

Stanislaus County Office of Education November 2008 Math and Science Newsletter

Science Fair workshop

Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting a **FREE after school workshop for teachers in grades K-8** who are interested in entering student science fair projects to the county science fair. **Our theme for the science fair is “Inspire Curiosity”**. Our science consultant, Tricia Dunlap, will have information, handouts, and a brief demonstration of the scientific method. You are invited to attend and hear about the county science fair and how you and your class can participate. We will have light snacks and soft drinks for participants. Walk away prepared to teach your students the scientific method and to enter student projects into the science fair. Please RSVP to Tricia Dunlap by Friday, November 7 at tdunlap@stancoe.org so she can make sure she has enough materials and handouts for the evening.

- **Thursday, November 13th, from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at our county office located at 1100 H Street in Modesto.**

Science Conference January 22, 2009

CASEL (Capitol Area Science Education Leaders) invites you to attend their annual science conference on **Thursday, January 22nd, 2009** from 8:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the San Joaquin County Office of Education located off Arch Road in Stockton. ***This conference is for all teachers in grades K-12, as well as administrators, curriculum directors, and county coordinators.*** The cost of the workshop is only \$ 125 dollars and includes conference materials, continental breakfast, and full lunch. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Michael Klentschy, who is currently an instructor at San Diego State University Imperial Valley Campus and former Superintendent of the El Centro School District. There will be numerous breakout sessions for grade level spans, as well as an update from the California Department of Education. For more information or to register, go to <http://www.edserv.sjcoe.net/casel/> or call 209-468-9096.

SB 472 Mathematics Institutes

The Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting a series of 40 hour mathematics institutes designed to support the implementation of the newly adopted math textbooks in grades K- Algebra. If your district has recently adopted new math textbooks, and you are interested in an in-depth math institute that includes all aspects of the materials, as well as information on what the National Math Panel calls best practice for a “balanced math program” then we encourage you to register to attend. Each 40 hour math institute is designed to specifically support your publisher specific materials. For registration information, go to our SCOE web site at

<http://www.stancoe.org/SCOE/workshops/ISS/sb472/welcome.htm>

Find the link to your math publisher and you can register online.

- Holt Mathematics grades 6-Algebra December 1-5, 2008
- Holt Mathematics Course 1 (grade 6) January 20,28, February 4,11,18, 2009
- Holt Mathematics Algebra 1 May 6,13,20,26,27, 2009
- Holt Mathematics grades 6-Algebra June 8-12, 2009
- Harcourt Mathematics grades K-5 June 8-12, 2009
- Macmillan Mathematics grades K-5 July 6-10, 2009
- Holt Mathematics grades 6-Algebra July 13-17, 2009
- Houghton Mifflin Mathematics grades K-5 July 20-25, 2009

If you don't find your publisher yet listed for the summer of 2009 contact your District Curriculum Director and ask them to contact our SCOE Program Manager for SB 472, April Meyer, so an event can be scheduled for you and your adopted mathematics materials.

Mathematics Conference Mark your calendar for the 51st annual California Mathematics Council (CMC) conference at Asilomar on December 5-7, 2008. This is a Friday – Sunday, the first weekend of December. The theme of this year’s conference is “**It’s All About Mathematics**”. This conference features keynote speakers, hands-on workshops, Make-It Take-It sessions, interactive sessions, and focus group discussions all around the theme. Over 250 sessions across three days offer a rich variety of experiences to suit every grade level and strand of mathematics. Over 2000 teachers and administrators from all grade levels attend this annual conference, and you can learn about the latest news and issues in mathematics education. This conference fills up fast and registration and additional information is available on the website at <http://www.cmc-math.org/ASIL>

Teams of teachers are encouraged to attend and registration discounts are available.

MAPS news (Modesto Area Partners in Science) Mark your calendar for Friday, November 7th for an evening with MJC Professors and local Modesto citizens, for a forum on the subject “**Energy Alternatives Symposium Part 2**” This is part of the free lecture series sponsored by the Modesto Area Partners in Science. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. and continues until 9:00 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/>

Disney’s Environmental Challenge for students in grades 3, 4 and 5 is a fun and interactive way to do something good for the environment and allow students a chance to use their creativity. The **deadline to enter this program is December 19, 2008** and if you are interested you can visit their web site at

<http://disney.go.com/environmentality/dec/california.html>

Grade 5 students can also enter the class project competition to delve deeper into environmental issues. For teachers there is a link with sample lesson plans that integrate the California State Content Standards with an environmental topic. You can also download the Disney Environmental Challenge handbook and other resources, *all for free*.

2009 Honeywell Educators Space Academy Do you teach students ages 10 – 14? Are you interested in an *all expenses paid summer academy to Huntsville Alabama* to learn new ways to bring science to life for your students? Would you like to spend a week at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center with other teachers and receive lessons and activities correlated to the National Science and Math Standards? And it is all FREE? If so, then apply for a full teacher scholarship for one of the summer 2009 Space Camp programs. *The scholarship includes full tuition, roundtrip airfare, meals and double occupancy, all materials, and a flight suit to keep and wear with your science lessons.* The deadline to apply is December 31, 2008. You can also earn three units of professional development credit for an additional fee. A 5th grade teacher from Ceres Unified recently attended and raved about the high quality of the program. Find out more details at this we link.

<http://www51.honeywell.com/hhs/ourprograms-sub/scimathedu-sub/honeywelledu.html?c=31>

Earth Science resources online and free PBS has created easy to use resources for educators that are free and online. They have tapped into the appeal of Curious George to create an online resource for teachers on how to run hands-on “**curiosity centers**” in the classroom. For more information go to

<http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/a...>