



Mathematics Leadership Conference

Mathematics

A banner featuring the word "Mathematics" in large white letters, "Leadership" in purple, and "2013" in a blue circle. Below the banner is a globe graphic.

California Mathematics Council- South

Leadership Conference

November 1, 2013

Launching The Transformation

AGENDA

A Conversation with State, Out-of-State and National Leaders

- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 8:30 - 8:45 a.m. CMC-S Leadership Welcome & Opening Remarks
Lisa Usher- Staats, CMC-South President
- 8:45 - 9:00 a.m. Welcome
Dr. Ilene Straus, Vice- President, California State Board of Education
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Lessons Learned from Different States
Peter Coe, New York Department of Education
Dr. Dianne Kelly, Assistant Superintendent, Revere Public Schools, MA
- 10:00 - 10:20 a.m. Questions & Answers
- 10:20 -10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Lessons Learned from California Districts & Institutions
Dr. Jill Baker, Chief Academic Officer & Assistant Superintendent of K-8 Schools
Long Beach USD
Rebecca Afghani, Math Leader K-12 Schools, Long Beach USD
Dr. Iris Taylor, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Sacramento City USD
Michelle "Mikilaj" Fetzer, Mathematics Specialist, Sacramento City USD
Suzie Craig, Mathematics Specialist, Sacramento City USD
Cathy Williams, Director K-12 Mathematics, Vista USD
- 11:30 - 11:50 a.m. Questions & Answers /Networking – lessons learned/reinforced
- 12:00 - 1:15 p.m. Leadership Luncheon with **Dr. Jo Boaler**, Professor, Stanford University
- 1:30 - 2:15 p.m. Assessment Update California Department of Education
Jessica Valdez, Administrator, Statewide Assessment Transition Office,
California Department of Education
- 2:15 -2:50 p.m. Questions and Answers
- 2:50 - 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Common Core State Standards: Next Steps
Phil Daro, Writing Team Member -Common Core Standards for Mathematics
- 4:00 - 4:20 p.m. Questions & Answers /Networking – Next steps
- 4:20 - 4:45 p.m. Closing Remarks
Dr. Ilene Straus, Vice-President, California State Board of Education

Welcome from the California State Board of Education

Dr. Ilene Straus, the moderator of today's conference is the Vice-Chair of the California, State Board of Education. Ilene served as the assistant superintendent for Educational Services in the Beverly Hills Unified School District before retiring in June, 2011. Prior to that, she was a teacher and served as an assistant principal at two large elementary schools at the Lennox School District, K-7 Principal at Norwalk– La Mirada Unified School District, Lincoln Middle School, Santa Monica , Chief Education Officer– Principal at Santa Monica High School, where she increased her API by 75 points. – Strauss received her bachelor's degree and elementary teaching credential from University of California, Los Angeles, her master's degree in educational administration from California State University, Northridge, and her doctorate in educational leadership from University of Southern California.

Dr. Straus began her career as a teacher in the Lennox School District, and served as an assistant principal at two large K-6 schools before becoming a K-7 principal at the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District. Dr. Straus was named principal of Lincoln Middle School in Santa Monica where she served for 16 years, In 2002, Dr. Straus was named chief educational officer-principal of Santa Monica High School, where she helped to increase its academic performance index (API) by 75 points. She also led Santa Monica High school to get national distinction as the Disney School of the Year, a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, and twice recognized as a California Distinguished School. This school also was named as one of the country's top 300 performing high schools in the nation. Dr. Straus was named the California Secondary Principal of the Year in 1991, and received the YWCA Woman of the Year Award in 1996. She has taught graduate school and now focuses her time on State Board of Education priorities, especially the new California Mathematics Framework that is awaiting state approval this month.

Lessons Learned From Different States

Peter Coe, New York Department of Education, is the Fellow for Math in the Common Core at the Regents Research Fund in New York. He holds a B.S. in math from Yale and a Master's in Teaching from Pace University, where he later served as an adjunct instructor in secondary math instruction. Peter has taught mathematics and served as an instructional leader in grades 6-12, in addition to engaging extensively in professional development based on traditions from Japan and Singapore. He has earned both the Master Teacher and School Leader Fellowships from Math For America.

