

EXPLORE-ing Middle School Mathematics Professional Development Workshop - 2011

DESCRIPTION: This workshop is designed primarily for fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade mathematics teachers but will also allow fourth grade mathematics teachers in those schools that specialize at that level. The workshop is aimed at achieving the following goals:

- Study the TCAP and EXPLORE test questions and build a library of self-written test questions related to the Tennessee State Curriculum Standards.
- Expand teaching methodologies through discussion and investigation of successful methods used by other middle school teachers as well as other techniques such as the Marzano strategies.
- Develop skills for writing test questions which more closely match the multi-step and multi-concept questions presented on the EXPLORE and TCAP tests. Relate these questions to the Webb Depth of Knowledge levels.
- Study methods for increasing students' technical reading skills and mathematics vocabulary. Determine the best methods for using these skills to improve word problem solving abilities.
- Study the curriculum flow through the various grade levels and identify those key components at each level which are essential to successful completion of the 8th grade curriculum.
- Efficiently use document cameras, projectors, and the Interwrite School Pad in the math classroom.
- Work on specific topics including fractions, decimals, percents, graphing inequalities, and core geometry concepts including measurement topics as well as those topics identified by the workshop participants as critical for their students' success.

Attendees will receive a stipend of \$250 for the week-long workshop and will be able to select equipment for their classroom from the options of an ELMO document camera, an EPSON projector, an Interwrite MOBI pad, and a laptop or desktop computer (total value of all equipment is limited to approximately \$1750 per participant). Participants will also select options from several reference books and classroom library books relating math to other topics.

A one-half-day follow-up workshop will be held in the fall for the participants to share the "Best Practices" they have developed as a result of the summer workshop. The participants will receive a stipend of \$50 for the follow-up workshop. Parking will be provided free of charge to attendees for all workshop activities.

DATES: Summer workshop: Monday – Friday, June 13 – 17
Fall workshop: To be determined at the summer workshop

TIMES: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Eastern Time) for the summer workshop

LOCATION: The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Engineering, Math and Computer Science Building (EMCS)
(located at the corner of Palmetto and East Fifth Street)

CONTACT: Meg Kiessling, Workshop Director E-mail: Meg-Kiessling@utc.edu
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APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 4, 2011. Applications can be either Faxed or returned via e-mail to the contact listed above. Enrollment is limited to 20 participants. Priority will be given to minority and new teachers in NCLB defined “high-need” districts. Applicants will be notified by May 6, 2011 if they have been accepted or if they are on the waiting list. If your schedule changes and you are not able to attend, please notify the workshop director as soon as possible so that the next person on the waiting list can be notified.