



WISCONSIN  
MATHEMATICS  
COUNCIL, INC.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE FOR THE  
MATHEMATICS EDUCATORS OF WISCONSIN

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# NEWSLETTER

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WMC is proud to offer a virtual professional development series focused on equity in mathematics education. Aligned with the WMC mission, we support the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Access and Equity as essential elements. "An excellent mathematics program requires all students to have access to high-quality mathematics curriculum, effective teaching and learning, high expectations and the support and resources needed to maximize their learning potential" (NCTM, 2010).

This virtual professional development, ***Becoming Racially Conscious Math Educators and Leaders***, will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm with follow-up monthly 1.5-hour webinars on January 21, February 18, March 18, and April 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$75 per participant.

The outcomes of this professional series include:

- Math Teachers will become conscious of how race plays out in the classroom
- Math Leaders will become conscious of how race plays out in their school/district/systems
- Teachers and leaders will learn and be able to apply anti-racist practices within the classroom, school, district and beyond
- Teachers and leaders will analyze decisions through new lenses and value the lived experiences of non-white staff, parents, and students as a part of the decision-making processes

October 2020  
Volume XLVI  
Number 1

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Council, Inc.

Newsletter Editor  
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Direct all questions and  
concerns to  
[wmc@wismath.org](mailto:wmc@wismath.org)



This series will be led by Tracy Frank, Infinite Solutions LLC. Tracy has been supporting mathematics education in Wisconsin and beyond for over 15 years. For more information on this professional development, please visit the WMC website at <http://wismath.org/Virtual-PD-Series>.

## From the WMC President



During difficult times inspiration can be found. This was the case this summer when I listened to Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings' webinar [Educating in a Post-Pandemic World](#). She stated, "Please...Let's NOT Go Back To Normal. For our most vulnerable students, 'normal' was where their problems were...Let's do a 'hard reset'." She explained that a hard reset is about starting over, thinking differently about how things are done, and making changes as a result. In my opinion, this is profound thinking. Instead of going back to normal, let's create a new normal *even in the midst of a pandemic*. Let's learn from all of this. There is no better time than now. I truly am inspired and I hope you are too!

So, what does a hard reset mean for math education in Wisconsin? How can we reimagine systems that are not working for our math students? To be able to imagine a new normal, educating the adults within the system must be a first step. This is where WMC can help.

WMC is proud to sponsor the virtual learning series [Becoming Racially Conscious Math Educators and Leaders](#) with Tracy Frank. Tracy is passionate about racial justice in schools and this is an event you will not want to miss!

The *Catalyzing Change* (NCTM) book series is a must-read. Participating in the [Catalyzing Change in Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle School Mathematics Fall Book Study](#) will truly inspire educators to have the critical conversations that lead to systems change. Don't miss this event that WMC is co-sponsoring with WI-AMTE. (The book study has started, but you can still join the remaining sessions.)

Lori Williams' (past president) and I co-authored [A Note from the WMC Board President and Past-President Regarding Systemic Racial Inequalities](#). Within this statement we made several commitments. So what has been done so far to follow-through on our commitments?

- During the summer Board of Directors meeting, Board members read several of the online resources that can be found in the statement. We had discussions about how the learning can be applied to the development of our strategic plan.
- The Professional Learning committee planned the upcoming virtual learning series and the book study.
- The Advocacy & Leadership committee created a sub-committee of representatives from around the state that will be convening this month to write an equity position statement.

The Board is here to serve the members of this amazing organization and we need to hear from our members. If you have an idea or thoughts that you would like to share, please do not hesitate to contact me at [president@wismath.org](mailto:president@wismath.org). Continue to do the amazing work that you do!

Sincerely,  
Tammy Moynihan, WMC President (2020-2022)

## Updates from the WMC Board



Due to Covid-19, WMC held a virtual Annual Meeting on May 21, 2020. This forum allowed for member input to set the 2020-2021 Priorities. We thank all educators who joined us for this important meeting.

WMC introduced a ***new membership structure*** on August 1, 2020. Educators can become a free E-Member or a Sustaining Member. Sustaining Membership helps support the mission of WMC to *lead in the development and promotion of quality mathematics education that enhances learning for all students*. To learn more about WMC Membership, please visit at <http://wismath.org/Membership-&-Benefits>.

