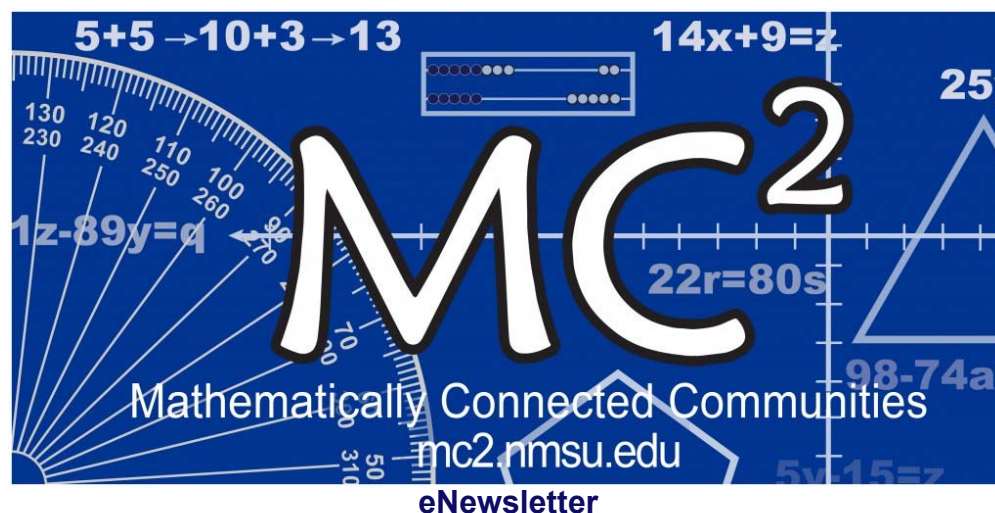


[View e-mail in browser](#)

March/April 2016



Volume 2 Issue 5

Mathematically Connected Communities (MC²) March/April edition is the last in a year-long series of monthly eNewsletters for the 2015-2016 school year. Please Note: These are interactive newsletters intended to be viewed online in order to be able to access the embedded links to the multiple resources provided. Upcoming editions will be emailed to subscribers. Anyone not currently on our listserv may subscribe by emailing Sheila (sshills@nmsu.edu).

This year's eNewsletters, along with a series of webinars, will serve as a follow-up to MC² partner district and K-3 Plus teachers who attended the MC² summer 2015 professional development sessions. Those who did not attend can also benefit from these eNewsletters and webinars. The focus this year is creating a standards-based learning environment (SBLE) including content, instruction, and assessment.

In this issue:

- PARCC Update
- MC² Publications
- March/April Webinars
- Where are they now?
- In Memoriam - Cathy Kinzer

PARCC Updates:

Are you aware that PARCC has released a 5-step checklist that will help parents get their children ready for testing?

The [checklist](#) features links to a host of assessment-related resources from both PARCC and partners such as the National Parent Teacher Association, Learning Heroes, Raise the Bar, and Great Kids, that will provide both parents and teachers with information about when the assessments will be given in their child's district, what will be expected of them when they are testing, and much more.

Both parents and teachers may also use the checklist to find practice tests, along with released items on the Partnership Resource Center.

MC² Publications:

The fourth in a series of published documents is an article, titled [MC² Online Coaching Learning Community](#).

March/April Webinars:

MARCH: Our last **K-3 Plus** webinar, *Addition and Subtraction within 100*, is archived and posted on the **MC² website**. The webinar targets Grade 2 Number and Operations in Base Ten standards and extends Webinar #1: Conceptual Place Value to include second grade standards related to addition and subtraction within 100. The focus is developing fluency with 2-digit addition and subtraction. Also, tools for uncovering student thinking are highlighted and instructional resources to support the activities and assessments are provided. The content is also appropriate for teachers in grade 3 and beyond who are looking for remediation strategies.

Webinar Recommended Resources

Wright, Robert J., Ellemor-Collins, David, and Tabor, Pamela D., (2012). "Developing Number Knowledge: Assessment, Teaching & Intervention with 7-11 Year Olds". Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications Inc.



Wright, Robert J., Stanger, Garry, Stafford, Ann K., and Martland, James, (2006) "Teaching Number in the Classroom with 4-8 Year Olds". Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications Inc.

APRIL: *Exponential Functions*, a webinar for grades 7-HS teachers is archived and posted on the **MC² website**. This webinar will help develop teacher understanding of


key mathematics content. Teachers will understand how:


- To build student conceptual knowledge of exponential functions
- To develop a Standards-Based Learning Environment (SBLE)
- Launch, Explore, Summary (LES) lessons are highly effective


Where are they now?

Each MC² eNewsletter will feature a quick update from a summer 2015 MathLab™ participant. **This month we are visiting 8th grade students from Sierra Middle School:**

The following excerpts were taken from MathLab™ Algebra I video posted on the MC²MathLab™ [website](#).

 **Isabella:** My favorite part of MathLab™ was the Skittles activity that we did where we made the graphs and equations and were comparing it to diseases. It has a different environment and sometimes that helps me learn. It has more hands-on activities and everything so MathLab™ would definitely help me with all of my math. What I know now that I didn't know before MathLab™ was that everyone has a voice. I would definitely tell my friends about it.

Robby: My favorite part of MathLab™ was the probability section with the Skittles we did. I thought it was a lot of fun and easy to learn. I thought it was a lot better than the previous learning environments I've been in because it was a lot easier to relate to everybody else since everybody was relatively knowledgeable of what they were learning. I think the most important idea was learning how to work in a group and answering questions freely without being nervous about being wrong. I would definitely recommend MathLab™ to other kids. I think they'd enjoy the people the most out of everything there because everybody was very kind. 

 **Morgan:** My favorite part of MathLab™ was when we did the exponential functions with the Skittles. We did projects, drew on posters, and did puzzles and things. The teaching was really group oriented instead of one teacher teaching all the kids. MathLab™ was really fun and it helped me learn and prepare for math in an easier way. I would definitely recommend MathLab™ to other students.

IN MEMORIAM

Cathy Kinzer

1950-2016

*She will be remembered as a
passionate and dedicated educator
who sought to transform education
at the state and national level.*



For questions contact a [MC² Facilitator](#) or

Email [Sheila](#) or [Terri](#)

[MC² Home Page](#)



Not interested anymore? [Unsubscribe Instantly.](#)