

# Notes 2 Nerds

October 11, 2022



Teacher Development  
Professional Growth  
Consulting

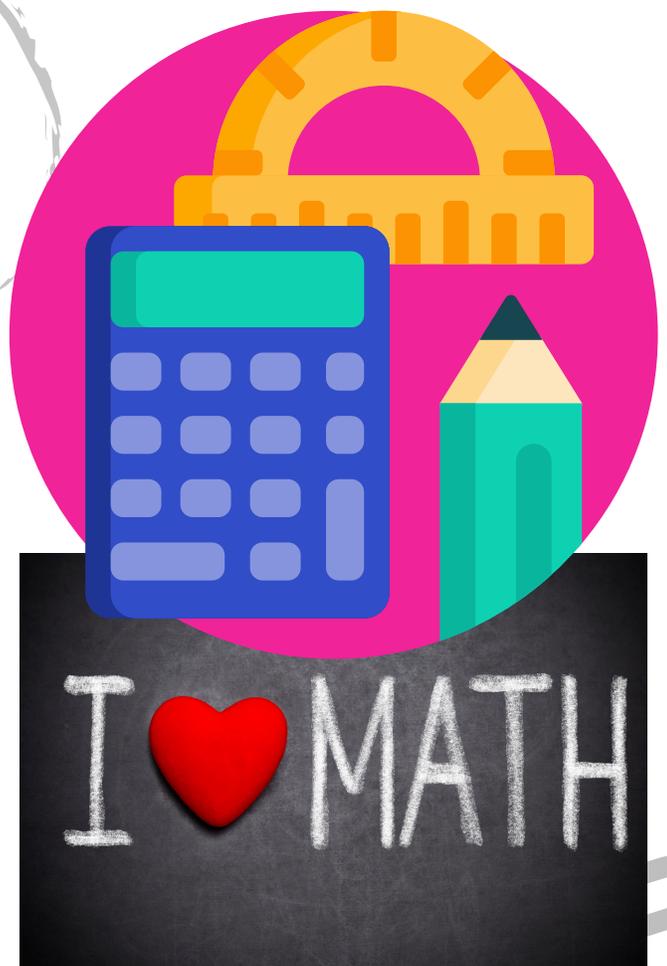
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## Upcoming Events

### Save-the-Date:

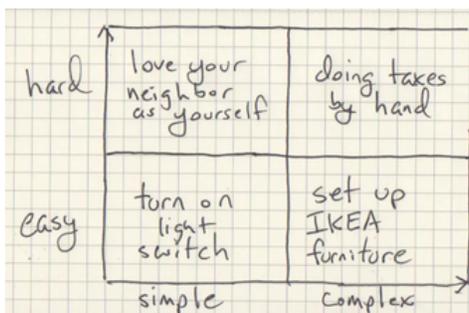
- [November 1: High School PD](#)
- [November 2: Middle School PD](#)
- [November 8: Grades K-2 PD](#)
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- [March 11, 2023: Math Masters](#)



# Director's Notes

## Teaching is Hard; What Do We Do?

Where does teaching fit in this quadrant?



I came across an [article by Dan Meyer](#) this past Friday. Dan reflected on his experience at the NCTM conference in California. He explained that the speakers and presenters all had their particular takes on making mathematics education a little bit better. I don't think he meant to challenge their motivation. On the contrary, I believe at their heart, presenters try to share what they think is the right and the best thing.

This article got me thinking about how I relate to and support teachers. I can't say that my job this past week was too much different than those NCTM presenters. I visited classrooms, talked with the teachers, listened to teachers, and presented suggestions. I learned more from the teachers than they learned from me. *But did I make their job any easier?* They are the only ones who can answer that question.

Teaching is hard. I believe that, over time, it is probably the most challenging job a person can have. (Feel free to comment if you disagree.) When you consider the minute-to-minute responsibilities, the multiple clients and administrators teachers are accountable to, the multiple skills a teacher has to perfect - and, on top of it all - teachers have an incredibly short lunch time and must take scheduled bathroom breaks. So, I would say teaching ranks pretty high on the difficulty scale (and that is before considering student behavior).

Teaching will always be hard.

What support then, should I hope to provide teachers (and students)? I believe that a teacher should seek joy, even in all the difficulties a classroom environment presents - joy in what they present (*even if it is as mundane as simplifying radicals or teaching place value*), joy in student success, and joy in student struggle. It is my mission to help open teachers to the possibility of that joy. Nothing breaks my heart more than a defeated student or teacher.