The WMC Board held their Summer Retreat virtually on June 29-30, 2020. At this meeting, board members were able to set Strategic Goals focused on equity, professional learning, and member communication.

WMC thanks all the volunteers leaving the board in June 2020

Grade 6-8 Representative Maggie McHugh, Statewide Representative Nate Rosin, and WI Technical College Representative Brad Weiss, and NCTM/MARC Committee Representative (Central 2) Becky Walker, Howard-Suamico School District

**WMC would also like to welcome new and returning board members**

**Tammy Moynihan**, President, CIA Associate Director, CESA 8

**Michelle Parks**, Grade 6-8 Representative, Math Specialist & Instructional Coach Augusta School District

**Danielle Robinson**, Statewide Representative, Math Interventionist, Milwaukee Public Schools

**Rebecca Brink**, Treasurer, Mathematics Teacher, Marinette School District



**In Memoriam.** Jane Howell passed away on Sept. 24, 2020. She was an outstanding mathematics teacher, as well as an active member of the Wisconsin Mathematics Council and the Wisconsin Mathematics Education Foundation. Jane received many prestigious teaching awards including the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching in 1989 and the WMC Distinguished Mathematics Educator Award in 1990. In her honor, each year the Wisconsin Mathematics Education Foundation awards the Jane Howell Scholarship to a teacher education candidate who shares her passion and dedication to the field of mathematics education.

## Updates from the WMEF



### Meet the WMEF Committee Members

**John Janty, Chair**  
**Michael Weidner,  
Secretary**  
**Joe Kmoch, Treasurer**  
**Patrick Hopfensperger**  
**Kali Kocmoud**  
**Christine Lucas**  
**Judy Felsenthal**  
**Kelly Schaefer**

### Past Members

**John Burrill,  
Parliamentarian**  
**Jane Howell, Historian**  
**Beth Schefelker**

We have a new Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/WMEF2020>  
Please like and share!

Happy October! Ever wondered about the distribution of our Scholarships and Grants throughout our state? Check out our new pin maps at <http://wmefonline.org/scholarships-grants/>

### ***Now onto our recipients!***

**Scholarships** The Wisconsin Mathematics Education Foundation (WMEF) proudly extends congratulations to five qualified candidates who were awarded scholarships this spring. For a full report, please see <http://wmefonline.org>

The 2020 recipient of the ***Sister Mary Petronia Van Straten*** \$2000 scholarship is Ted Molkentin, a student from UW-Eau Claire who will be graduating in 2021 with a Mathematics Teaching Comprehensive major.

The 2020 recipient of the ***Jane Howell*** \$2000 scholarship is Matisen Ardis, a student at UW Milwaukee who graduated in May with majors in Elementary Education and Special Education.

This year, for the first time in its twenty years of evaluating applications and awarding scholarships, the ***Arne Engebretsen Scholarship*** Committee unanimously recommended awarding three \$2000 ***Arne Engebretsen Scholarships***. All three of these candidates were among the best who ever applied for the scholarship. The committee is thankful to WMEF and its financial supporters that all three of these outstanding future educators could be recognized.

The 2020 recipients are: Brynn Beaumier from Tomahawk High School, Megan Reinke from Lakeside Lutheran High School in Lake Mills and Nathaniel Woltman from Appleton East High School.

We look forward to watching the careers of these young leaders blossom as they join us in the teaching field!

***Please encourage your students to apply for the 2021 scholarships!***  
***Deadline for the scholarships is March 1, 2021. Check out***  
***<http://wmefonline.org> for more information and application forms.***

**Grants** Three grant proposals were awarded in July totalling \$1500. Congratulations to all!

<p><b>Student Activities Grant (2)</b> Shlomi Ishak, Milwaukee Jewish Day School</p>	<p><b>Materials/Resources Grant</b> Cheryl Kittel, Brillion Public School</p>
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Currently there are three grant opportunities ranging from short-term classroom needs to long-term professional development available through WMEF. All forms have been revised to address diversity, equity and inclusion.

- Julie Stafford Professional Development Grant
- Student Activities Grant
- Materials/Resources Grant

Another round of applicants will be considered for those applications submitted by December 1, 2020. Check out <http://wismath.org/WMEF-Grants> for more information and application forms.

