
PCSM NEWSLETTER

Leaders in Mathematics Education

September 2004

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SUPERVISORS OF MATHEMATICS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From the President

- Carolyn Marchand

The PCSM Conference will be held Thursday, October 28, at the Avalon Hotel, Erie, PA, in conjunction with the PCTM Conference, which is scheduled for October 28-29, 2004. If you are not a member of PCTM, a copy of the program and registration materials are available online at <http://www.pctm.org>.

Plan to join us and welcome Janie Zimmer (IMAGES), Frank Marburger (Assessment Anchors), and John Neral (Technology on a Budget). Since there are NO reservations taken at the conference, complete the enclosed form this week to ensure your place.

Please check the date on the mailing label. If the date is Mar 04 or earlier, your membership has expired. Save money by renewing for three years. If each of us signs up a new member, our membership will double!

If <http://ncsmonline.org> is not already stored under "favorites" on your computer, you may want to place it there. Some of the highlights include the following:

- 37th Annual Meeting-Anaheim, CA-April 4-6, 2005,
- Links to speaker handouts and materials from the 2004 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia,
- Upcoming conference information,
- *Supporting Leaders in Mathematics Education, A Source Book of Essential Information* (available online),
- Listserv archive and the opportunity to subscribe, and
- Links to other sites.

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My term as president of PCSM will end in October. Thank you to all of the members who make the job so easy. Mary Foley will continue sharing her dedication to education as the next president. Congratulations, Mary.

See you in Erie,

Carolyn Marchand
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Kudos to Alison Miller!

Alison Miller of Niskayuna, New York, received a gold medal at the 45th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) in Athens, Greece, July, 2004. The first female gold medal winner from a United States team, Allison helped the US team finish second, its best medal count and highest place in a decade. Allison credits her participation in the Math Forum's Geometry Problem of the Week as her first experience with expository writing in mathematics. For more information about this amazing student and the other US team members, visit http://mathforum.org/announce/congrats_alison.html.

Rural and Urban Education

Research for Better Schools (RBS) publishes *Riptides*, a monthly electronic newsletter. The August, 2004 issue focuses on resources for educators in rural districts and the September, 2004, issue focuses on urban education. Both issues include books, printed materials, and Web links for relevant organizations. *Riptides* is available at:
<http://lists.rbs.org/archives/riptides.html>.

From the Editor

- Arlene Dowshen

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope that all of you had time to relax during the summer months. Note that the meeting time of our annual conference has changed to October. If anyone is interested in becoming editor of our newsletter, please let our president-elect, Mary Foley, know or contact me at my email address below. I feel that it is important to involve more people in PCSM and bring in new ideas.

Please make sure that your membership is current and find someone else in your school who is a leader in mathematics education and encourage that person to join PCSM.

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ERIC Database Update

The redesigned ERIC database is now available at <http://www.eric.ed.gov>. The new centralized ERIC provides users with an easy-to-use system which is comprehensive and up-to-date, with many free-of-charge full-text resources. ERIC now has increased search capabilities utilizing simple, streamlined retrieval methods to access the existing ERIC bibliographic database (1966-2004). For example, users can quickly refine search results through the use of the ERIC thesaurus, ERIC identifiers, or a list of electronically harvested concepts. In addition, popular search features such as "show more documents like this one" and "save my searches" are also available.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**NCTM Eastern Regional Conference
"BELIEVE in the Power of Mathematics"**
October 14-16, 2004, Baltimore, MD
Visit <http://nctm.org>.

**School Science and Mathematics Association
(SSMA)**
October 21-23, 2004, College Park, GA
Visit <http://www.ssma.org>.
(Program will be available soon.)

**PCTM Annual Meeting
Explore EERIE Math in Erie**
October 28-29, 2004, Erie, PA
Visit <http://www.pctm.org>.

PCSM Annual Meeting
October 28, 2004, Erie, PA
(See the enclosed program of events. *Do not forget to register for the conference, even if you do not need to renew your membership.*)

**ICTCM
17th Annual International Conference on
Technology in Collegiate Mathematics**
October 28-31, 2004, New Orleans, LA
Visit www.ictcm.org.

**AMTE (Association of Mathematics Teacher
Educators) 8th Annual Conference**
January 27-29, 2005, Dallas, TX
For more information visit www.amte.net.

**NCSM 37th Annual Meeting
"NCSM: Where Mathematics Lives"**
April 4-6, 2005, Anaheim, CA
For information visit <http://ncsonline.org>.

**NCTM 82nd Annual Meeting
"Embracing Mathematical Diversity"**
April 6-9, 2005, Anaheim, CA
For information visit <http://nctm.org>.

Electronic & Print Resources

Powerful Practices in Mathematics and Science by Thomas Carpenter and Thomas Romberg is a multimedia product that distills key ideas from a significant body of research. Its goal is to invigorate mathematics and science education and to build awareness of what is possible across primary and secondary grades. To order go to <http://www.learningpt.org/msc/products/practices.htm>.

National Center for Improving Student Learning and Achievement in Mathematics and Science (NCISLA) NCISLA conducts intensive, nationally coordinated research with the goal of advancing effective reform of K-12 mathematics and science. Visit its Web site at <http://www.wcer.wisc.edu/ncisla/>.

"No Politician Left Behind" by Deborah Meier appeared in the June 14, 2004 issue of *The Nation*. The article is available at <http://www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20040614&s=meier>.

GreatSchools.net includes profiles of all public elementary, middle, and high schools in the U.S. Visit <http://www.greatschools.net>.

"ABC's of AYP" The Education Trust has released two brief documents that explain the accountability and public reporting provisions of NCLB, as well as a data presentation analyzing some recently released student achievement results. Visit <http://www2.edtrust.org/EdTrust/Press+Room/new+ayp+abc.htm>.

What Works Clearing House (WWC) gathers studies of the effectiveness of educational interventions on an ongoing basis. An overview of WWC can be found at <http://www.whatworks.ed.gov/whatwedo/overview.html>

