by Elizabeth Keller, this site clearly demonstrates her passion for science and her dedication to inspiring a love of science. First launched in 1998, it has grown into one of the most highly visited science sites on the Web. For more information go to: <http://www.extremescience.com>

Math 2670 – Linear and Abstract Algebra for Teachers This is a 4 semester credit catalog course offered by California State University at Stanislaus for pre-service or in-service teachers who **are non – mathematics majors**. This course was designed to address the California Subject Matter Requirements in Algebraic Structures and Linear Algebra. It will be offered over 8 Saturdays this spring, and can also be taken as a **video conference series**. The first meeting of this class will be Saturday, February 17th from 9 – 4 p.m. For additional information about the course, contact the instructor, Marie Vanisko, at mvanisko@csustan.edu
You can register for this course at the CSUS web site
<http://www.csustan.edu>

The San Luis Obispo County Office of Education is seeking experienced writers of instructional materials to work on the development of standards-based instructional materials for the State of California's Education and the Environment Initiative. The current solicitation for writers is specifically focused on writers with experience developing standards-based instructional materials for 4th-12th grades and with emphasis in Science and History/Social Science. **Thursday, February 22, 2007** is the **deadline for submission** of statement of qualifications from writers interested in developing 4th-12th grade instructional materials. For detailed information regarding the items listed below, please refer to the following website at [http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader\\$198](http://www.creec.org/stories/storyReader$198).

Watershed Wonders: Environmental educators can obtain a free DVD and curriculum from the Algalita Marine Research Foundation that discusses the problems of pollution in our watersheds and shows examples of sustainable watershed management in action. For more information, visit www.algalita.org

GEMS Teachers: Would you like to participate in a research study?

Are you interested in helping us validate our *Seeds of Science/Roots of Reading* field study assessments? *Seeds of Science/Roots of Reading* is a National Science Foundation funded curriculum development and research project. The initial release of *Seeds/Roots* units will be this spring, as discussed later in this message.

Who: 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade teachers

What: Take 1.5 hours out of a school day to give our literacy and science assessments to your students. You will in turn receive a GEMS Teacher Guide in exchange for your participation.

When: Between March 1 and May 15, 2007

How: *For more information please contact Maia Werner-Avidon at maiaw@berkeley.edu OR call 510.643.9032 (9-5 PST)* Thanks for your continued support. **p.s.** All information we collect is confidential and cannot be shared with participants or school officials.

Conservation Connection: Do you know any middle school teachers who are seeking a curriculum on water and energy conservation? Conservation Connection, published in 2004 by the California Department of Water Resources, includes **eight lessons** that help answers questions such as where do we get the water and energy that we use and will we always have enough to meet our needs? The goal of this curriculum is to get students actively involved in conserving, both at school and at home. The curriculum is correlated to the content standards in science. For more information go to: <http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/>