Dan Myer put it more simply: "The work of teaching is to invite, celebrate, and develop student thinking" (I think I see joy in there somewhere). Myer and I agree that the work of teaching takes a lifetime to master.

How blessed am I to see teachers working to that end every day? How blessed are students by their efforts?

Happy Maths.... or should I say Joyful Maths?

Pete

# Professional Learning and Cool Teacher Stuff

## Elementary School

You should follow Howie Hua on Twitter or TikTok. You will come across some good ideas to use in the classroom.



Howie Hua @howie\_hua · Oct 6

How many apples? How did you count?

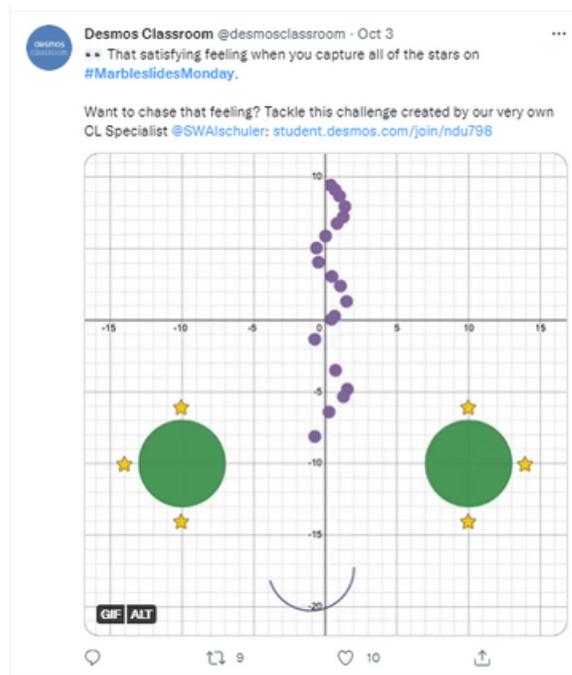


## Middle School and High School

Marble Slides Monday

Having a trouble with students understanding functions?

Piecewise or otherwise... Post this in your Google Classroom challenges. #MarbleSlidesMonday

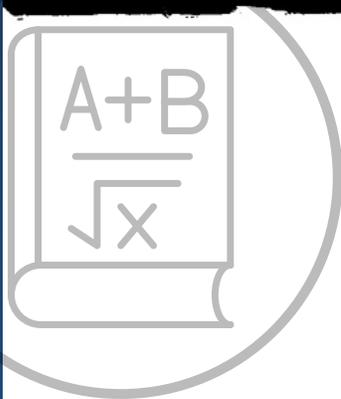


Only read this if you are not satisfied with how things are going in your classroom....

**If you are not failing, you are not learning.**



# Algebra OWW! (Only What Works)



**Who:** High School Math Teachers

**When:** Wednesday, November 1, 2022 at 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM, EST

**Why:** Algebra 1 is the focus this year. We will not promise the moon, but we will provide proven strategies to engage your students and ignite your curiosity as a mathematician and teacher.

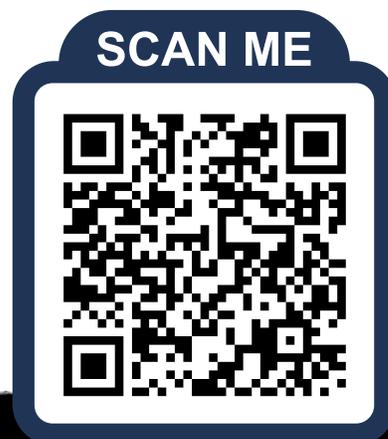
### Our topics will include:

- + Activities to engage students and improve student dialogue;
  - + Just-in-time delivery of Algebra topics;
- + Content development - allowing you to delve into dusty, old math topics with fresh eyes and new appreciation

Don't worry if you are not teaching Algebra currently; this workshop will engage teachers of all classes.

Free admission for Muscogee County, Harris County, Russell County, Delta Kappa Gamma Members, and St. Anne Pacelli.

*Register Today!*





## EMBRACING CHANGE AND SMALL STEPS TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

**Who:** Middle School Math Teachers

**When:** Thursday, November 2, 2022 at 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM, EST

**Where:** Frank Brown Hall, CSU Mathematics Collaborative, Classroom 1010A

**Why:** Join us for the second in a year-long series of workshops! Hope Phillips will help you leverage the power of small content additions.

