

Conference News

SCCTM Fall Conference 2021
Special Agents of Δ Academy
Columbia, S.C. November 11-12, 2021

The following **safety practices** are being implemented for the fall conference:

- Room seating will be limited to 50% capacity.
- Pre-registration will be available for sessions due to limited capacity
- Attendees will be asked to wear masks
- Sanitizer stations will be made available
- We will stagger sessions times to allow for sanitization
- No on-site registration. Check-in will be via QR code.

Registration :

- Registration information page: [Conference Registration](#)
- Direct registration link: [2021 SCCTM Fall Conference - Columbia, SC](#)

Please arrange your substitutes well in advance of the conference.

Vendor Registration: [2021 SCCTM Exhibitors](#). Vendors must obtain a code from Lane Peeler: exhibits@scctmconference.org

SCCTM Board Nominations

The following candidates have been nominated to be in the SCCTM Executive Board:

VP – Post-Secondary

Stephen Bismarck
Sarah Frederickson

VP – At-Large

Chris Higgins
Machell Sprauve

VP – Middle

Caitlin Dabkowski
Brittany Gause

Treasurer:

Cassandra Strickland
Althea Wigfall

Short biographical introductions are available via a link on the home page of the SCCTM website <http://scctm.org>.

The MathMate

Please consider submitting lesson plans, lesson ideas, lesson activities, and lesson successes to be included in the next issue of The MathMate. The MathMate now incorporates practitioner articles, including lesson plans and activities, with peer-reviewed research-based articles. SCCTM is excited to transition The MathMate to a hybrid journal that includes both types of articles. Questions and submissions should be emailed to mathmate@scctmconference.org.

Government Relations

The House and Senate are not in session now. No bills are currently being debated.

Federal – *Superintendent Spearman's waiver request for state testing was denied by the US Dept of Ed. Students must take SCReady, PASS, and EOCs. Schools DO NOT have to require virtual students to come into the building to take these assessments.*

COVID's Impact on SC Mathematics Instruction

- Proviso 1.108 (Mask Mandate Prohibition)
 - State Department of Education: Mask Mandate Prohibition): "No school district, or any of its schools, may use any funds appropriated or authorized pursuant to this act to require that its students and/or employees wear a facemask at any of its education facilities. This prohibition extends to the announcement or enforcement of any such policy.
 - Districts out of compliance with this law may lose state funding.
 - More information can be found [here](#).
- Thousands of SC students and educators are quarantining or considered close contacts. When students and educators quarantine, it results in low in-person attendance and high-quality instruction. This further exacerbates instructional loss since the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Mathematics, already a critical teacher shortage subject area in SC, continues to take a hit as it is becoming more difficult to recruit and retain teachers. COVID conditions have made it difficult for teachers and has led to high teacher turnover.
- Local school districts have varied needs regarding resources, facilities, and general school operations. The spread of the virus continues to rise and further impacts communities. Proviso 1.108 lack the ability to hold decision-making power. Educators' voices can help inform the General Assembly as they make decisions.

- Please reach out to your House and Senate representatives to share your thoughts on whether or not Proviso 1.108 should be modified or repealed. A modification or repeal could lead to local school districts having the authority to decide whether or not masks should be required in schools. [Click here to reach find your legislator](#).e

Standards Review Panel

The Office of Standards and Learning (OSL) is organizing a Standards Review Panel for the revision of the 2015 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Mathematics Standards. The role of the panel in the cyclical review process is to evaluate the current standards and make recommendations for revision. Please see <https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/school-district-memoranda-archive/selection-of-the-state-standards-review-panel-for-the-2015-south-carolina-college-and-career-ready-mathematics-standards/selection-of-the-state-standards-review-panel-memo/> for more information and the embedded application link. Please note the application window closes Monday, September 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Please consider applying for the Math Standards Review Panel and encourage participation by sharing the attached memo with district mathematics education coordinators, administrators, department chairs, coaches, higher education representatives, and your greater mathematics education community. Your greater mathematics education community includes all who are invested in the academic success of your students, including parents and caregivers.

Thank you for assisting OSL in this task. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact one of the following education associates.

Vanessa Burgos-Kelly, Elementary Mathematics Education Associate, vburgos-kelly@ed.sc.gov

Sandra Ammons, Middle Level Mathematics Education Associate, sammons@ed.sc.gov

Melanie Painter, High School Mathematics Education Associate, mppainter@ed.sc.gov

Join or Renew NCTM membership

We encourage you to join NCTM. When you join or renew please use the following affiliate code SCCTMLC21

SCCTM Volunteers

Can you help SCCTM? We are looking for educators who have the time, talent, and willingness to contribute in order to help our state math organization grow stronger and be better able to serve our membership. Please complete the questionnaire below in order to volunteer with SCCTM. At any time, you may contact the SCCTM Executive Director, Cindy Parker: director@scctmconference.org or SCCTM president@scctmconference.org if you have any questions or other ideas about volunteering for or assisting SCCTM. Time and Talents Volunteer form: <https://docs.google.com/>

Donations to SCCTM

You may donate to SCCTM online at: scctm.org/donations or you may mail a check made out to SCCTM, 6 Sandalwood Lane, Sumter, South Carolina 29154.

SCCTM Publications

There are many SCCTM resources and networking opportunities available our webpage, Facebook, and Twitter @SCmatteachers Have a look at what is available. If you have any questions or suggestions please let us know by contacting Chris Higgins, our VP at Large vpatlarge@scctmconference.org

Web Page: <http://www.scctm.org>
Facebook: <https://www.SCCTM/>

Submissions for the e-blast

The SCCTM sends out a monthly news blast. The format for submissions is a short (less than 250 words is suggested) description paragraph and links to any flyers or forms on the originating organization's website/storage. This format avoids us housing other organization's documents/flyers on our listserve server's limited space. All submissions must also meet our mission as stated on our website:

"The South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics acts to support quality mathematics teaching by advocating at the state level for South Carolina educators and students; providing opportunities for leadership, professional development, and networking; and encouraging the creation of research-based curriculum, instruction, and assessment."

Requests from organizations outside SCCTM need to be in by the first of the month for inclusion in that month's e-blast, because they have to be approved by our editorial committee.