

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

**Stanislaus County Elementary Science Fair**      *Registration is now being accepted online for this years County Science Fair for students in grades K-8. Registration is free, but all projects must be registered by the deadline of May 5, 2008 in order to be entered into the judging. Just go to the county web site at [www.stancoe.org](http://www.stancoe.org)*

Click on the link at the top of the page called “**programs**” and then click on the link for “**science fair**”. You can then open up the *science fair registration* and begin entering in the information for your school and projects. Make sure to indicate the grade level for each project. In addition, for individual or small group projects, please enter in the names of the students. The science fair will be held the week of May 12-16, 2008 at the Salida Regional Library, located just off of highway 99 in Salida. There is space for plenty of free parking, and it is easy to access from all parts of the county. *You can drop off science fair projects that have been registered on Monday, May 12 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Salida Regional Library. You must pre-register your school science fair projects before the deadline of May 5<sup>th</sup>.* 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](mailto:rbartkowski@stancoe.org) or contact Tricia Dunlap, our science consultant, at [tdunlap@stancoe.org](mailto:tdunlap@stancoe.org)

**Summer Math Institutes**      The Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting a series of summer math 40 hour institutes for **SB 472 professional development** reimbursement from the California Department of Education. These workshops are designed to be publisher specific and to be an in-depth look at the new math textbooks, their ancillary components, as well as the grade level or content specific standards. State funding is available to school district for the cost of the 40 hour workshop (\$ 750) as well as a **\$ 500 stipend to be paid to the teacher upon completion of the institute and full reimbursement from the CDE**. Please check with your district Curriculum Director for authorization to attend prior to registering online. Teachers who attend may also apply the 40 hours of attendance toward the purchase of professional development credits for mathematics in-service through CSU Stanislaus and the California Math Project. After completion of 45 hours of mathematics in-service, participants are eligible to purchase 3 units of professional development credit for only \$ 195 dollars at CSUS. For information about any of the summer mathematics workshops contact our Project Coordinator, April Meyer, at [ameyer@stancoe.org](mailto:ameyer@stancoe.org) or by phone at 208-238-1321. You can also register online at our SCOE website at [www.stancoe.org](http://www.stancoe.org)      Click on the “workshops” link and then click on the link for SB 472 Teacher Professional Development. Here is a partial list of the summer mathematics workshops now available:

**Holt California Mathematics 2007 for Course 1, Course 2, and Algebra 1**  
June 9 - 13, 2008      July 28 – August 1, 2008      August 11 – 15, 2008

**Houghton Mifflin California Math 2007 for grades K-6**  
June 23 – 27, 2008 for grades K-6      July 14 – 18, 2008 for grades 3-6 only  
July 21 – 25, 2008 for grades K-2 only

**Harcourt California HSP Math 2007 for grades K-6**  
August 11 – 15, 2008 for grades 3-5 only  
August 18 – 22, 2008 for grades K-2 only

### **River of Words (ROW)**

River of Words is a nature based science, art, and poetry program created to promote watershed awareness, literacy, and the arts. This workshop will be held on **Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m.** here at the Stanislaus County Office of Education. **Participants must register by April 25<sup>th</sup> and the cost is only \$ 25 dollars.** The registration fee covers lunch, materials, and instruction. This workshop is designed for **educators in grades K-12** and will provide ideas and inspiration for integrating natural exploration and the arts into core subject areas like science, math, social studies, and language arts. It is also a great workshop for after school coordinators looking for enrichment activities for their students. To register, go to the calendar page at [www.creec.org/region6](http://www.creec.org/region6) or contact Anna Marie Facha at 209-238-1315 here at the county office.

### **Saturday Math Courses at CSUS**

California State University at Stanislaus (CSUS) is offering a series of Saturday math courses for teachers. **The sessions are from 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and include lunch.** Cost of the sessions is only \$ 30 dollars / session or \$ 300 for the entire series. Professional development units are also available at \$ 65 dollars per unit. **You may also combine your attendance at the Saturday math series with attendance at math workshops sponsored and hosted by SCOE in order to total up your 15 hours.** For more information or to sign up, visit their web site at <http://csmc.ucop.edu/cmp/region6/calendar/index.php> Or contact Rita Glynn in the math grants department at CSUS (667 – 3780).

- Saturday, May 3, 2008      “Mathematics Behind Game Shows – The Best Way to Play for teachers in grades k-12      with instructor John Rock.

### **GEMS summer workshop 2008**

The San Joaquin County Office of Education is hosting a 2 day GEMS Extravaganza on **June 10-11, 2008** from 8:30 – 4:00 p.m. The cost is only \$ 50 dollars and includes a continental breakfast and lunches each day and a GEMS binder. GEMS (Great Explorations in Math and Science) are sponsored by the Lawrence Hall of Science and the units were developed to compliment and support science teaching in the classroom. The unit selected for the 2 day workshop is Space Science and will help to prepare students for the grade 5 CST test in science. Participants may also purchase one unit of credit for only \$ 55 dollars. For information call Connie Oliver at 209 – 468 – 9096 or email her at [coliver@sjcoe.net](mailto:coliver@sjcoe.net).

### **Ag Science Center at MJC**

Did you know that the Ag Science Center at the MJC West Campus has developed a **DNA extraction lab for schools** and are providing it **FREE** of charge to teachers? The lab and kit was written with content standards for **grades 4-8 and for high school biology**. If you are interested in finding out more about the DNA extraction lab kit, how to check it out, how to get trained in its use, and how you can use it in your classroom, contact Michele Laverty, Director Ag Science Center. Her phone number is 209 – 521 – 2902. They also have a web site at [www.agisamazing.com](http://www.agisamazing.com) I would encourage you to connect with Michele Laverty at MJC. The campus is considering a summer seminar for local teachers on the use of the lab and kit and she will be able to answer your questions.