

Stanislaus County Office of Education September 2007 Math and Science Newsletter

STARLAB Would you like to bring the night sky into your classroom? Would you like to engage your students in learning about the solar system? Looking for an easy, low cost way to take them to a planetarium? The answer might be in bringing STARLAB to your classroom and school. If you are a teacher in grade 3, 5, or 8 and want to learn about STARLAB and about your earth science standards in action, then plan on attending this Saturday morning workshop. The presenter, Mike Oakes, is a 5th grade teacher who will take you inside the STARLAB and also train you on how to use the GEMS kit called "Earth, Moon, and Stars". You will walk away with ideas to address your grade level science standards in a fun and exciting way. The workshop will be held on **Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 – 12:00 noon at Salida Elementary School** and also on **Saturday, November 3rd from 9:00 – 12:00 noon**. Salida School is located at 4519 Finney Road off Broadway Ave in Salida. **Cost is only \$ 30 dollars and includes a continental breakfast, handouts, and a copy of the Teacher Guide.** Register online for either of the workshops at <http://www.stan-co.k12.ca.us/SCOE/workshops/welcome.html> The workshop is limited to the first 25 teachers to sign up. Once you have attended the workshop, you can check out and use the STARLAB unit for FREE from the Stanislaus County Office of Education.

Stanislaus County Elementary Science Fair Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting a **county elementary science fair for grades K-8 the week of May 12 -16, 2008**. The science fair will be held at the Salida Regional Library, located off Highway 99 in Salida. Any teacher who has a student project submitted to the SCOE science fair will have their name entered into a drawing for gift certificates to spend at NASCO for classroom supplies for science education. ***Start planning your school science fair for the spring right now, and save the best student projects to enter into our county science fair.*** All student projects will earn a ribbon, and the top student projects will earn a gold medal for science achievement. For additional information about the science fair, contact Rick Bartkowski, Director of Math and Science, at rbartkowski@stancoe.org or contact Tricia Dunlap, our science consultant, at tdunlap@stancoe.org

Stanislaus Math Council presents "Math in the Mall" The Stanislaus Math Council is sponsoring an event called **"Math at the Mall" on Tuesday, October 9th from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.** at the Vintage Faire Mall in Modesto. The event is FREE to all students in grades K-6 who are accompanied by a parent. There will be drawings for free prizes every half hour.

Tackling the Two Toughies: Geometry and Measurement The Stanislaus County Office Of Education is hosting a workshop for classroom teachers interested in ways to improve student achievement within the geometry/measurement strand. We have hired **Barbara Novelli, math consultant** with Creative Mathematics, and colleague of Kim Sutton, to teach this workshop. Participating teachers will learn strategies to engage students in problem solving and application. Teachers will walk away confident and competent in ways to provide interactive student experiences in this important math strand. Two workshops will be offered:

- **Tuesday, October 16th from 8:30 – 3:00 p.m. for teachers in grades K-2.**
- **Wednesday, October 17th from 8:30 – 3:00 p.m. for teachers in grades 3-5.**

The cost of the workshop is only \$ 100 dollars, and includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and activity bag provided by Creative Mathematics. The workshops will be held at Samaritan Village, 7700 Fox Road in Hughson. For online registration please go to:

<http://www.stan-co.k12.ca.us/SCOE/workshops/welcome.html>

For registration questions, please contact our administrative assistant, Anna Marie Facha, here at SCOE. Her number is 209 – 238 – 1315 or email at afacha@stancoe.org

Saturday Math workshop

The Stanislaus Math Council and the Stanislaus County Office of Education are hosting the 37th Annual Mathematics Conference on **Saturday, October 27th, 2007 from 8:00 – 3:00 p.m.** The featured speaker will be **Greg Tang**, author of numerous books, including *The Grapes of Math* and *Math for All Seasons*. In addition to the keynote speaker, there will be many breakout sessions for all grade levels K-12, free prize drawings, and include a continental breakfast and lunch. Save the date on your calendar as registration will be limited to 300 people. The event will be held at the Stanislaus County Office of Education. **The cost will be only \$ 75 dollars and all proceeds from the conference will help support the Stanislaus Math Council** activities, including Math in the Mall, Sixth Grade Math Blast, Dick Schaff Jr. Junior High Super Bowl, and the High School Math competition. You won't want to miss this one day conference. Registration will begin in August and is available on the county website

<http://www.stancoe.org> Information and registration forms are also available on the Stanislaus Math Council web site. <http://www.stanislausmathcouncil.org>

Technology Conference

The Central California Computer Using Educators invites you to join them on **Saturday, September 29th from 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** for a conference at Stanislaus County Office of Education. The purpose of the conference is to provide teachers and administrators with examples of effective integration of technology in education. Presenters are local area teachers and administrators who use free or low cost technology as part of their regular job. The conference hall will showcase educational technology suppliers with additional ideas and equipment that can enhance your curriculum. Exhibitors will include textbook publishers that will demonstrate electronic learning resources that accompany the recent textbook adoptions in History – Social Science and in Science, as well as a display of math textbooks for the upcoming adoption year. **Cost is only \$ 30 dollars for participants, and includes breakfast and conference materials.** For additional information you may contact Burt Lo, the CTAP 6 technology coordinator at

blo@ctap6.k12.ca.us

Online registration at:

<http://www.cuehub.org/13821082512627357/blank/browse.asp?A=383&BMDRN=BCOB=0&C=53597>

FREE K-12 Energy Education Workshop

The Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting a Solar Schools workshop, in partnership with the PGE Solar Schools program, on **Saturday, November 10th, 2007, from 8:30 – 2:30 p.m. at our downtown SCOE Petersen Event Center. This workshop is FREE for all classroom teachers in grades K-12.** Our presenter is Barry Scott, the program coordinator for NEED (National Energy Education Development). Teachers who attend this Saturday workshop will receive the following: **\$ 100 dollar stipend from PGE** for attending; \$ 400 “Science of Energy” hands-on kit; a grade level solar energy hands-on kit worth \$ 350; information on Bright Ideas grants and Solar Installation grants; and a continental breakfast and lunch are included. Registration is available online at:

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

You may also contact our SCOE office administrative assistant, Anna Marie Facha, for additional information at afacha@stancoe.org

MAPS news (Modesto Area Partners in Science)

Mark your calendar for Friday, September 28th for an evening with Dick Hilton, from Sierra College, who will speak on the topic “*California’s Dinosaurs*”. This is part of the free lecture series sponsored by the Modesto Area Partners in Science. The evening begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in Forum 110 on the Modesto Junior College East campus. For more information, visit their web site at

<http://virtual.yosemite.cc.ca.us/MAPS/>