
PCSM NEWSLETTER

Leaders in Mathematics Education

Spring 2002

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SUPERVISORS OF MATHEMATICS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From the President

- Carolyn Marchand

Our thanks to Bernie Schroeder for his leadership the last two years. PCSM continues to provide support and leadership to the mathematics education community in PA.

Also, thanks to everyone who made the PCSM conference a success. For those who missed the sessions, Frank Marburger, Scott Steketee, and Jim Rubillo presented exciting ideas to help educators adjust to change. Special thanks to Frank Sottile for his help with the program and to Hank Field for organizing and printing a brief history of our organization.

The future looks exciting for supervisors, teachers, and students. Fitting new ideas to a particular school or group of students is a difficult task. If you know about or hear about schools implementing new programs, please share them by writing a notice for our Fall Newsletter. If you attend or present at the many summer institutes or workshops being held in Pennsylvania, PCSM members would enjoy reading about your experiences as well. Take a few minutes to send your words to Arlene Dowshen for the newsletter.

If the date on your mailing label is March '02 or earlier, please renew!

My goals for the next two years for PCSM include the following: (1) a revision of the PCSM Constitution, (2) a list serve for the executive board, and (3) a type of bulletin board included in the newsletter to share ideas or give kudos to worthwhile initiatives throughout our state. Perhaps next year we can put overviews of presentations in the newsletter or online for members unable to attend the conference.

Communication through our newsletter will keep us connected until the March 13, 2003, conference. Thanks, Arlene for continuing as the newsletter editor.

Carolyn Marchand
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From the Editor

- Arlene Dowshen

As Carolyn mentioned in her message I will be continuing as the newsletter editor for a while longer. If there is anyone interested in sharing this responsibility with me, please let me know. Or if there is anyone who would like to take over this responsibility in the future, we could have a period of transition.

Most of you will be completing this academic year when you receive this newsletter. I hope that all of you will take advantage of the many professional development opportunities and resources that are available. Take the time to read those articles you did not have time to read during the school year. Attend a conference or workshop that is of interest to you. The summer provides us with the time to rejuvenate ourselves and reflect on what we did as teachers, supervisors, or mathematics education leaders during the past year. What can we do to improve what we do in the classroom or how can we help those we supervise to improve what they do?

Please join me in welcoming Carolyn Marchand as our new president and help her to meet the goals she has set for herself as president.

I wish all of you an enjoyable summer. Relax, have fun and read a few good mysteries! (I know I will.)

Any correspondence can be sent to:
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PCSM 22nd ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
(Summary) - March 14, 2002

The 25th Annual Meeting was held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. It was held in conjunction with the 51st Annual Meeting of PCTM. A complete breakfast buffet was provided through the courtesy of **McDougal Littell and Houghton Mifflin**.

President B. Schroeder called the Annual Meeting to order at 8:47 AM. He asked for a moment of silence to remember our friend and fellow member, Frank Reardon. He then welcomed those present to the Annual Meeting. The minutes of the 24th Annual Meeting were approved.

Treasurer K. Hebert distributed the Treasurer's Report and the Membership Report. She reported a balance of \$14,760.74 and a current paid membership of 125 with 43 people not yet having renewed.

NCTM Representative A. Massey indicated that two proposed resolutions would be discussed at the upcoming Delegate Assembly. The first was to instruct the Conference Services Committee to include the names of all speakers in the preview for all regional and annual conferences. The second proposed resolution was to instruct the NCTM Board to return to the policy of issuing one free registration for each presenter at NCTM annual meetings. NCTM presently offers a discounted registration fee for presenters. After some discussion a vote was taken in reference to this resolution (12 in favor of resolution, 30 opposed).

Historian H. Field distributed a booklet entitled "A Brief History of the Pennsylvania Council of Supervisors of Mathematics, 1978-2002." He also reported that he was able to get a copy of the supervisor's handbook that was written and distributed by members of PCSM early in its history. H. Field's report was received with a round of applause.

In other business, J. Mullen indicated that she reported the names of "no-show" speakers to NCTM. J. Rubillo, NCTM Executive Director, responded that the NCTM Board has discussed this issue repeatedly, but has not authorized such lists to be shared with program organizers of meetings. The business meeting was adjourned at 9:11 AM.