**Financial Support** These scholarships and grants are funded by donations from individuals who have a vested interest in improving mathematics education in Wisconsin's classrooms. For more information please go to: <http://wmefonline.org/donations/>

Fully tax-deductible contributions may be given to the Wisconsin Mathematics Council's Foundation, WMEF, at three levels: Pythagoras Level: \$1 to \$99; Pascal Level: \$100 to \$49; and Einstein Level: Over \$500

**Planned Gifts** Create a lasting legacy by including WMEF in your will. An estate gift allows you to make a much larger impact than might be possible during your lifetime.

**IRA and RMD** If you have an IRA, you may have to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) each year. You can donate a portion of this to WMEF and reduce your overall tax.

**Tributes** Make a gift in honor or in memory of someone special. This is a great way to recognize a teacher or to remember a loved one.

**Gifts** Birthdays, holidays and other events are a perfect way to give!

**Participate in WMEF events** Join the **Pi Run** or the **50/50 Raffle**, both held at the Annual Conference

**Amazon Prime** If you make purchases from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), a small part of your purchase can support WMEF at no additional cost to you. Just go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose "Wisconsin Mathematics Education Foundation" as your charity of choice.

Thank you for your continued support of mathematics education in Wisconsin! **WMC and WMEF has tax-exempt status from the IRS under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible under section 170 of the Code.**

## Updates from DPI



The Wisconsin Standards for Mathematics began the review and revision process in winter 2020. Specific information about the standards review process can be found on DPI's webpage at <https://dpi.wi.gov/standards>.

The Instructional Materials and Professional Learning project aims to improve support for all teachers by ensuring that districts have the information they need to select high-quality instructional materials and to provide professional learning that supports effective implementation of those materials in English language arts and mathematics. More information on this project can be found at <https://dpi.wi.gov/impl>.

Explore WISELearn Resources and find high-quality instructional materials contributed by Wisconsin educators in mathematics. You can find these resources at <https://wiresources.dpi.wi.gov/>.

## Presidential Teaching Awards

Congratulations to the 2020 WI Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) Awardees

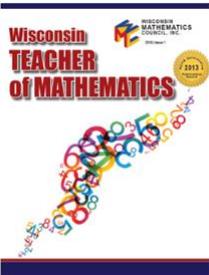
- Karen Olsen, Science Teacher, Baraboo High School, Baraboo School District.
- Katie Hass, Mathematics Teacher, Edgar Middle School, Edgar School District

The 2021 PAEMST applications for teachers in grades K-6 is now open through October 26, 2020.

For information on PAEMST visit DPI's website at

<https://dpi.wi.gov/cal/presidential-awards>.

## WMC Journal



Write for the Wisconsin Teachers of Mathematics Journal. WMC is looking for articles from a broad range of topics related to the teaching and learning of mathematics. In particular, we seek submissions that:

- present engaging tasks that can be implemented in the PK-12 classroom,
- connect mathematics education research and theory to classroom practice,
- showcase innovative uses of technology in the classroom,
- focus on work with pre-service teachers in the field, or
- discuss current issues or trends in mathematics education

If you have questions or wish to submit an article for review, please email editor Matt Chedister ([mchedister@uwlax.edu](mailto:mchedister@uwlax.edu)) or visit the WMC website (<http://www.wismath.org/Wisconsin-Teacher-Mathematics-Journal>).

## Mathematics Institute of Wisconsin Updates



The Mathematics Institute of Wisconsin supports math educators to develop stronger content knowledge and more effective teaching strategies. Join them for the following virtual professional development events. More information on these events, including registration details can be found at <https://mathinstitutewi.org>.

**How Can They Do Algebra If They Don't Know Arithmetic? Building on what students know to teach grade-level standards in middle school Virtual Workshop:** The transition from arithmetic to algebra during the middle grades is a make-or-break time for students' mathematical futures. But how can we ensure that all middle schoolers learn middle-grades algebra, when many students have significant unfinished learning of arithmetic?

