What is a Math Teacher Circle?

A Math Teacher Circle is a combination of middle level math teachers and mathematicians who meet regularly to do math and problem solving for the pure enjoyment of it. The goal is to renew the excitement and wonder of math for the teachers, which in turn gets reflected back into their teaching in the classroom. Our true hope is to spread the joy of math back into the schools and the middle school students who learn there.

MTCs Make a Difference

- After participating in a weeklong immersion workshop, teachers’ scores increased significantly on a standard test measuring mathematical knowledge for teaching. Higher mathematical knowledge for teaching is correlated with higher student achievement.
- MTC participants nationwide report increased enthusiasm for mathematics and use of interactive problem-solving in their classrooms. They see themselves, and their students, as mathematicians.

Why Teachers Get Involved

To meet other local math teachers; to renew their excitement about math; to gain confidence with familiar and new concepts; to get new ideas to use in their teaching; to earn PD or graduate credits.

Problem Corner

Magic Magic

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Teacher Testimonials

"My experience with Math Teacher Circles brought me back to when I first fell in love with mathematics and teaching."

“Math Teacher’s Circle training brought the fun and puzzle like qualities of mathematics right to the front of my mind. I loved it!”

“This program is intrinsically motivating and refreshing; I went out and bought 3 math books to read as soon as the workshop was over; just for fun!”

“In this age of standards and accountability, a program like Math Teacher’s Circle is hard to find. I hope this trend continues to grow!”

“Participating in the Math Teachers’ Circle made me remember how much I actually love thinking about and doing math at a level that challenges me! It made me discover that joy all over again!”

“It was awesome to be challenged in the same way that I expect my students to be challenged. It was a great learning experience and it was fun!”

Central U.P. Math Teachers’ Circle Immersion Workshop for Middle Level Math Teachers

Glenn T. Seaborg Center Northern Michigan University

July 15-17, 2015
Why should kids have all the fun?

Join us for Problem Solving at the Central U.P. Math Teachers’ Circle!

Why should I be interested?

Many math teachers, like their students, enjoy discovering great mathematics. The primary goals of the Central U.P. Math Teachers’ Circle are:

1. to engage middle level math teachers in mathematical problem solving and involve them in an ongoing dialogue about math with students, colleagues and professional mathematicians; and
2. to provide them with guidance, materials and resources that will promote open-ended problem solving as a way of learning, thinking about, and practicing mathematics in their classrooms.

An Opportunity:

The Central U.P. Math Teachers’ Circle Immersion Workshop

This workshop is a summer program for middle level math teachers. During the workshop, teachers will be busy doing math throughout the morning, the afternoon, and even into the evening on occasion! Experienced session leaders engage participants with a problem-solving approach to math education. Teachers gain hands-on experience with problem-solving techniques and work on open-ended, rich, mathematical tasks which incorporate several content areas. In addition to math sessions, there will be discussions of ways to apply the problem solving approach to teaching in the middle school classroom.

Teacher participants may be eligible for continuing education hours (SCECHs) or college course credit. The workshop will take place over three days in the summer.

About on-going support and follow-up meetings

Another important component of the Math Teachers’ Circle program consists of follow up events that occur throughout the school year. These events are meant to continue the collegial dialogue and enjoyment of math that is started during the summer immersion program.

How to Apply:

If you are a 4th - 8th grade math teacher with a desire to learn more about problem solving and how it can be applied in the classroom, then this workshop is for you! In order to apply, contact Chris Standerford at NMU’s Seaborg Center. Space is limited.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this great event contact:

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