



MATHACHUSETTS

Newsletter of the Massachusetts Mathematics Association of Teacher Educators

October 2015

Calling All Math Educators !!!

The Massachusetts Math Association of Teacher Educators

Invites you to attend the 2016 Spring Symposium...

THE THREE C's:

Communication,

Collaboration &

Critical Thinking



SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY MAY 25TH, 2016

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY

MassMATE is an affiliate of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators

Volume 9, Issue 2

Message from the President

The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple.

-S. Gudder

Welcome to Fall! I hope your 2015/2016 academic year is off to a great start. Our 2015 MassMATE symposium was a huge success. Our keynote, Dr. Nicki Newton, shared some insightful thoughts on including best practices and guided math in our teaching practices. Her insight on creating rich mathematical environments, developing a community of mathematical thinkers, and providing meaningful academic interventions was well received. On behalf of the MassMATE board, I would like to thank all of our speakers who helped make our symposium a success. It is always invigorating to hear how school districts, college classrooms, and the math communities around us are promoting a culture of independent learners in their math classrooms.

We are working hard on our 2016 symposium and hope you will think about attending and maybe even putting in an application to speak!



Patricia A. Emmons, Ed. D
Dept. of Early Childhood & Elementary Ed, Chair
Bridgewater State University

The symposium will be on May 25, 2015 at Bridgewater State University. Our theme for 2016 will be The 3 C's: Making it Happen. Communication, Collaboration, and Critical Thinking in the Mathematics Classroom. We will have more information to follow. Hope to see you there. Have a great school year!

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Become a MassMATE member

The Massachusetts Mathematics Association of Teacher Educators (MassMATE) is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to provide a forum for mathematics teacher educators to communicate with each other and collaborate with other groups interested in the teaching of mathematics in the state of Massachusetts.

Specifically, the goals of MassMATE are to:

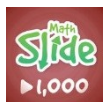
- promote leadership among mathematics teacher educators
- serve as a forum for ideas and resources in mathematics teacher education
- encourage research related to mathematics teacher education
- promote quality undergraduate and graduate programs in mathematics education
- encourage and support professional development programs for in-service teachers
- encourage and support professional development programs for postsecondary faculty involved in mathematics education
- facilitate communication and collaboration among professionals involved in mathematics education and mathematics teacher education at all levels
- facilitate communication and collaboration among members of educational administrative units, such as departments of mathematics and departments of education
- coordinate activities and work collaboratively with other associations and organizations concerned with the preparation and professional development of mathematics teachers
- work cooperatively with the federal and state agencies to enhance the mathematical, pedagogical, and clinical preparation of teachers of mathematics at all levels with respect to criteria for credentialing and licensing teachers in Massachusetts.

Visit our website at <http://massmate.net/Webfiles/Events/2013/Membform.html>

Share these with a colleague and have them join MassMATE today!

Top Ten Elementary Math Apps

By Alison Mello



Number Slide 1000: Great multiplayer game to reinforce Place Value concepts



zMaths: Excellent game for building Number Sense and Place Value concepts



Number Lines: Super tool to develop sense number and visualize operations



Oh No! Fractions: Fantastic tool to visualize fractional relationships and values



Versamate: Great multiplayer game that visualizes fractional operations



Doodle Math (Elementary Math): Great instructional tool for multiple concepts



Fast Facts Math: Amazing app to develop basic fact fluency conceptually



Hungry Fish: Engaging game that reinforces basic number combinations



Fractions on a Number Line: Super app to uncover misconceptions about fractions



Math Slide Mult/Div: Great multiplayer game w/ visual representations of quantities

Bridging the Gap:

Collaborative Math Instruction

By Patricia Emmons

After being on sabbatical for the spring semester I am happy to be back in the classroom teaching my Bridgewater State University college students. BSU has several professional development school partnerships in and around southeastern Massachusetts. The College of Education works closely with schools at the elementary, middle and high school levels in Brockton, Taunton, and Bridgewater/Raynham. This semester I am very excited to be teaching one of my elementary math methods classes in Brockton at the Huntington Elementary School. With the support of the principal, mathematics coordinator and the classroom teachers this is proving to be an amazing experience! I hold my class at Huntington on Tuesdays from 8:00 – 10:30. For the first hour we work on math content, pedagogy, and developmentally appropriate teaching practices. For the second hour my students head out into the classroom to work with fourth grade students. They plan and teach math lessons in small groups to five or six students. The last half hour is a debriefing session with the classroom teachers and the math coordinator. I have to admit; I was apprehensive at first. I ran through every possible scenario that could go wrong. How would my students keep fourth graders engaged in math for an entire 60 minutes? What about the noise level? Will the elementary students be distracted and too interested in what other groups were doing? Will the classroom teachers see this as worthwhile?

After three weeks I can say we are off to a great start. My worries have proved to be just that – worries. When I walk around and observe I can't help but think to myself wow! This is incredible. Mathematics has come alive! The elementary students are engaged, excited to learn, and love their college buddies. This is a true model of a great partnership. We have college students, classroom teachers, student teachers, a math coordinator, and a college professor all in the same room! This clearly is job embedded professional development at its finest. The level of support the elementary students are getting goes beyond what any one classroom teacher could ever give. I have always been a promoter of collaboration and working together but this goes beyond that! There is so much learning going on. Classroom teachers are seeing new ideas that they can adapt and incorporate into their own teaching practices while college students are getting hands on practical experience as an apprentice. I can use teachable moments and help my students learn how to apply the theoretical aspect of teaching math directly to their practice.

I hope things continue as smoothly as they have started. As my students try new lessons there will be bumpy roads but with so much support, how can this not be a successful experience? Thinking back to my years as a classroom teacher I know I would have loved to have this opportunity. As teachers we need all the support and collaboration we can get!

NCSM Membership

The National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM) is a mathematics leadership organization for educational leaders that provides professional learning opportunities necessary to support and sustain improved student achievement. Are you a member of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM)? If not, you may be missing out on some wonderful resources specifically targeting mathematics teacher leaders. To find out more about NCSM and / or to become a member, visit:

<https://www.mathedleadership.org/>

Advertisements for relevant mathematics education events are welcome .
Please forward information to Newsletter@MassMATE.net.

Math Challenge!

Pumpkin Math Squares #1

5	+		-	4	8
-		+		-	
1	+		-		3
+		+		+	
	-	3	+		8
13		18		0	

Call for Manuscripts, Reviews & Comments

We want to hear from you!!! Do you have something interesting to share with other mathematics educators and teacher leaders? Perhaps you have learned something recently or maybe you want to know how others are dealing with a problem you are facing? Research articles, opinion pieces, book reviews, students work with commentary, interesting math problems are all welcome. We look forward to hearing from you.

To be printed in our next issue manuscripts will need to be submitted by Jan. 15, 2015. Please direct correspondences to Newsletter@MassMATE.net.