



Columbus Regional Math Collaborative June 11th, 2021

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# Notes to Nerds

[Announcements](#)

[Director's Notes](#)

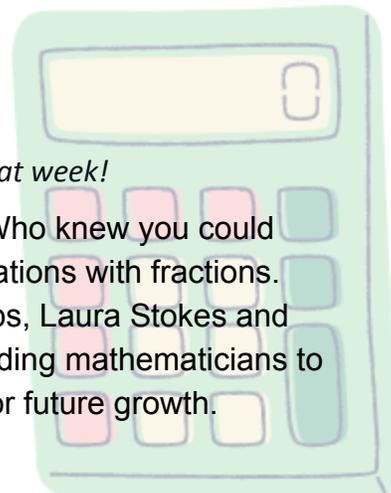


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## Announcements

- **Operation Super Solver Camp!** - *And that's a wrap, what a great week!*

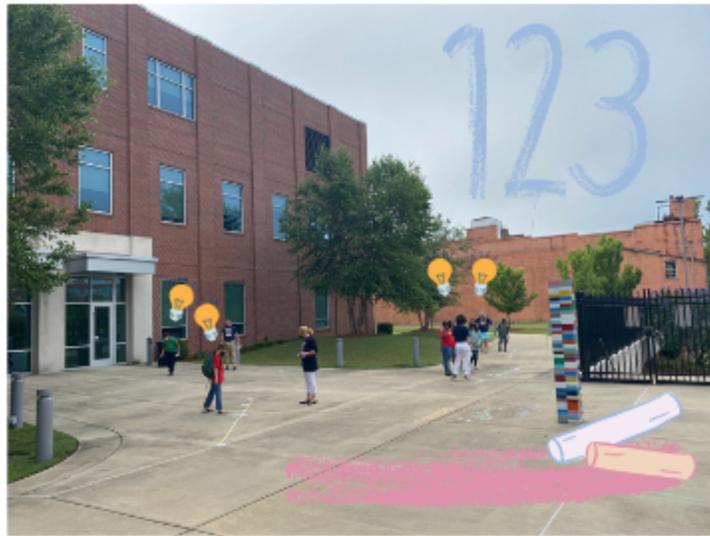
Our first camp in two years and I am a contented kind of tired! Who knew you could pack so much into such a short week! Campers worked on operations with fractions. The Mathematics Collaborative Resource Teachers (Hope Phillips, Laura Stokes and Peter Anderson) and Dr. Ticknor spent time working with the budding mathematicians to develop an understanding of fractions that will be a foundation for future growth.



From the campers who made sense of all sorts of fractional challenges, to the support from our administrative assistants (super-heroes!), to the volunteer who helped prep and set up materials, to the resource teachers (who educated and challenged me on so much pedagogy and math), to the artist who gave his time in showing students their artsy creative side, to the Honors College Dean (who helped us think about the “whys” of our teaching actions.) Operations Super Solvers was a success!

We are looking to do it again next year ...only bigger and of course better!

We are looking for preservice and in-service teachers, campers, and of course sponsors for next year. Won't you come to join us?



## Director's Notes

### ***The Reason We Make it Work***

A friend sent me this quote earlier this week: "Forget about all the reasons why it won't work and think about the one reason why it will."

It got me thinking about all we have been through this year and all we have tried to do this year.

By the time you read this, we will have closed the door, locked it, and nailed it shut on the pandemic school year of 2020 -2021.

It is that phase of the year where you start to heal from the wounds and bumps of teaching and begin to consider - at least a tiny little bit, what the next year will bring.



Already we see journal articles about how the past year's disruptions have caused learning deficits and gaps. We learn of a year wasted, a year lost. Educators know - in a very real sense - those things have always been with us. The pandemic year has magnified those deficits and gaps.

We now have tools available to measure it.

There is no shortage of magical (well-intentioned) programs to fix learning losses.

**BUT** we - **educators** - are tasked with so much more.

Those gaps and deficits have eyes and faces, hands and hearts. They are young growing human beings in need of time and safe spaces to learn. Students probably need a little less of the programs, the deep data digs, and the quick fixes. And a little more time and attention to taking them from the place we find to realizing the potential they hold inside. The fixes and data will fall upon us in the new year like the rain from an angry summer thunderstorm. Will the many programs be gone as quickly as those same summer storms?

Educators help young people grow. Sometimes students need the sunshine of a math lesson, the water of reading a quirky story, or the nutrients of a teacher's encouragement.

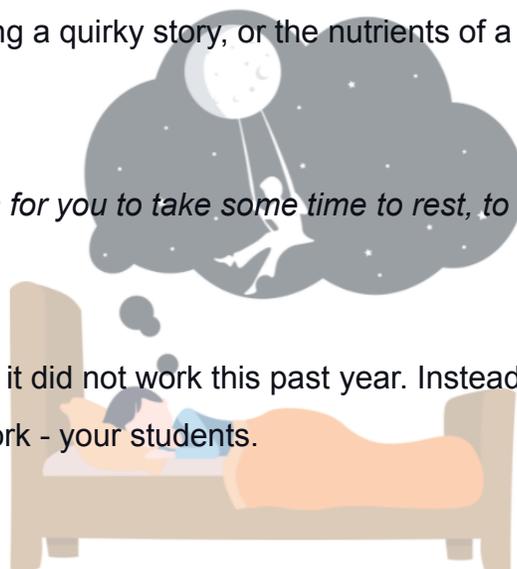
*So, teachers, it is my wish for you to take some time to rest, to heal, and - to dream.*

And most importantly:

Let go of the reasons why it did not work this past year. Instead, focus on the important reason you will make it work - your students.

**Happy Maths-**

**Peter**



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