The first general session speaker was Frank Marburger of the PDE who presented "Using Data from Individual Student Reports."

A coffee and pastry break was provided through the courtesy of **Prentice-Hall**. F. Sottile thanked **McGraw Hill** for the portfolios and **Holt, Rinehart and Winston/Harcourt** for the pens.

The second general session featured Scott Steketee, developer of Geometer's Sketchpad, who presented "Dynamic Geometry Grows Up: Algebra, Trigonometry and Calculus with Sketchpad."

The last general session speaker was Jim Rubillo, Executive Director of NCTM. His topic was "No One Wants Change Except a Wet Baby - Helping Adults Confront Change."

Lunch was provided through the courtesy of **Scott Foresman**.

Award Chair M. Foley asked that suggestions for future awards be forwarded to her. C. Marchand presented the Outstanding Service and Leadership Award to Joann Mullen, the first female president of PCSM. H. Field presented the Outstanding Contribution to Mathematics Supervision Award to Lois Barson. B. Schroeder presented the PCSM Hall of Fame Award posthumously to Frank Reardon. Historian H. Field then presented certificates to those present who have been members of PCSM for at least 25 years: L. Barson, G. Battisto, B. Caboot, H. Field, K. Hebert, R. Hunsberger, D. Marchand, A. Mauthé, J. Mowbray, J. Rubillo, D. Ruth, D. Scheuer, T. Smith, and F. Stewart. M. Foley presented the Past President Award to B. Schroeder.

Janie Zimmer from Research for Better Schools announced that teachers are invited to apply for summer IMAGES Institutes K-5 geometry and measurement.

PCSM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES (Summary) – March 14, 2002

Present: B. Schroeder, presiding, G. Battisto, A. Dowshen, H. Field, M. Foley, K. Hebert, C. Marchand, A. Massey, J. Mowbray, F. Sottile, J. Zimmer

The meeting was called to order at 1:54 PM. The minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting were approved. Treasurer and Membership Chair K. Hebert reported that last year our share of the annual meeting profit was about \$700 while the previous year it was \$3,000 and that some money was made on our CDs. Despite the fact that members must preregister for our meeting, members continue to attempt to register at the door or make last minute calls to the president. It was suggested that a colored card be used with the meal registration at the top and the membership part below. It was suggested that response options of email in addition to snail mail be offered and that the membership application be included in our section of the PCTM Web site. The 25-year history publication cost about \$60 to produce. The treasurer's report was approved.

A. Massey asked for \$300 for travel as NCTM Representative; this was approved.

Newsletter Editor A. Dowshen has asked to be relieved of her duties as editor [See comments in *From the Editor*]. It was noted that the content, quality and frequency of the Newsletter have all improved under her editorship.

Awards Chair M. Foley thanked those who presented awards at the luncheon and remarked that

having those who know award winners present the awards seems to be effective. She asked that those who have suggestions for awards for next year contact her.

In other business, it was agreed by consensus to contribute \$100 to the NCTM Mathematics Education Trust Fund in memory of Frank Reardon.

F. Sottile suggested that we issue Act 48 certificates for attendance at our general sessions. F. Sottile will prepare them and send them to B. Schroeder to be signed who will then send them to K. Hebert for mailing to members.

Present Elect C. Marchand will send out copies of the Constitution to the Executive Committee to review for possible changes.

The possibility of affiliation with NCSM was discussed; C. Marchand will send a letter of inquiry to NCSM. H. Field inquired if anyone had followed up on a logo for PCSM. No one had done so; a logo should communicate that we are leaders in mathematics education.

A. Dowshen reported that Janie Zimmer from RBS wanted the Executive Committee to know that teachers are invited to apply for summer IMAGES Institutes for training of trainers for K-5 geometry and measurement.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Mowbray, Secretary

IMAGES

(Improving Measurement and Geometry in Elementary Schools)

Attention elementary teachers: sign up for a two-day summer institute on teaching measurement and geometry. The PA State Team of the Mid-Atlantic Eisenhower Consortium developed these IMAGES institutes to train teachers to be effective leaders in standards-based mathematics education. There are a few openings at each location: Grove City, PA (June 27-28, 2002); Allentown, PA (July 2-3, 2002); and State College (July 8-9, 2002). Contact Donna Rocca at rocca@rbs.org or 215 574-9300, ext. 245. For more information visit www.rbs.org/mathsci/states/pa/images.shtml. A new Web site for IMAGES will be active by July, <http://images.rbs.org>.

