Meredith K-8 Mathematics Leadership Institute 2016-2017

• Planning for Change
• Initiating Change
• Sustaining Change

Supported by Meredith College and a special grant from the Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center, the Meredith K-8 Mathematics Leadership Institute will be held on July 26-28, 2016 and conclude January 6-7, 2017.

Nationally acclaimed authors will be joining outstanding North Carolina educators to provide sessions on policies that impact implementation of a district’s mathematics program, including sessions on the K-8 curriculum and on coaching. Ruth Parker, the co-author of Making Number Talks Matter and the series Supporting School Mathematics: How to Work with Parents and the Public, will be the opening speaker. She will also lead sessions on working with parents and with students in the classroom.

The institute will emphasize strategies for leadership to increase expertise as educators plan for change, initiate change, and provide support to sustain change. Designing mathematics professional development for elementary and middle grades, identification of resources, effective classroom practices and up-to-date information about state standards are part of the program. Dr. Jenny Bay-Williams, Associate Professor of Mathematics Education at the University of Louisville and author of several resource books, will discuss both guidelines for coaching and making sense of curriculum in her sessions.

Dr. Lee Stiff has more than 30 years experience in mathematics education. His current research interests include the role of data-driven decisions on course-taking opportunities in mathematics for all students, but especially for African American students; and parental involvement in middle school mathematics homework. Known for his inspiring talks and lively sense of humor, Stiff will be the closing speaker on July 28.

Sessions are offered in three strands: policy, curriculum, and coaching. Active and former NC superintendents, Dr. Diane Frost, Dr. Ira Trollinger, and Dr. John Parker will reflect on policies and practices that impact teaching and learning while other sessions will focus on adult learners, honing leadership skills, effective coaching, maximizing school planning, teacher agency.

The Leadership Institute program will take place in two parts, both at Meredith College: July 26-28, 2016 and January 6-7, 2017. Program information for the January 2017 follow-up sessions is located on page 2 of this flyer. For the July sessions, presenters include North Carolina educators from institutions of higher education, district leaders and math specialists who are engaged with teachers and students on a daily basis, and leaders from the Department of Public Instruction.

Registration for this special institute is limited to one hundred with a significant discount for teams from the same district whose registration is paid by May 1, 2016.
The Leadership Institute will continue with Friday afternoon and evening sessions on January 6 and a full-day program on Saturday, January 7. Building on the July Institute program, three outstanding educators will join summer consultants to continue the conversations about planning, initiating, and sustaining change.

Dr. Vicki Jacobs, Yopp Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Education in the School of Education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, will share her research on young children’s mathematical thinking and instruction based on that thinking. A highly respected and experienced professional development facilitator, Jacobs will discuss the importance of mathematics “teacher noticing” - how teachers pay attention to and make sense of what happens in the complexity of instructional situations.

Dr. Paola Sztajn is a professor of mathematics education at NC State University. She is the Head of the Department of Teacher Education and Learning Sciences and is a former program officer at the National Science Foundation in the Division of Research on Learning. She has been the Principal Investigator for a number of grants. Sztajn will be discussing ways in which practicing elementary teachers acquire and continue to develop the knowledge needed to teach all students high quality mathematics.

Mark Church is a former mathematics teacher and is currently a consultant with Harvard Project Zero’s Making Thinking Visible and Cultures of Thinking initiatives worldwide. He is the co-author of Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding, and Independence for All Learners. Church will share his insights into helping students learn to make their thinking more visible.

Institute Registration Information

The Meredith K-8 Mathematics Leadership Institute is a unique four and a half day program that includes three summer days, July 26-28, 2016 and will continue January 6-7, 2017. The summer portion begins with an opening session at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 26. Sessions continue July 27-28 starting at 9:30 a.m. each day. The program concludes at 4:45 daily.

The Institute target audiences are those whose decisions impact the mathematics program delivered by classroom teachers. Assistant Superintendents, Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, Supervisors, Principals, District Coaches and Lead Teachers are invited to register for the Institute. We encourage teams of five from a district to attend and are offering significant registration discounts for the teams.

On-site registration will be in the Atrium of the Mathematics-Science Building between 9-9:45 a.m. on July 26. Breaks throughout the days provide opportunities for networking and discussion of special issues. There is also the option of reserving a meeting space for team planning in the evenings. Participants who attend all five days will earn continuing education credits for 26 contact hours (2.6 CEUs).

The registration fee for the Institute which is off-set by a special grant from the Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center is $600. This fee includes all materials, resource books, breaks, and lunches. Teams of five that include at least one central office staff member, one principal, and one district coach or lead teacher plus two other participants from these categories may register as a group for $525 per person. The $75 per person discount is available only for teams of five. Payment must be received by May 1, 2016. All team members must be from the same school district.

No on-campus housing is available. However, the Ramada Inn on Blue Ridge Road (919-832-4100) is offering a special Institute rate of $69 per room plus tax (single or double). Make your reservation now for the 2016-2017 Institute. Use the Leadership Institute Registration link on the Meredith Mathematics and Science Institutes home page for a registration form.

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