



Focus on Mathematics Kicks Off Its 5th Season!

Math Expo-nential!

For the fourth straight year, math fair participation hit record numbers. We've grown from 584 participating students in year 1 to over 2700 students participating in year 4! This year also marked the first time that fourth graders participated. All of these broken records meant that the Math Expo was also bigger than ever. Over 300 students presented their work for family, friends, teachers, and mentors.



A student at the Parthum School in Lawrence presents her math fair project.

Focus on Summer Institutes

Our three summer institutes were a great success! Many thanks go to our facilitators: Steve Benson, Matt Chedister, Eileen Herlihy, Ryota Matsuura, and Dicky Ng. They all fostered problem-solving environments well suited to the curious and enthusiastic participants. We also want to thank Waltham for hosting our June institute and Eileen Herlihy and Kate Jacobs for coordinating everything on site, and we want to thank Watertown for hosting our July institute and Chuck Garabedian and Dan Wulf for making our first summer institute in Watertown run so smoothly. Many of the 36 summer institute participants report anticipating the school year so that they can share their newfound excitement for Geometer's Sketchpad, investigations in number theory, and differentiated algebraic explorations with students of all grade levels.

Congratulations to our Newest MMT Grads

Congratulations to our second cohort of MMT (Masters of Mathematics for Teaching) graduates. Matt Chedister of Waltham, Kittery Wagner of Watertown, and Bob Weldin of Lawrence completed their degrees in August. They are already putting their enhanced mathematics and leadership skills to work in their districts by leading seminars, summer institutes, and other professional development activities! We look forward to the continuing leadership of all our Mathematics Teaching Fellows in the upcoming years.



The newest MMT grads (Kittery Wagner, Matthew Chedister, and Bob Weldin) with Duff Campbell, Steve Rosenberg, Glenn Stevens, and Carol Findell

Introducing FoM's New Project Coordinator

Welcome to Kim Paci, FoM's new Project Coordinator! Kim will be starting on September 4th, and can be reached at kpaci@focusonmath.org. Kim comes to FoM with over 8 years of experience as Coordinator of the Institute for Astrophysical Research at Boston University. We are truly lucky to have her, and she is excited to get started. Please introduce yourself to her and welcome her to the partnership when you see her at upcoming Focus on Mathematics events.

Chuck Garabedian Inducted into the Hall of Fame

Chuck Garabedian, a longtime teacher, curriculum leader, and mathematics department chair in Watertown, was inducted into the Massachusetts Mathematics Educators Hall of Fame this spring. This award recognizes his over 40 years of service, 25 of which were as the curriculum coordinator in Watertown. Chuck continues to teach high school students and lead teachers in Watertown, and is an active member of the FoM community. Congratulations Chuck!

FoM's Curriculum Review Committee Receives National and International Attention

Donna Chevaire and Eileen Herlihy traveled to South Korea in July to participate in the Psychology of Mathematics Education (PME) conference. They joined Kyung Yoon Chang and David Ben-Chaim, collaborators of Carole Greenes from Korea and Israel respectively, in presenting a paper on the work of FoM's Curriculum Review Committee. Over the last few years, the Curriculum Review Committee has interviewed hundreds of middle school students from Boston, Korea, and Israel on their understanding of linearity. A paper on this research was also recently published in the spring edition of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics' Journal of Mathematics Education Leadership. The article, entitled "The Professional Development of Leaders and Teachers of Mathematics," describes the research and analysis conducted by Carole Greenes, Steve Rosenberg, Kathleen Bodie, Donna Chevaire, Charles Garabedian, Daniel Wulf, Ann Halteman, Kevin Wynn, and Eileen Herlihy.



Eileen Herlihy and Donna Chevaire in Korea

FoM Sustainability Update

The leadership of Focus on Mathematics is planning for the future. They will hold a series of meetings during the 2007-8 school year to plan for the continuation of FoM's philosophy through its best programs and practices. If you have thoughts that you would like to share regarding FoM's future, please send them to deb@focusonmath.org.

Upcoming Conferences

- The ATMNE (Association of Teachers of Mathematics in New England) Conference will be held from November 8-9 in Springfield, MA. Steve Rosenberg will be presenting a talk on Focus on Mathematics and the work of the Curriculum Review Committee.
- NCTM's Regional Conference will be held in Richmond, VA from October 11-12.

Upcoming FoM Events

Please join us for the following exciting upcoming Focus on Mathematics events:

- Deborah Ball will be presenting our fall colloquium on October 17. She will be discussing content knowledge needed for the teaching of mathematics.
- Our first seminar will be held in Watertown on October 29.
- Stay tuned for further seminars on January 23, February 4, March 5, and March 31.

Also look for study groups taking place in *Focus on Mathematics* districts. For more information about study groups taking place in your district, contact your district leader or Kim Paci at kpaci@focusonmath.org.

For more information about *Focus on Mathematics*, please visit our website at www.focusonmath.org. If you have a piece of news to share with our community, please contribute items to the newsletter by emailing Deb Rosenfeld, *Focus on Mathematics* Project Liaison, at deb@focusonmath.org. Thanks for reading!

Editor Deb Rosenfeld
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