NCTM Representative Report NCTM Conference, Las Vegas, NE

Each year at the annual meeting of the national Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM), Affiliates of NCTM participate in regional caucuses and a Delegate Assembly. As an Affiliate group, PCSM sent a delegate, namely me. Now, I respectfully submit my report of those two meetings held at the 80th NCTM Annual Meeting in Las Vegas.

EASTERN 2 REGIONAL CAUCUS

The Caucus for Eastern Region 2 representing DE, D.C., MD, NJ, PA and VW met on Sunday, April 21, 2002. Pennsylvania was well represented by Nina Girard, Barbara MacDonald, Carolyn and David Marchand, Mary Lou Metz, Joann Mullen and me. Honi Bamberger chaired the caucus.

Despite opposition from the PA group, this caucus supported a resolution to increase the registration fee for the annual conferences by \$5 in order that the registration fee for one speaker could be waived.

Additional topics discussed related to the promotion of the NCSM Affiliate Leadership Conference to be held in Annapolis from May 31 to June 2, 2002, and the NCTM Regional Conference in Boston on November 14-16, 2002. Delegates or alternates were given an "I love math" mouse pad with which to vote at the Delegate Assembly.

THE 2002 NCTM DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

The Delegate Assembly was held on April 22, 2002. The first item on the agenda was the presentation of an affiliate charter to the Southeast Missouri Student Educators of Mathematics Organization. The future teachers who had worked to form the organization were enthusiastic and committed to professional development. (The formation of such groups in Pennsylvania would be beneficial.)

There were three resolutions passed by the 2002 Delegate Assembly. [Note: the first character in each resolution identifier indicates whether the resolution pertains to mathematics education ("M") or to the operational programs of the Council ("O"); the second character indicates whether the resolution is referred to another NCTM committee ("R").]

Resolution O.R.02.01 - Be it resolved that the Board of Directors instruct the Conference Services Committee that the per person cost of registration for the Annual Meeting be increased X number of dollars so that one speaker per session will have registration fee waived. (Presented by the Association of Teachers of Mathematics in Massachusetts.)

Resolution O.NR.02.01 - Be it resolved that the Board of Directors improve the delivery of all mailings to help ensure the timely delivery of items such as conference packets and journals. (Presented by the Manitoba Association of Mathematics Teachers.)

Resolution O.NR.02.03 - Be it resolved that the opening day for making sleeping room reservations for the Annual Meeting occur approximately three weeks after the premailing date of the conference brochure. (Presented by the Arizona Association of Teachers of Mathematics.)

All these resolutions will be referred to the NCTM Board of Directors for review at their July meeting. It is evident that we have not heard the end of some form of the first resolution (O.R.02.01).

Another interesting resolution that was proposed, but not passed, concerned the name of the NCTM organization. The resolution was to change the name of NCTM to the North American Council of Teachers of Mathematics. A Canadian delegation supported the resolution because they, as a dynamic sector of NCTM, wanted to be represented in the name. Opposition came from delegates/alternates who did not want to exclude Hawaii and Mexico as well as those who did not want to change a known name.

Resolutions for next year's Delegate Assembly should be submitted to NCTM by November 15, 2002. I would appreciate any ideas for resolutions.

Ann Massey
PCSM Representative to NCTM
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NOTE: If you missed the Las Vegas Meeting, go to <<http://www.nctm.org/meetings/vegas/index.htm>> to view NCTM's new logo, video highlights, session handouts and more. Webcasts of the meeting can be viewed at <<http://www.nctm.org/meetings/webcasts.htm>>.

NCTM Academy for Professional Development
Geometry and Algebra
(two and five day institutes)
For more information visit:
<<http://www.nctm.org/academy>>

PCSM Annual Awards

The following awards were presented at the Annual Luncheon:

Outstanding Service and Leadership to PCSM - Awarded to Joann Mullen of Erie Prep. Joann is the first woman to hold the office of PCSM president.

