

SCCTM News July 28, 2019

President's Message

Educators seldom take it easy during the summer. On Wednesday, July 10, a group of forty leaders from over thirty of our state's professional organizations met at EdVenture to take steps to forge a stronger network designed to strengthen support to children, their families and their teachers--especially in areas of our state that need us to speak on their behalf the most. As president of the SCCTM, it was important to personally and professionally to take steps in bringing the leaders of our state's organizations to the table and become more aware of the outstanding work that's going on supporting our teachers and schools.

The purpose of the day was to engage in a discussion about the systemic issues facing our state. The day's conversation was all about making connections with others who share a commitment for improving teaching and learning.

Based on the day's conversations with the organization leaders, there was a general consensus to begin taking steps to do the following;

--Organize a network of leaders from our state's professional organizations who are dedicated to improving the lives of children, their families and their teachers;

--work with others in the network to strengthen their membership's understanding of issues related to access and equity, as well as the tenets of the Profile of the SC Graduate (<https://ed.sc.gov/about/profile-of-sc-graduate/>); and

--identify a 2-3 other issues to address during the year (ideally from those identified and discussed during the day: Building Leadership, Community Involvement, Funding, Retention, Recruitment, Student Support, and Teacher Pay).

With that in mind, I have therefore offered the following statement as a personal commitment and would like a similar commitment from our Board and our members.

As president of the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics, I plan to work with our Board to agree to be a part of this network; to continue our work to strengthen our members' understanding of issues related to access and equity; to support the tenets of the Profile of SC Graduate with our members; initiate efforts to build leadership within our organization, and; promote efforts to keep our teachers in the classroom (retention).

Additionally, the SCCTM will begin working with partner entities to take steps to identify specific action items, timelines, and strategies to assess effectiveness.

As a member of our organization, will you join me in expressing your support for this commitment? (How would you like them to do so?)

Through our communication efforts, we have shared articles and research briefs to our members in an effort to increase understanding of issues related to equity and access. We have also worked to incorporate the knowledge, skills, and characteristics listed on the Profiles of a SC Graduate within our lessons. This great work needs to continue.

This school year, I would like to see SCCTM work to build leadership capacity among our members, as we did February 2016 and 2017, with the SCCTM Fellows. This time, offering the opportunity to teachers in regional workshops across the state.

I would also like to encourage our board to establish a "new teacher" mentor support group where leaders of our organization are matched with a new middle or high school teacher, who would connect regularly with the teacher, providing advice regarding quality resources and opportunities, including membership to our organization for one year. We need to do our part in retaining our teachers. Providing ongoing support is just one we we can do our part.

So at the risk of being redundant, as a member of this organization, will you join me in expressing your support for this commitment?

Thank you for your part in improving the teaching and learning of mathematics.

We ARE the SCCTM,

Marc

Conference News

2019 SCCTM Fall Conference November 14 - 15, 2019
Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, South Carolina

[Register to attend](#) Exhibitors may register and pay online here: [Exhibitors](#)

SCCTM is in need of volunteers willing to share their time and talents in order to help the organization grow by continuing to "Sow a Seed." Please click on the link in order to volunteer with SCCTM. [Volunteer with SCCTM](#)

Contact:

Cindy Parker, M.Ed.

Executive Director

South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics

803.720.9148

director@scctmconference.org

SCCTM Needs Student Pages for the 2019 Conference

Each year the South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics (SCCTM) hosts a conference for PK-College math educators in South Carolina. The 2019 SCCTM Conference is November 14 – 15 at the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, SC.

We need college students to volunteer during the conference.

Any pre-service teacher who is interested in attending can receive free registration and a free one-year membership by signing up to volunteer by October 15. Our pre-service volunteers are called "Student Pages". Student Pages commit to volunteering at the conference for at least two 2-hour blocks of time. During this time, Student Pages help presenters ensure that their presentation rooms are set up, help SCCTM officers with their duties, and help direct participants to specific rooms. When not volunteering, Pages can attend sessions and the exhibit hall.

This is a wonderful, free opportunity for to engage with and learn from a professional community of mathematics teachers. This is also a great item to list on your resume and to mention during upcoming job interviews. Student Pages who volunteer by October 15, will receive benefits for serving include FREE Conference Registration, FREE lunch, a FREE t-shirt, and a FREE 1-year SCCTM membership.

Sign up to volunteer with BridgetC@usca.edu.

The MathMate

The Mathmate Name Change?

The Mathmate has been the name of the official SCCTM journal for many years. Do you think it is time for a name change? Be thinking about this and at this year's conference you will have the opportunity to make a suggestion.

Educators Scholarship

Are you pursuing an advanced degree? SCCTM offers a \$1,500 Educator's Scholarship each year. See <http://scctm.org/Scholarships> or contact BridgetC@usca.edu for more details.

Every vote matters. Every vote counts. #teachervote

SCCTM encourages all teachers to register now and vote! If you are new to South Carolina or have moved, please be sure to register to vote or update your registration at the following link: <https://www.scvotes.org/south-carolina-voter-registration-information>