

Connected Mathematics, Grade 8

Teachers in this module will be engaged in the mathematics content that is embedded in the revised eighth-grade units from Connected Mathematics Project (CMP2). Teachers will improve their own content knowledge through the problems in these units and simultaneously develop successful teaching strategies using the CMP2 materials. Teachers will examine how using problem-based materials can lead to the learning of significant mathematics content. Mathematics content studied within this module will explicitly be connected to the eighth-grade indicators found in Ohio's Academic Content Standards. Content studied in this unit includes a strong focus on algebra content, specifically with linear, exponential, and quadratic relationships. Other content includes symmetry, transformations, and statistics.

During the 5-day summer institute, teachers will be engaged in the Connected Mathematics activities from a students' perspective. These activities will help each teacher to see first-hand how the mathematics content is developed through these materials. Teachers will be engaged in, and explicitly discuss, the Launch, Explore, Summarize model of a CMP2 classroom. In the summer and during the academic year follow-up activities, teachers will participate in discussions about CMP2 and issues of assessment, management, alignment to Ohio Standards, homework and ACE questions, and many other related issues. \ Topics in pedagogy, such as student misconceptions, process skills, and the learning cycle will be discussed in the context of participant learning experiences. Through these activities, participant understanding of not only mathematics concepts will increase, but also understanding of teaching strategies.

Suggested Audience: This academy is best suited for teachers within their first two years of experience using CMP2; teachers who are considering adopting the program; or mathematics supervisors, curriculum leaders, and other district personnel involved in the curriculum decision making for their district.

Institute Dates: July 7-11

Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: TBD at Wright State University

Optional Graduate Credit: 2 quarter credit hours from Wright State University

Academic Year Follow-up:

Cohort 3 – New Participants (40 hrs):
(additional 4 quarter credit hours)

8:30-4:30 WOEa Day (October 17, 2008)*
2 other full days (TBA)
several after school sessions

*If your district does not observe WOEa Day, the EXCEL Center will reimburse your district for the cost of a substitute up to \$100.

Cohort 2 – Prior Participants (13 hrs):
(additional 2 quarter credit hours)

4:30 – 7:30 in August (TBA)
8:30 – 4:30 WOEa Day (October 17, 2008)*
4:30 – 7:30 in May (TBA)

*If your district does not observe WOEa Day, the EXCEL Center will reimburse your district for the cost of a substitute up to \$100.

Optional Follow-up ONLY: Returning teachers who took the CMP academies last year may choose to take part in ONLY the 40 hour academic year follow-up (without taking the week-long course in the summer). These teachers will receive the Cohort 2 stipend less the cost of substitutes for WOEa day and any subsequent days needed thereafter. This course is worth an optional 4 quarter credit hours from Wright State University.