Dr. Dianne Kelly, Assistant Superintendent, Revere Public Schools, Revere, Massachusetts began her career in education as a high school mathematics teacher in a private boy's school. In 1994, she joined the faculty of Revere High School. She later served as President of the Revere Teachers Association and Lead Teacher of the Mathematics Department. She was appointed to the Revere High School administrative team as Dean of Students in 2003 and then promoted to the district-wide position of Director of Mathematics in 2004. In 2007, the scope of her position expanded to include Science and Technology. Currently the Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kelly earned her Bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics as well as her Doctorate in Urban School Leadership at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She earned her Master's degree at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Lessons Learned from California Districts & Institutions

Dr. Jill A. Baker, Chief Academic Officer/Assistant Superintendent, Elementary & K-8 Schools in the Long Beach Unified School District provides leadership, supervision and support to the district's 43 elementary schools and 10 K-8 schools. In this work, she is responsible for support to a team of director level staff who provide school supervision and departmental oversight alongside her. The focus of her current work is on building an entire system of high performing schools in the Long Beach Unified School District. This work includes strategic leadership of the district's implementation of Common Core State Standards in K-12 schools and the development of organizational systems to support these efforts. In addition, Jill interacts with Human Resource Services on the systems to support new principals, the cultivation of a leadership pipeline and principal evaluation systems. This year she has engaged with a group of district staff members and schools on re-thinking the lines between pre-school and elementary education and the possibilities that exist in further aligning these two entities within the district. Jill's daily work is focused on supporting principals in their efforts to build strong academic programs for all students, supporting schools in their implementation of school based intervention systems and supporting principals in using an appreciative leadership approach that optimizes staff performance. Prior to this position, Jill led the creation and initial launch of a K-12 Leadership Development Program in the Long Beach Unified School District after serving as a School Principal and Teacher.

Jill's work as Assistant Superintendent in LBUSD has included some critical district milestones: facilitation of an increase in the district's elementary promotion standards, the development and implementation of a collaborative walk-through protocol, refinement of the district's standards-based report cards, launching of the district's Transitional Kindergarten program and the cultivation of a leadership pipeline in service to the district's schools. Jill also enjoys multiple connections with local organizations, foundations and universities, all of whom continue to support efforts in the LBUSD. In 2005, Jill completed her tenure as a fellow in the Broad Urban Superintendents Academy. She earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership at University of Southern California in 2004, MA in School Administration at CSULB in 1998 and her BS in Sociology at UC Irvine in 1991.

Becky Afghani, K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Leader, Long Beach Unified School District has served as the K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Leader for Long Beach Unified School District since 2007. She has over 20 years of experience working in LBUSD as a middle school math teacher, instructional coach, and administrator. She supervises a team of elementary, middle school and high school instructional coaches, and the team is responsible for designing curriculum materials and assessments used in 84 schools, and providing professional development and coaching to support teachers of mathematics in all levels. This team was primarily responsible for designing and overseeing the district's five year plan for the implementation of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. As part of this plan, this year's work includes fully implementing the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics in every math course from kindergarten through Geometry. The Math Curriculum Team has created Scope and Sequence documents for each of these courses and is working throughout this year to create Unit Guides and Unit Assessments for each grade level and course. The team is also providing face to face training throughout the year for over 1500 elementary and middle school math teachers.

Becky obtained a MA in Educational Leadership from California State University, Dominguez Hills in 2006 and a BS in Biology from the University of Michigan in 1989. She holds a single subject teaching credential in Mathematics.

Lessons Learned from California Districts & Institutions (Continued)

Dr. Iris Taylor, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Sacramento City Unified School District has worked in the field of education for 24 years and is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for the Sacramento City Unified School District where she provides oversight and direction to the district's Common Core implementation. Prior to joining the SCUSD team, she served as the Chief Instructional Officer for a small network of charter schools within the Chicago Public School System. Iris holds a BA in English from the University of California, Los Angeles, a MA in Curriculum and Instruction from California State University, Dominguez Hills, and an Ed.D in Curriculum and Instruction from Teachers College, Columbia University. Her areas of specialization are literacy, professional learning, and school reform.

