

## Stanislaus County Office of Education August 2008 Math and Science Newsletter

### **Saturday Math workshop**

The Stanislaus Math Council and the Stanislaus County Office of Education are hosting the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Mathematics Conference on **Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 8:30 – 3:00 p.m.** The conference theme is “**Marvelous Magic of Mathematics**” and the featured speaker will be **Dr. Arthur Benjamin**, who is hailed as a “**Mathemagician**” for his amazing abilities to calculate numbers in his head. 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. New this year will be an entire English Learner strand. 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.** 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> **All participants are eligible to obtain 6 hours of mathematics professional development credit that can be combined with hours of attendance from any other math workshops, including SB 472. You also may be eligible to use the 6 hours of attendance toward your SB 472 Passport.** Ask your district for further details.

### **Making Every Math Minute Count – Grades K-5**

Consultant **Kim Sutton** from Creative Mathematics will be here on Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 8:30 – 3:00. Kim will present “**Strategies for Algebraic Connections in Number Sense and Measurement**” that you can take back to the classroom and implement tomorrow. Teachers will experience games, songs, books, and puzzles that utilize every minute of the math period to engage every student. Throughout this interactive workshop, participants will gain knowledge about mathematical content, math teaching strategies, and how children gain **algebraic foundation**. Every game and activity in this workshop has three levels for use with all children in the classroom. **Here is what you will learn:**

- What algebra should look like in the elementary classroom.
- How math is nutrition for the brain through the latest research into the questions we ask students.
- The “top” ten children’s literature titles for building algebraic power.
- Create language connections through mathematical puzzles, games, and activities.
- How to differentiate mathematical instruction with Kim’s “ready to go” ideas – more than you hoped for.
- Classroom and student tools for maximizing your instructional time for achieving best results in all areas of mathematics.
- How to make the many dimensions of measurement more profound for your students with complex ideas presented in the most motivating of ways.

### **Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for teachers in grades K-5.**

The cost of the workshop is only \$ 75 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>

**All participants are eligible to obtain 6 hours of mathematics professional development credit that can be combined with hours of attendance from any other math workshops, including SB 472. You also may be eligible to use the 6 hours of attendance toward your SB 472 Passport.** Ask your district for further details.

### **FREE Science Workshop**

NSTA is sponsoring a 2 day FREE science workshop on two Saturdays. The subject is "From Space Sciences Discoveries to Mayan Culture" for all teachers in grades K-12.

- **Saturday, August 16, 2008. 9-5 p.m. at the Space Sciences Laboratory in Berkeley**
- **Saturday, November 15, 2008. 9-3 p.m. at the Pickelweed Community Center in San Rafael, Ca.**

This 2-day teacher professional development workshop will include topics such as space weather, seasons, magnetism and the electromagnetic spectrum with a special emphasis on working with Latino communities.

**Day #1** of the workshop will feature modeling of classroom-tested, standards-based, NASA-funded educator guides such as "Exploring Magnetism," "Real Reasons for the Seasons," "Living with a Star," and "Eye on the Sky." There will be a breakout session for elementary teachers to learn about "Eye on the Sky" materials and for middle and high school teachers to learn about the GEMS guide "Living with a Star."

**Day #2** of the workshop will take place in conjunction with a Mayan community event in San Rafael, CA. The multilingual community event will feature space science activity stations along with vendor's selling food, arts, crafts, & textiles. There will be lectures from Mexican scientists about the astronomy of the ancient and modern Mayan culture and from NASA scientists about modern solar research. There will also be presentations of traditional Mayan dances. Teachers will meet in the morning, prior to the start of the event to learn about the space science activity stations and how to plan similar events in their own communities.

We will provide the opportunity to earn college credits for teachers completing 15 hours of professional development over the 2-day workshop. To receive credit, teachers are expected to commit to writing a lesson plan using content and resources from the workshop, trying out this lesson plan in their classrooms, and participating in the bilingual space science stations at the Mayan community event on day #2 of the workshop.

**The workshop is free. Free lunch and snacks will be provided. Parking is free. Plus we will distribute several free NASA classroom materials, including GEMS guides, and elementary lessons from Eye on the Sky.**

Register online at:

<http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/workshops/registration.aspx?eid=1> (deadline: 5pm, Aug 13)

Download a flyer to share at:

[http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/workshops/archives/Flyer\\_08-16-08.pdf](http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/workshops/archives/Flyer_08-16-08.pdf)

For questions regarding registration, please contact Darlene Yan at 1-510-643-3936.

### **What is Mad Science?**

Mad Science is the world's leading fun science provider. They spark the imagination and curiosity of children ages 3-12 by providing them with educational and entertaining activities that instill a clear understanding of what science is really about and how it affects the world around them. Mad Science does this through in class workshops, after school programs, **school assemblies, science nights**, special events, summer programs, as well as birthday parties. Are you just a bit more curious about Mad Science? For further information, call at 209-544-2667 or email at [info@madscience.ms](mailto:info@madscience.ms)

### **Science Olympiad Coaches Conference**

If you are new to Science Olympiad, or been coaching for a while, this is a great opportunity to learn about the new events for 2008/2009. This conference is open to teachers, parents, and students. All events are correlated to state standards, and the workshop includes Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch. The date is September 26-27, 2008 in Sacramento. This is a Friday evening and all day Saturday at Sacramento State University. Registration costs is \$ 125 dollars a person, and you can register online at [www.floridascienceolympiad.org](http://www.floridascienceolympiad.org)