

Greetings from the Director:

The Livingston And Washtenaw Mathematics And Science Center (LAWMASC) is preparing to enter the 3rd year of *Studying Mathematics Learning from the Student Perspective*, the K-12 mathematics professional development program that was developed through the Livingston and Washtenaw Mathematics Steering Committee. This year the center will be working to train approximately 100 teachers and many building facilitators in a student-centered, rich task oriented pedagogy. For more information on this program, please read the article on page 2.

LAWMASC is also continuing to support valuable partnerships with local universities to provide Livingston and Washtenaw teachers with unique opportunities and quality classroom support.

Sincerely,

Nicole Garcia

LAWMASC Director

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LAWMASC Listservs

Would you like to receive up-to-date information on professional development opportunities, local and national conferences, web resources, available grants and more?

Join our listservs:

Go to
<http://www.lawmasc.net/>
to have the most up-to-date information sent directly to your email!

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These materials were developed under a grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Education

Studying Mathematics Learning From the Student Perspective

What: As teachers of mathematics, whether we are teaching students what a number is or how to complete the square, there are many challenges that we face. How do we get our students to actually understand what they are doing rather than just follow the steps? How do we get students to engage in and become a part of a classroom of mathematics learners? What kinds of problems help students discover the “why” of mathematics?

Studying Mathematics Learning from the Student Perspective (SML) is an opportunity to engage in the study of these questions of mathematics teaching and more as you take on the active role of the mathematics student. Spend time learning new mathematics with other teachers and investigating the problems, supports and structures that enable all students to engage with and learn new math content.

Many teachers throughout Livingston and Washtenaw county schools from grades K—12 have been a part of the SML initiative. The work consists of an initial 4-day training followed by monthly professional learning community meetings. For many schools, these follow-up meetings take place in-district and are led by a trained facilitator. Those teachers who do not have a building facilitator may take part in cross-county follow-up meetings where they will have the opportunity to study student work, collaboratively plan lessons with other teachers, participate in peer observations, and engage in new learning.

What Do Teachers Say About SML?

“Out of everything I have done, this class has most changed my classroom instruction. It has given me ways to make my classroom more like I’ve always wanted it.”

“We are teaching kids how to think more deeply about math. They are learning from each other!”

“The safe learning community we’ve developed has helped turn my vulnerabilities in math instruction into strengths.”

“The ongoing support has empowered us to share our experiences with our colleagues”

Session 1:

August 16-19
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Cleary University—
Livingston Campus

Session 2:

August 23-26
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Washtenaw ISD

Session 3

**September 30 and October
1, 7 & 8**
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Washtenaw ISD

Follow-up meetings will occur throughout the school year. Location and dates will be determined by district needs and schedule.

Graduate Credits through Madonna University available for \$150/credit hour. Available credit hours will depend on follow-up schedule. 15 contact hours are required for each graduate credit. Requirements include 3 written pages/credit hour and full attendance.

2.4 SB-CEUs available for initial training dates.

Livingston and Washtenaw Green School Program

The Michigan Green School program recognizes schools that go above and beyond in educating students about green issues, engaging in sustainable practices, and supporting environmental stewards. Each year Livingston and Washtenaw schools are asked to complete at least 10 out of 24 environmental points with at least 2 from each of the following categories: Reduce/Reuse/Recycle/Use of Renewable Resources at School, Energy, Environment, and Miscellaneous Projects. A building coordinator then submits an application to be reviewed by a team of people from LAW Masc, the City of Ann Arbor, and e-Washtenaw.

This year the application process is completely online. Members of the LAW Masc Green Schools listserv will receive a link to the application via email on February 1st. Applications are due March 1st. For more information including a list of the points or to join the listserv, visit <http://www.lawmasc.net/greenschools.htm>

Congratulations Livingston and Washtenaw 2009-2010 Green Schools!

Evergreen Schools

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Eberwhite Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Hartland Lakes Elementary | Hartland |
| Village Elementary | Hartland |

Emerald Schools

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Allen Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Bach Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Greenhills School | Ann Arbor |
| King Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Lawton Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Logan Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Slauson Middle School | Ann Arbor |
| Summers-Knoll School | Ann Arbor |
| Hawkins Elementary | Brighton |
| Homung Elementary | Brighton |
| Wylie Elementary | Dexter |
| Round Elementary | Hartland |
| St. Joseph Catholic School | Howell |
| Milan High School | Milan |
| Country Elementary | Pinckney |
| Farley Hill Elementary | Pinckney |
| St. Mary Catholic School | Pinckney |

Green Schools

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Bryant Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Forsythe Middle School | Ann Arbor |
| Mitchell Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Northside Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Pattengill Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Thurston Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Wines Elementary | Ann Arbor |
| Brighton High School | Brighton |
| Hilton Elementary | Brighton |
| Spencer Elementary | Brighton |
| Pierce Lake Elementary | Chelsea |
| Bates Elementary | Dexter |
| Cornerstone Elementary | Dexter |
| Creekside Elementary | Hartland |
| Hartland Farms Intermediate | Hartland |
| Hartland High School | Hartland |
| Hartland Middle School | Hartland |
| Legacy High School | Hartland |
| Hutchings Elementary | Howell |
| Northwest Elementary | Howell |
| Southeast Elementary | Howell |
| Livingston ESA | Livingston |
| Klager Elementary | Manchester |
| Lakeland Elementary | Pinckney |
| Pinckney Elementary | Pinckney |
| Fortis Academy | Ypsilanti |