Suzie Craig, is the Math Specialist, Sacramento City Unified School District. Prior to that Suzie taught middle school and high school mathematics in Sacramento for 5 years. In that time, she taught math classes ranging from Pre-Algebra through AP Calculus, and is currently in her third year as a Math Training Specialist with SCUSD. Suzie completed her undergraduate degree at UC Davis and completed her Master's degree in Communication Studies from Sac State. She currently supports teachers and principals in elementary, middle, and high schools with implementing and transitioning to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics.

Mikila Fetzer, Math Specialist, Sacramento City Unified School District started her teaching career at Nogales High School (Nogales, Arizona) teaching English to primarily English Learners and International Baccalaureate Candidates in the mid 90's. Opportunities for leadership lead her to the Bay Area of Northern California where she taught in and lead the English department, coordinated the high school accreditation endeavors (WASC), and managed a district collaborative reading grant (BASRC). By 2004, Mikila decided to follow her heart to Sacramento where she unintentionally embarked on a career change: teaching mathematics! After some time developing her craft as a practitioner of math at the secondary level, Mikila pursued her new passion for everything Common Core and transitioned into a specialist position to support the implementation of CCSS-M in the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD). Most recently, Mikila has dived into the role of Math Project Leader for SCUSD's to facilitate the district's transition to CCSS.

Cathy Williams, Director Mathematics, Vista Unified School District. Cathy has served as the K-12 Mathematics Curriculum Leader in Vista since 2011. She has over 27 years of experience working in education as a high school math teacher, instructional coach, and curriculum administrator. She previously served as a mathematics coordinator for the San Diego County Office of Education. During her 7 years at SDCOE she lead projects and professional development for the CAHSEE prep series, Getting Ready for Algebra and was the primary author of Math Language that Works and Getting Ready for Algebra. Her professional development series, Algebraic Reasoning through Inquiry was the beginning of her journey to put mathematics education research into practice. Her current work in Vista Unified has received a Golden Bell for Innovation in Mathematics Professional Development, Teaching and Learning. Cathy will share her journey in Vista Unified where implementing the Common Core Standards of Practice has been focused on first creating a learning environment based on research and equity. Today VUSD K-8 mathematics classes are heterogeneously grouped and students are experiencing a learning environment that promotes a growth mindset. In addition to her district work Cathy has recently co-founded a new non-profit, youcubed.org, where she and Jo Boaler will work to provide resources to support improvement and equity in mathematics education.. Cathy holds a BA in Applied Mathematics from UCSD and a MS in Educational Leadership.

Lessons Learned from California Districts & Institutions (Continued)

Jessica Valdez, Administrator Statewide Assessment Transition Office, California Dept. of Education is the manager of the California Department of Education's Statewide Assessment Transition Office. This office was formed in 2012 to coordinate California's involvement in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and provide support to stakeholders as California transitions to its new statewide student assessment system. In her 12 years with the CDE, she has also worked closely on other assessments including the California High School Exit Examination and the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Phil Daro, is a Writing Team Member for the Common Core Standards for Mathematics. He has also directed large-scale teacher professional development programs for the University of California including the California Mathematics Project and the American Mathematics Project. Phil currently directs the partnership of University of California, Stanford and others with San Francisco USD for the Strategic Education Research Partnership (SERP). He is a Senior Fellow for Mathematics at America's Choice where he focuses on programs for students who are behind and algebra for all. He has directed, advised and consulted to a range of mathematics education projects. The most extensive and intensive engagements include NAEP Validity studies, ACHIEVE, FAM (Foundations of Mathematics) program development for America's Choice, Balanced Assessment Project (co-Director), Mathematics Assessment Resources (MARS), the El Paso Collaborative (consultant), school districts and states, and the New Standards Project.

California Council– South

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