

Stanislaus County Office of Education April 2009 Math and Science Newsletter

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 Kindergarten - 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 California Math Frameworks 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.

- Saxon Mathematics grades K-1 April 30, May 1,7,8, 15, 2009
- Holt Algebra May 6,13,20,26,27 2009
- Saxon Mathematics grades 2-3 May 19,20,26,27 June 2, 2009
- Holt Mathematics grades 6-Algebra June 8-12, 2009
- Harcourt Mathematics grades K-5 June 8-12, 2009
- Saxon Mathematics grades K-6 June 15-19, 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. April can be reached by email (ameyer@stancoe.org) or by phone (209-238-1321).

Summer GEMS workshop

It is time to start thinking about summer workshops that are low cost and bring you valuable and timely information for your classroom. If you are a fan of the GEMS (Great Explorations of Math and Science) kits, or if you have never worked with these kits, now is the time to attend a summer workshop. There is a 2 day workshop scheduled for June 11 and June 12, 2009 at the San Joaquin County Office of Education. Each day will run from 8:30 – 4:00 p.m. and the entire cost for both days is only \$ 60 dollars. This fee includes continental breakfast and lunch both days, and you can purchase one unit of professional development credit for an additional cost of only \$ 59 dollars. **The focus of the 2 day workshop will be to learn fundamental concepts in Space Science. The GEMS kit is aligned with our California content standards in grades 6-9.** To register online, go to <http://ois.ucop.edu/GEMS2009> . For further information, contact the San Joaquin COE and ask to speak with Deawn Weiher, at 209-468-9096.

MAPS news (Modesto Area Partners in Science)

Mark your calendar for Friday, April 17, 2009 for an evening with Ken Crawford, for his presentation titled “**The Universe from My Backyard**”. Ken will share an overview of the equipment and challenges of hit resolution Astronomical imaging. 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/>

AG Science Center summer workshops

Mark your calendar for a series of low cost summer workshops for teachers in grades K-12, sponsored by the AG Science Center in association with Modesto Junior College. **June 15-18 is a series called "TASTES"** (Teacher Agricultural Science Technology Education Seminars. You can attend one day or a combination of any of the 4 days. The cost is only \$ 15 dollars a day; \$ 25 for both DNA days; and \$ 50 for all 4 days. Here are the topics for each day:

- June 15 – Genes...What do cells have to do with it?
- June 16 – Fingerprints...Everyone has one!
- June 17 – From Cow Chips to Kilowatts
- June 18 – Seeds, Soil, and Stomach

Each day begins at 8:30 and ends at 3:00 p.m. Teachers will receive lunch, materials, and lots of information to take back to the classroom. Please RSVP by May 30 to Courtney at 209-521-2902 or email her at Courtney@agsciencecenter.org

The AG Science Center is working with CSU Stanislaus to develop a 3 unit university credit for attending all 4 days. More information will be available by calling the AG Center.

Forestry Institute for Teachers (F.I.T.)

F.I.T. is a nationally recognized standards based program that has graduated over 1,600 teachers since 1993 and features California's classroom in the forest. Registration is now being accepted for the week of June 28 – July 3, 2009 at the Sierra Outdoor School in Sonora. You can call the F.I.T. hotline at **209-770-0364** or go to the web site at www.forestryinstitute.org/ to register. Learn about California's forests and how you can integrate these lessons into many subject areas, including environmental science, physical science, social science, math, biology, forestry, and history. This workshop is appropriate for any K-12 educator in California. The week long institute features hands-on , science based lessons that are correlated with the California Department of Education's subject area standards and goals for Environmental Education. **This workshop fills up fast. The best part – the entire week institute is FREE, including meals and lodging and materials.** You just have to drive yourself to the camp. To hold a spot at the institute, you submit a \$ 20 dollars non-refundable deposit. I would encourage you to sign up soon, and to bring a colleague with you.

"A School Garden Workshop"

Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at the Modesto Jr. College Agriculture Department, room 125 from 3:45-8:00pm. All grade levels, afterschool programs, and clubs. (Content is adjusted to fit the audience so early registration is important.)

You don't have to have a school garden to participate in this hands-on, minds-on workshop. Participants will be introduced to many gardening activities that can be done indoors or outdoors. They will also be given information about the Junior Master Gardening Program and how to find grants to support their efforts. **Register prior to April 24th, 2009. \$25 registration fee includes materials, dinner, refreshments, and a raffle.** For questions and registration contact Don Borges, MJC Ag. Dept., 209-575-6449