In this virtual workshop led by Dr. Jason Zimba, a Founding Partner of Student Achievement Partners and lead author of the mathematics standards, we'll learn ideas and techniques for keeping students on track with middle-grades math. Participants will work together on classroom tasks, identify common student misunderstandings, and share insights with colleagues.

**Workshop Date:** November 18, 2020

**Cost:** \$309

**Critical Math for the ACT Virtual Workshop:** High school math teachers face continued pressure to raise ACT scores, which play a critical role in the assessment of both students and schools. This workshop offers an opportunity for teachers to take a closer look at the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards and the Wisconsin Standards for Mathematics (including middle school standards) revealing critical connections.

**Dates:** November 17, 2020 or February 9, 2021

**Cost:** \$159

**Designing Professional Development That People Value Virtual Workshop:** Do you lead professional learning for your colleagues? Avoid common pitfalls and learn how to design interactive learning with this virtual workshop that values what educators know and brings new ideas to engage colleagues in learning while building on their expertise.

**Date:** February 17, 2021

**Cost:** \$159

## WI-AMTE Updates

The Wisconsin Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators is devoted to the improvement of mathematics teacher education by supporting preservice education and the professional development of K-12 teachers of mathematics. Check out the WI-AMTE website (<https://wiamte.org>), Facebook, Twitter (@WIAMTE), or Instagram (@wiamte) for updates and notifications of upcoming events and activities!



In September, WI-AMTE hosted a dynamic discussion focused on distance learning. This discussion was built around the joint NCTM/NCSM statement on online learning available at [https://www.nctm.org/uploadedFiles/Research\\_and\\_Advocacy/NCTM\\_NCSM\\_Moving\\_Forward.pdf](https://www.nctm.org/uploadedFiles/Research_and_Advocacy/NCTM_NCSM_Moving_Forward.pdf). To listen to this discussion, as well as past discussions, please visit <https://wiamte.org>.

If you have questions or would like additional information on WI-AMTE, please contact Matt Chedister at [mchedister@uwlax.edu](mailto:mchedister@uwlax.edu).

## NCTM Updates



**NCTM Virtual Conference:** The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics is committed to bringing the math community together for engaging content that will help transform the learning and teaching of mathematics. Join your colleagues for the NCTM 2020 Virtual Conference November 11-14 and share in the excitement and love of math! The exciting online platform will provide opportunities for networking, small chat rooms, discussions with exhibitors, and much more. Topics include:

- Motivation with Productive Struggle
- Strategies to Build Student Identity and Agency through Discussions in Secondary Classrooms
- Who's Asking the Questions in Math Class? Strategies for Cultivating Curiosity and Discourse
- Using Problem-Based Learning in Middle School Mathematics

For more information on this virtual conference, please visit <https://www.nctm.org/virtual2020/>.

**100 Days of Professional Learning:** The FREE 100 Day of Professional Learning is still going strong. You can peruse the schedule and sign up to partake in this wonderful endeavor with unheard-of access to top math education speakers across the country. The best news is that no travel is involved! To see the schedule (Monday through Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time) and register, go to: <https://www.nctm.org/100-Days-of-Professional-Learning>. Past sessions are also available on the site.

**NCTM Free Trial Memberships:** Now more than ever, teachers need support and quality resources they can trust. NCTM is offering [free trial memberships](#) so that teachers can have access to the full breadth of support and benefits NCTM offers.

## Computer Science Updates

**WI CS Teachers Googlegroup:** to join contact Joe Kmoch at [joe@jkmoch.com](mailto:joe@jkmoch.com)

**PUMP-CS Professional Development:** <<https://pumpcs.mu.edu>>

**WI CS K-12 Standards:** <<http://bit.ly/wi-cs-standards>>

**Join CSTA:** <http://csteachers.org> and click on Membership tab at the top

**Support for 1st or 2nd year AP CSA Teachers:** UW-Madison's Andy Kuemmel has been able to provide a mentor for the brand-new AP Computer Science A (Java) teachers who applied in early September. Though he wasn't able to find mentors for all other APCS-A teachers, he has set up the following. Cole Nelson, an undergraduate CS major offers an open session for ANY teacher who wants to talk about Java and AP CS A. Any teacher is welcome, whether you have years of experience or if you just want to start learning Java. Cole has experience in Java and other languages, but may not know the particulars of the AP CSA curriculum. Note that this is for teachers only, not for students. Please contact Andy at <[andykuemmel@gmail.com](mailto:andykuemmel@gmail.com)> to sign up.