Outstanding Contribution to Mathematics Supervision - Awarded to Lois Barson, adjunct professor at LaSalle and Widener Universities. Lois was a mathematics supervisor for the School District of Philadelphia and has been a presenter at state and national conferences.

PCSM Hall of Fame - Awarded posthumously to Frank Reardon. President Bernie Schroeder gave a tribute to Frank for all of his contributions to PCSM.

Past President Award - Awarded to Bernie Schroeder for his outstanding tenure as PCSM President during the past two years.

Mary Foley, Awards Chair



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

COMPASS Curriculum Showcase Conference
Showcasing Standards-based Secondary Mathematics Curricula
June 28-30, 2002, Charlotte, North Carolina
Registration & application materials are available online at <http://www.ithaca.edu/compass> or send an e-mail to efuption@bellsouth.net or call 1-919-872-2224.

Second International Conference on the Teaching of Mathematics

This conference will provide a unique and centralized forum for those who are committed to introducing innovative teaching methods and new pedagogies.
July 1-6, 2002, Island of Crete, Greece
For information visit <http://www.math.uoc.gr/~ictm2>.

International Conference on "Creativity in Mathematics Education and the Education of Gifted Students"

This conference will focus on the impact of teaching and learning activities for gifted students in mathematics, on mathematics competitions, and on ways to further creativity in mathematics education
July 15-19, 2002, Riga, Latvia
Information is available at <http://www.liis.lv>.

Third International Conference on Mathematics Education and Cultural History of Mathematics in this Information-Oriented Society

July 24-27, 2002, Kyoto, Japan
Information available at <http://www.soc.nii.ac.jp/mes/international/MECHM3.html#3> or email Moriya Seiji at smoriya@kyokyo-u.ac.jp.

2002 Regional Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Eisenhower Consortium at Research for Better Schools

Closing the Performance Gap in Mathematics and Science: Resources to Help All Students Reach High Standards
September 30 to October 1, 2002, Philadelphia, PA
For more information visit <http://www.rbs.org/conference/2002/invitation.shtml>.
Register before July 31 and save \$25.

NCTM's Eastern Regional Conference

November 14-16, 2002, Boston, Massachusetts
Register online at www.nctm.org/meetings/registration.

AMTE (Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators) 7th Annual Conference

January 30 - February 1, 2003, Atlanta, Georgia
For more information visit www.amte.net.

PCSM Annual Conference

March 13, 2003, Split Rock Lodge in the Poconos

PCTM Annual Conference - Achieving a Balanced Curriculum

March 13-15, 2003, Split Rock Lodge in the Poconos
For more information visit www.pctm.org.

NCSM 35th Annual Conference - Achieve Excellence: Focus on Knowledge, Practice, and Policy

April 7-9, 2003, San Antonio, Texas
For more information visit ncsonline.org.

NCTM Annual Conference

April 9-12, 2003, San Antonio, Texas
For more information go to www.nctm.org.

Mark you calendars!
The NCTM 2004 Annual Conference will be
in Philadelphia, PA
April 21-24, 2004
The Pennsylvania Convention Center

Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers

PA Governor's Institute for Mathematics Educators - Mathematical Reasoning and Connections, Mathematical Problem Solving and Communications

July 8-12, 2002 - Millersville, PA

July 29-August 2, 2002 - Williamsport, PA

Contact Ms. Carolyn Marchetti at 717-772-8772 or cmarchetti@state.pa.us.

Using the Web in Mathematics - Professional Development Short Course

Hosted by the MAA summer MathFest
 July 28-31, 2001

University of Vermont, Burlington, VA

Visit www.ictcm.org for more details.

Annenberg/CPB Summer Season of Professional Development

The Annenberg/CPB Channel is featuring a full range of professional development programs.

The complete summer schedule may be seen at http://www.learner.org/channel/chnnl_schedule.html.

Optional graduate credit is available; see http://www.learner.org/channel/workshops/graduate_credit.html.

T³ National Summer Institutes

For the summer of 2002, more than 40 high-quality, weeklong T³ institutes will be held.

Visit <http://education.ti.com/t3/workshops/summer.html> to find locations and course offerings. Institutes in PA will be held at West Chester University and are available for graduate credit.

