

Twin Cities Math Teachers' Circle



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MAA MathFest
Madison, 2012

- Organizers
 - Complementary strengths of organizers
 - State Math Ed experts suggested middle school organizers
 - Middle school organizers' connections within their district are key
 - All organizers attended the AIM Workshop in Palo Alto - summer 2009
- Planning:
 - Planned immersion workshop for Summer 2010
 - Obtained funds for workshop and 2010-2011 circle meetings
- Funding sources:
 - Dean of College of Arts and Sciences
 - NSF funds from STEP grant (Biology PI)
 - MSRI NAMC Grant

- Immersion workshop at UST Gainey Conference Center in Owatonna, MN (Summer, 2010)
- Six meetings per academic year
- Seventeen public and parochial middle school teachers (core from Minneapolis school district)
- Stipend for attending immersion workshop and 5 out of 6 meetings
- Teachers awarded development hours
- Only workshop participants in the first year in order to build comfort level and sense of community

- Meetings run from 5:15-8:00pm
 - 5:15-5:30 greetings
 - 5:30-6:30 mathematical session
 - 6:30-7:00 dinner
 - 7:00-8:00 resume the mathematics and/or pedagogy
- "Science and Math for Elementary Education" (SMEE) students included
- Sessions are "co-presented" by mathematician and middle school math teacher

- Co-presenters meet before the session to discuss the mathematics
- Teacher presenter participates at his/her comfort level
- Advantages of co-presenting with middle school math teacher
 - Co-presenters learn the topic in more depth
 - Teachers feel more ownership and involvement
 - Helps mathematicians realize the level of the teachers' knowledge and experience
- Wide variety of topics:
 - Problem Solving, Puzzles, Golden Ratio, Fibonacci Numbers, String Art and Conics, Quipos, Math of Bubbles
 - Several topics have been requested by the teachers

- Efforts to secure funding continue
- Second summer immersion workshop – 2013
 - Current members want another workshop
 - Recruit and increase membership
 - Some current members will co-present for the new members