**Monthly Evening CS Get-togethers from CSTA Wi-Dairyland:** CSTA Wisconsin Dairyland leaders are facilitating sharing sessions throughout the year to help support teachers. We can all learn so much from each other! These sharing sessions will replace the CSTA summit in November. While we would love to be in person - for this year zoom will have to do. Here is the schedule of the sessions – all are from 7:00pm-8:00pm on **October 21, November 18, January 20, February 17, April 21.**

CSTA Sharing Sessions

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 918 3513 8697

Passcode: 223963

Please join us! If you have questions or concerns contact co-Presidents Amy Fetherston <[fetheram@wauwatosak12.wi.us](mailto:fetheram@wauwatosak12.wi.us)> or Linnea Logan <[linnea.logan@wfbsschools.com](mailto:linnea.logan@wfbsschools.com)>. Thanks - we can't wait to see everyone.

**The Marquette University Computer Science Competition** will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 in a virtual format. There will continue to be three divisions – Scratch, Java or APCS Principles. Stay tuned for more information in the near future.

**Free Practice for Praxis CS Exam from CompuScholar:** CompuScholar is continuing to offer two of their courses and study guides which should prepare you to take the Computer Science Praxis Exam (5652) in Wisconsin. This is entirely free of charge and offered by CompuScholar in conjunction with the CSTA WI-Dairyland. The courses are online, self-paced and self-study, so you can get started at any time and take up to 6 months to complete them. Here is the registration link:

<https://www.compuscholar.com/schools/standards/states/wisconsin/praxis>

## 2020-2021 WMC Board of Directors

**Tammy Moynihan**, President  
CIA Associate Director, CESA 8  
Gillett

**Lori Williams**, Past President  
Mathematics Specialist  
Manitowoc Public School District

**Jane Patterson**, Secretary  
Mathematics Teacher  
Greendale Middle School

**Rebecca Brink**, Treasurer  
Mathematics Teacher  
Marinette School District

**Mark Bussian**, Grades PK-2  
Kindergarten Teacher, Token  
Springs Elementary, Sun Prairie  
Area School District

**Michelle Butturini** Grades 3-5  
Fifth Grade Teacher  
Reedsville Middle School

**Michelle Parks**, Grades 6-8  
Math Specialist & Instructional  
Coach, Augusta School District

**Mary Walz**, Grades 9-12  
Mathematics Teacher  
Sauk Prairie School District

**Stephanie Bernander**,  
College/University Representative  
Assistant Professor, UW Oshkosh

**Becky Cohen**, Statewide  
Mathematics Teacher,  
Potosi School District

**Danielle Robinson**, Statewide  
Math Interventionist, Milwaukee  
Public Schools

**Lisa Hennessey**, Administrator/  
Supervisor  
Math Coordinator  
Sun Prairie Area School District

**Kevin McLeod**, Ex Officio  
Mathematician, Professor of  
Mathematics, UW-Milwaukee

**Jennifer Lawler**, Ex Officio  
WiMLC, Coordinator of  
Mathematics, Kenosha Unified  
School District

**Melissa Hedges** Ex Officio  
Early Mathematics Learning  
Specialist  
School District of South  
Milwaukee

**Julie Bormett & Mary Mooney**,  
Co-DPI Representatives,  
Department of Public Instruction

### WMC 2019 Annual Report



Quality mathematics  
education that enhances  
the learning for ALL  
students

3.1415926535897932384626433832795

**2019 Annual  
Report**

Your Membership & Donations  
= Our Mission

Eccellence in Mathematics Education

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Supporting excellence in  
mathematics education  
for students and teachers

In 2019, the Wisconsin Mathematics Council continued to enhance the learning of all students by offering professional learning, communications, and outreach opportunities. For a summary of WMC and its foundation, WMEF's activities over the 2019 academic year, please read the WMC Annual Report at <http://wismath.org/Annual-Report>. WMC looks forward to more great activities in 2020 and beyond!



The **WMC Mission** is to lead in the development and promotion of quality mathematics education that enhances learning for all students.