We will share concepts and ideas that will:

Increase student engagement

Fill knowledge gaps

Promote reasoning instead of memorization

Encourage math discourse

Build on prior student learning

Don't worry if you didn't attend the first workshop. We look forward to seeing you at this one! ALL teachers of math-related subjects would benefit from this professional development.

Free admission for Muscogee County, Harris County, Russell County, Delta Kappa Gamma Members, and St. Anne Pacelli.

  
**Register Today!**



*More Professional  
Development Opportunities  
Register Today!*

**Who: Math Teachers Grades K-2**

What: Habits to Ignite Mathematical Thinking

When: November 8, 2022, 8:30AM - 3:00PM, EST

Where: Frank Brown Hall, Classroom 1010

**[Click Here to Register](#)**

**Who: Math Teachers Grades 3-5**

What: Habits to Ignite Mathematical Thinking

When: November 15, 2022, 8:30AM - 3:00PM, EST

Where: Frank Brown Hall, Classroom 1010

**[Click Here to Register](#)**

**Opportunity!**

**Muscogee County School Teachers:**  
**Teacher on Loan**

**Must Have:**

A Bachelor's Degree in a job-related field;

A Valid Georgia Teaching Certification, or;

Have met the Strategic Waivers School System (SWSS) requirements

For more information, contact

Peter Anderson, Mathematics Collaborative Director

Email: [anderson\\_peter2@columbusstate.edu](mailto:anderson_peter2@columbusstate.edu)

Phone: 706-575-1475



# 'Make It Count!' NEEDS YOUR SCHOOL

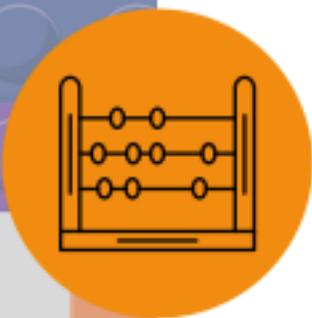
## What is it?

The 'Make It Count' Project (MIC) aims to improve math fluency in second graders by building a foundation for sustained growth in mathematics. The partnership between Partners in Education and the Mathematics Collaborative (CRMC) @ Columbus State University pairs schools with volunteers who will visit second-grade classrooms to provide engaging and fun activities designed to build math fluency.

## Interested?

### Here is What You Need:

- Volunteers (CRMC and PIE will help recruit)
- Supervised space
- 'Make It Count' kit
- Identify students to participate
- School Point-of-Contact

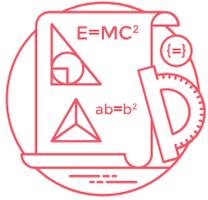


**Contact Us Today!**

**Email: [anderson\\_peter2@columbusstate.edu](mailto:anderson_peter2@columbusstate.edu)**

# CRMC by the Numbers

## OCTOBER



- 41 Awesome Algebra Teachers. We were proud to host some of the hardest-working people in our community this past week! The MCSD Algebra I teachers had a mini-conference this past Thursday at Frank Brown Hall 1010 Classroom. They shared ideas for improving instruction and understanding the state testing structure. They are an impressive group of professionals!



- 6 Building Thinking Classroom teachers. The Building Thinking Classroom Cohort was busy these past two weeks. With a planning meeting and visits to three area high schools, and a co-teaching opportunity, the team has been quite busy. The team is building a spreadsheet of lessons containing tasks that map to the current GSE Algebra standards. If you are interested in joining, please contact Peter Anderson.



- 4 schools on the Middle School RoadShow tour. Hope Phillips has been busy visiting area middle schools. At the invitation of area middle schools, the Mathematics Collaborative is visiting to provide support to middle school teachers during their common planning. Four middle schools have been kind enough to have us visit - more are scheduled for this month! We appreciate your commitment to students and to improving your teaching craft! If your school is interested in being a part of the monthly schedule, let us know, and we will do our best to make it happen.



- 4 schools starting the Make It Count Program again! Elementary schools with a desire to improve second graders' math fluency have contacted us to determine how best to implement the program in their schools. We are excited to get started!



- 100 % - We are too happy to announce that we are back to a full slate of workshops in November - Teachers of all grades, instructional coaches, and preservice teachers are welcome. Check us out here!



Click here to read more about our website:

[Columbus Regional  
Mathematics Collaborative  
Columbus State University](#)

Click the icons below to follow us on social media!



Columbus Regional Mathematics Collaborative  
Frank Brown Hall  
1127 Broadway  
Columbus, Georgia 31901

Mailing Address:  
4225 University Avenue  
Columbus, Georgia 31907