

SCCTM News May 21, 2020

Conference News

Dear SCCTM Members:

This weekend marks two months since schools across the state closed their doors as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, while our buildings were empty, teachers' days remained busier than ever as they worked to stay connected with their students and make teaching and learning come alive in a host of innovative ways.

As fast or slow as the past two months have gone by, depending on who you talk with, it has been a new experience that has demonstrated our members' creativity and problem solving skills, as well as tested our patience and perseverance. Sounds a lot like a typical math class, doesn't it? Like many of you, the SCCTM Board is hoping that you stay connected with one another and take advantage of the network of support that you have at your fingertips -- whether using our FaceBook page to connect or reaching out to a member of the board for assistance.

With the annual conference just six months away, we are working to make it happen, but we are looking at all the possibilities and, above all, are placing the safety and well-being of our members in highest consideration as we examine our options regarding hosting the event.

Until then, we need your help. At the risk of repeating, we need your help and there are many ways that you can support us, including:

- Using your voice to advocate for professional development experiences that have been a signature part of the SCCTM.
- Encouraging your friends and colleagues to become members of the SCCTM and, in doing so, demonstrating their support for improving the teaching and learning of mathematics.
- Supporting efforts to inspire a love for mathematics by supporting and helping competitions such as Math Counts, USC Math Meet, C of C's math competitions, the All State Math Team, etc.
- Considering serving as a member of our Board by having your name placed on the ballot.
- Helping us tell our many great stories and promoting what you appreciate and love the most about teaching and learning of mathematics and sharing that story as an article in *The MathMate*.
- Considering submitting a proposal to share your greatest activity with others at our annual conference scheduled for November 19-20 in Greenville (the deadline has been extended to **Monday, June 15** so you still have time).
- Informing your principal of your interest in attending this year's conference.
- Registering and encouraging your colleagues to join you at the conference this year that will include a presentation from noted mathematician Francis Su, author of *Mathematics for Human Flourishing*.
- Encouraging communities to see mathematics differently for its beauty and its power to help us all be better problem solvers, more thoughtful and caring people, more persistent, and more effective decision makers. That's what learning math is all about!

Over the past two months, our roles have shifted to include more encouragement and support to our students, colleagues, and family and friends. More than anything, our students and their families want to hear our messages of hope; after all, that's what we do during a crisis and, as your SCCTM Board, we will continue doing whatever it takes to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics because, in doing so, we are impacting the lives of children throughout South Carolina in a positive way.

Our Board is working with the conference site to make certain that they will employ protocols to ensure the safety of every member of our organization. Fall conferences will be very different than those in the past. We are looking forward to a summer that holds few answers of just what will unfold, but if we have learned one thing, it is the powerful and rippling effect of supporting one another during these trying times. That's what the SCCTM is truly all about--supporting one another.

Please continue to stay safe, stay inspired and stay connected. Please let us know how you're doing and if there's anything you need from your SCCTM friends.

Keep an eye on our SCCTM website and Facebook page for up-to-the-minute information, resources, and (of course) support.

Thanks a 10⁶!

Marc

SCCTM Past President
2020 Conference Chair
Seeing the Beauty and Wonder of Mathematics

Nominations Open

Nominations are open for the following positions on the SCCTM board: VP Secondary, VP Elementary, NCTM Representative, and Secretary. send nominations to Patty Smith at patricia.smith@clover.k12.s.

Art Contest Cancelled

Due to the closing of school sites for the rest of the year, the SCCTM board has decided to cancel the Art Contest for 2020.

SCCTM Book Study: Dine and Discuss

The first Dine & Discuss event took place Thursday, Feb 20th and the second will take place on September 17th. During the months between the two in-person meetings, we will support a discussion thread on the [SCCTM.org](http://scctm.org) website to continue the amazing conversations amount the professionals and colleagues across our amazing state! As such, teachers are able to earn Continuing Education Credits for each Dine & Discuss event and monthly discussion thread in which they participate. Link to

Forum: [http://scctm.org/page-More Details](http://scctm.org/page-More%20Details)

Awards

The SCCTM has two awards to recognize the efforts of individuals who have made significant contributions to the mathematics education in South Carolina - the Outstanding Contributions to Mathematics Education Award and the Richard W. Riley Award. Both awards celebrate the individual's time, energy, expertise, and commitment towards the improvement of mathematics education in our state. Their efforts have made positive differences for mathematics educators as well as impacted students' learning of mathematics across South Carolina. These awards recognize contributions in curriculum, instruction and/or assessment of mathematics. **Nominations should be received by July 15.**

The SCCTM Outstanding Contribution to Mathematics Award nominations may be submitted annually to SCCTM to honor, if selected, one or more mathematics educators. Recipients may be recognized for their contributions in one or more of the following areas.

- Contribution to SCCTM and other professional organizations;
- Classroom teaching, instruction, and/or assessment;
- Curriculum design, presentations, an program development;
- Authorship and/or research.

The SCCTM Richard W. Riley Award was established to pay tribute to those whose work has advanced mathematics education in South Carolina even though they are not mathematics educators. For more information visit: <http://www.scctm.org/>

Resources for virtual/online learning

In light of the announcement for school closings across the state and the movement of virtual learning becoming a necessity, we want to collaborate and share free, developmentally appropriate materials for our colleagues. We have asked for posts of links to these materials on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/>

At Home Math Activities

Transform the home into a math learning lab, using the architecture and everyday items in your home. Sponsored by STEMteachersNYC.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/>

We have also made these links available on our website.