NCSM 2002 Leadership Academies

Developing Leadership Skills,
 Strategies to Focus Administrators on
 Mathematics

July 17-20, 2002 - Hutchinson Island, FL

For more information visit ncsmonline.org

Professional Development Resources

Teacher Change: Improving K-12 Maths.

Free CD-ROM from the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse (ENC) is a collection of resources to help educators and professional development providers facilitate discussion and reflection on improving K-12 mathematics. Request free copies at http://www.rbs.org/mathsci/free_pubs/.

By Your Own Design: A Teacher's Professional Learning Guide

Produced in collaboration with the National Staff Development Council, this issue of ENC Focus presents the usual variety of articles plus a free CD-ROM that seeks to involve teachers in the construction of their professional growth. Explore the CD and magazine contents online (<http://www.enc.org/professional/guide/>) and request a free copy from the Mid-Atlantic Eisenhower Consortium at http://www.rbs.org/mathsci/free_pubs/.

Supporting Leaders in Mathematics Education: A Source Book of Essential Information

The NCSM source book has been updated and is available on line at the NCSM Web site (<http://ncsmonline.org/NCSMPublications/2000/sourcebook2000.html>) The five sections included are Contacts Important to the Leadership Role, Supporting Our Role in Professional Development, Issues Surrounding the Improvement of the Teaching and Learning of Mathematics, Teaching Resources, and Organizational Acronyms.

Electronic Resources

Testimony of Jim Rubillo, Executive Director of NCTM (and PCSM member) before the U.S. House of Representatives concerning the Math-Science Partnerships Program in Title II - available at <<http://www.nctm.org/news/speaksout/testimony5-7-02.htm>>. Read about how appropriations will effect professional development for teachers.

Updates from the **MathematicallySane Web site** (<<http://www.MathematicallySane.com>>). Read a transcription of a talk given by George Polya, "The Goals of Mathematics Education" and an interview with Joe Merlino of Phila. about "Standing Up to the Critics" of math reform. The site now includes an FAQ (frequently asked questions) section and a summary of the "Mathematical Education of Teachers Report." The site also asks for your help in countering an attack on education funding at NSF. See <<http://MathematicallySane.com/nsffunding.asp>>.

What is Lesson Study? The Spring/Summer 2002 issue of *RBS Currents* features the professional development method called "lesson study" and its practice in the Mid-Atlantic region. *RBS Currents* is available online at <<http://www.rbs.org/currents/0502/index.shtml>>.

Workshops for Middle School Teachers - The Math Forum hosts a growing collection of mathematics and mathematics education workshop announcements. (<<http://mathforum.org/teachers/workshops/middle.taco>>)

Texas Instruments creates a special Web site just for Pennsylvania. Visit <<http://education.ti.com/pennsylvania>> to see what opportunities are available to you and to sign up for e-newsletter updates with information specific to opportunities within Pennsylvania.

Standards-based curricula in mathematics for K-12 - The K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Center which is funded by NSF provides useful information to teachers and schools to assist them in selecting and implementing standards-based mathematics curricula. Visit <<http://www.edc.org/mcc/index.htm>>.

New NCTM Speaker's Kit Available - NCTM has created an e-kit to facilitate dialogue about secondary mathematics curricula and subsequent post-secondary mathematics placement. Go to <http://www.nctm.org/about/committees/iac/college_placement/index.htm>.



SUGGESTIONS FOR SUMMER READING

EDThoughts, What We Know About Mathematics Teaching and Learning edited by John Sutton and Alice Krueger, Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), 2002. This new publication summarizes educational research and surveys of best classroom practices, and offers implications for improved teaching and learning. Topics covered include mathematics for all, teaching mathematics, assessment in mathematics, mathematics curriculum, instructional technology in mathematics, and learning mathematics.

COMET (California Online Mathematics Education Times) is an excellent weekly electronic news journal designed for mathematics educators and educational leaders; a wealth of articles with a national focus are included. Back issues are available at <<http://csmp.ucop.edu/cmp/comet/>>. The June 2, 2002 issue includes links to interesting articles for which there was not enough space in past editions to excerpt them.

Pennsylvania Council of Supervisors of Mathematics

An affiliate of PCTM and NCSM

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