

PCSM has joined with PCTM and PAMTE (Pennsylvania Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators) in writing a position statement to support the position and certification of mathematics specialist. In addition, a survey was sent to the 500 PA school districts for information on how many districts currently have a mathematics coach/specialist position, what grade levels the mathematics specialist/coach works with, and whether they would support the proposal for a mathematics specialist certificate. The survey results indicate a strong need for mathematics specialists among the school districts. The survey results, comments from the Mathematics Specialist Google group, and PAMTE/PCTM/PCSM position statement will be included with the proposal for a Mathematics Specialist Program Specialist Certificate that will be presented to the Bureau of Teacher Certification in the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

We are pleased to have NCTM Past-President, Dr. Francis (Skip) Fennell as a conference speaker to discuss the issue of mathematics specialist from the viewpoint of the NMP discussions and also from a program for mathematics specialists that is in place at McDaniel College in Maryland.