

Stanislaus County Office of Education October 2008 Math and Science Newsletter

38th Annual Math Conference

The Stanislaus Math Council and the Stanislaus County Office of Education are hosting the 38th Annual Mathematics Conference on **Saturday, October 25th, 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. There will be an English Learner strand within the breakout sessions, as well as technology sessions designed to support current math textbook adoptions, including Holt. 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 is available on the county website

<http://stanislaus.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?gid=447&id=18206>

***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. If you have already attended a 40 hour SB 472 Math Institute, and have paid for 2 units of professional development from CSUS (for 30 hours of workshop), there is good news. CSUS will keep your 10 extra hours on their database, and after attending this one day workshop and earning an additional 6 hours, your total hours on the CSUS database will equal 16. That means you could purchase an additional one unit of credit for a low price of \$ 65 dollars. This is an excellent opportunity to learn content and strategy for the classroom and to earn one more unit of professional development credit.**

You also may be eligible to use the 6 hours of attendance toward your SB 472 Passport.

MAPS news (Modesto Area Partners in Science)

Mark your calendar for Friday, October 24th, 2008 for an evening with Dr. Arthur Benjamin. Dr. Benjamin has been called a “*Mathemagician*” by Time magazine for his amazing ability to calculate numbers in his head at lightning speed. *This is an evening your children would love to see, so please bring your family to this evening event. You can view a 10 minute video of Dr. Arthur Benjamin on YouTube. You will be amazed at the numbers he can calculate in his head in front of a large audience.*

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 the *MJC Mary Stuart Rogers Student Center on the Modesto Junior College West campus.* For more information, visit their web site at

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

Stanislaus County Science Fair

Stanislaus County Office of Education is hosting a **county science fair for grades K-8 the week of May 11 - 15, 2009.** This is open to any student in grades K-8 who attends school in Stanislaus County. The science fair will be held at the Martin Petersen Event Center, located across the street from the Stanislaus County Office of Education. The theme of the science fair is “*Inspire Curiosity*” and teachers are encouraged to interest their students in inquiry based science instruction. *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, go to www.stancoe.org and click on the link to “*programs*” at the top of the page, then click on the link for “*science fair*”. You can find a question and answer document on how to get started, as well as a science fair guidelines document that provides information and details about the science fair.

River of Words Workshop

River of Words is a nature based science, art and poetry program created to promote watershed awareness through literacy and the arts. This workshop is designed for educators in grades K-12 and will provide teachers with ideas and inspiration for integrating nature exploration and the arts into core subject areas like science, math, social studies and language arts. **It will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Great Valley Museum** of Natural History located at 1100 Stoddard Ave in Modesto. **The cost is only \$ 25 dollars and this includes lunch and materials.** You can register online at <http://stanislaus.k12oms.org/eventdetail.php?gid=447&id=13892>

Please make checks payable to the Great Valley Museum. For further information, contact Meg Gonzales at the Tuolumne River Trust. **Deadline to register is November 10, 2008.**

Student math competitions

The Stanislaus Math Council would like you to mark your calendar for the following spring **2009 math student competitions**. Additional detailed information will be sent out after the first of the year to area schools, including locations and times of each event. If you would like to begin planning to enter these student competitions, you may contact the person in charge of the event for registration forms.

- Saturday, March 7, 2009 **6th grade Math Blast competition**
(Contact -Toni David maried40@sbcglobal.net)
- Saturday, April 25, 2009 **High School Math competition**
(Contact-Tom Abram tabram@csustan.edu)
- Saturday, May 2, 2009 **Dick Schaff Junior High Super Bowl competition**
(Contact- John Leamy leamyj@yosemite.cc.ca.us)

SB 472 Math Institutes for new math textbooks

The Stanislaus County Office of Education would like you to know about the following 40 hour math institutes that have been scheduled for classroom teachers who are implementing new math textbooks.

- MacMillan / McGraw Hill Grades K-5 November 3-7, 2008
- Harcourt Mathematics Grades 3-5 December 1-5, 2008
- Holt Mathematics Grades 6-Algebra 1 December 1-5, 2008
- Harcourt Mathematics Grades K-2 December 8-12, 2008

To register for an upcoming math workshop, go to www.stancoe.org
Click on the link for “workshops” then click on the link for “*SB 472 Teacher Professional Development*” and then look for the publisher. For further information, contact April Meyer here at SCOE at 238-1321. You will need to ask your school and / or district for permission to register for this 40 hour math institute.

Mathematics Conference

Mark you calendar for the 51st annual California Mathematics Council (CMC) conference in Asilomar 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.