StarLab Rental Information

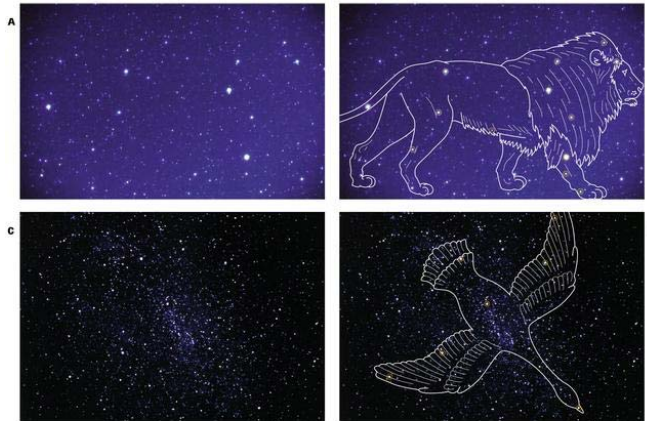
What: The StarLab is a portable planetarium that serves as a wonderful teaching tool to support student learning. A classroom of students can sit inside the inflatable dome and watch the night sky projected above them. LAWMA SC has two StarLabs available for rental by trained instructors. One is housed at LESA and the other at WISD.

To Reserve the StarLab: Visit <http://www.lawmasc.net/slsignup.htm>

Training: If you are not a trained StarLab instructor, but would like to receive training so that you can use the StarLab with students, please send an email to LAWMA SCStarLab@gmail.com noting that you are interested in training along with your name, school, district, grade level and contact information. If we have enough interest, we will try to schedule a training.

StarLab Manual and Curricular Materials: Science First/StarLab have now made the StarLab manual and curriculum materials available online to ease instructional planning! Visit the link below to view these materials:

http://www.starlab.com/sl_manual.html



Picture from astro.umass.edu

Algebra for All Course II

What: The Michigan Mathematics and Science Centers Network is offering the second course in Algebra for All at 10 satellite sites across the state. This course focuses on teaching Algebra to all students through rich, engaging tasks.

Who: Those teachers who attended course 1 of Algebra for All or who were involved in LAWMA SC's High School Algebra Institute are welcome to attend Algebra for All Course II training.

Where: Wayne RESA and Oakland Schools are the satellite sites in our region of the state.

For More Information: Contact the satellite site where you would like to attend the training.

Dr. Moses' Algebra Project at Ypsilanti High School

The first cohort of Algebra Project students began this past fall at Ypsilanti High School. This cohort of students is a national Algebra Project pilot site and is partially funded through a federal National Science Foundation grant. LAWMA SC and WISD are partnering with the University of Michigan (U-M), Eastern Michigan University (EMU), Ypsilanti Schools and the national Algebra Project team to provide students with the opportunity to learn high school mathematics content through a process that helps them to translate a shared, concrete experience into an abstract mathematical representation. The students at the Ypsilanti site will be a part of the Algebra Project for 4 years and will receive support including summer institutes, after school programming, and help investigating colleges.

This summer the students will be participating in a Secondary Math Lab taught by Bob Moses at the University of Michigan. The opportunity to get to work with the founder of the Algebra Project is exciting for all those involved.

For more information about the Algebra Project, please visit <http://www.algebra.org/>

Young People's Project

The Young People's Project—Michigan continued its work of “building a foundation of purposeful movement of young people and their adult allies who are dedicated to changing the quality of life and education in their southeastern Michigan communities.” YPP engages college students in the training of high school students as group facilitators (Math Literacy Workers) of mathematics and social justice activities in an after-school format. After training, the high school students facilitate groups of middle school students to increase their skill and enjoyment of mathematics and to engage them in social justice awareness and activities.

The program trained high school Math Literacy Workers from seven communities, four of which were in Washtenaw County (Arrowwood Hills Community Center in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti High School, Lincoln High School and Willow Run High School). These high school students then worked with over 150 middle and elementary students in nearby schools including middle schools in Ypsilanti, Willow Run and Lincoln. Highlights from the year include a community kick off event, a community celebration and fundraiser, the third annual Campus Day held at the University of Michigan and the first Flagway League Day which was held at Willow Run Middle School.

For more information about the Young People's Project in our area visit

<http://www.typp.org/michigan>

2010-2011 Conferences and Conventions

Mathematics

April 13-16, 2011

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

NCTM Annual Meeting

Indianapolis, IN

www.nctm.org/conferences/

Michigan Joint

Educational Conference

June 22, 2011

This one-day conference focuses on integrating curriculum content at all levels - elementary grades, middle school, and high school. Teachers responsible for two or more content areas will find this event especially valuable.

MCTM is co-sponsoring this event with MACUL, MAMSE, MCSS and MSTTA. For more information, visit:

<http://www.mijec.org/>

Science

February 24-26, 2011

Michigan Science Teachers Association

MSTA Annual Conference

Grand Rapids, MI

www.msta-mich.org

March 10-13, 2011

NSTA National Convention

San Francisco, CA

www.nsta.org/conferences

Technology

March 16-18, 2011

Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning

MACUL Conference

Cobo Center in Detroit, MI

www.macul.org

Other Learning Opportunities

University of Michigan Mathematics Labs

Each summer the University of Michigan offers the opportunity to engage in Mathematics Laboratories. These labs offer a chance to engage in conversations about lesson planning, observe mathematics teaching, and engage in a debrief with the classroom teacher. Professional development is also offered in conjunction with the labs.

If you would like to be on the email list to receive information about the University's summer Math Labs, please send an email with the subject line "Math Lab Listserv" and your name, building, district, role, and email address to

UMichMathLabs@gmail.com. Information is generally sent in June.