Math Circles in North Bay – the Northern Experience

Tzvetalin S. Vassilev

Nipissing University

San Antonio, 13 January 2015

Where is North Bay?



Local context

- City of 54 000
- 4 school boards
- Multiple issues with teachers: unions, labour action
- University large faculty of education
- Majority of the math students continue with education degree/certification

Format

- 3 hour meetings bi-weekly between October and April
- 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM, lunch provided
- Groups separated by grade, usually 3-5, 6-8, 9-12
- Free for the participants, registration required
- Taught by student volunteers

Content

- Warm-up activities
- Thematic sessions, strands of the Ontario curriculum
- Preparatory Math Kangaroo questions and topics
- Games

Number of participants

- 2011-2012: 14
- 2012–2013: 17
- 2013-2014: 21
- 2014-2015: 43

Math Kangaroo participation

Year	Participants	Medals
2012	7	1 gold (grade 4)
		1 gold (grade 9)
2103	9	1 gold (grade 4) - top 10% nationwide
		1 silver (grade 5)
2014	13	1 silver (grade 5)
		1 bronze (grade 7)

Success

100% of the student volunteers who have graduated out of the program are employed as teachers in Ontario and Alberta

Credits

Sponsors

3 consecutive Deans of Arts and Science supported financially the program

Student Volunteers

- 2011–2012: Laura J. Huntington, Stefan A. Pape, Ian D. Kelly, Jocelynn C. Geertsema, Bryan Bellefeuille
- 2012–2013: Brian Eades, Alyssa H. McIntee, Erika Crozier, Miranda Wheatstone
- 2013–2014: Cassandra Schizkoske, Rachel Stevenson, Nathan LeSarge, Logan Ellis, Christopher Simmonds, Meghan Best, Nicole Anderson, Madisen Johnston

Questions?