

November 6, 2006

Greetings!

In this large cyber packet of information, I am attempting to start answering some of the questions raised during the first Lenses on Learning session in October.

**In this mailing you will find:**

- Reminders about homework for the next session and dates for next session
- Contact information for all participants
- Research articles about Cognitively Guided Instruction
- Research and strategies for learning basic facts without timed tests
- South Dakota Counts roles and expectations documents

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jan.martin@state.sd.us](mailto:jan.martin@state.sd.us) or 773-3246.

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**Dates for next Lenses on Learning Session**

Considerations around spring breaks and state tournaments were addressed and in order for the LOL sessions to take place prior to the start of DSTEP in April, the following dates have been scheduled.

March 13 and 14 – Rapid City

March 19 -20 - Brookings

March 20-21 – Sioux Falls

March 22-23 – Mitchell

Locations and registration information will be forthcoming.

**Homework for Lenses on Learning**

2 observations of math lessons – one of your teacher leader and one in another classroom.  
The two readings with their reading guides – read the articles and respond to the questions.



## **Principal Roles for Year 1 of SD Counts**

Be curious, let teacher leader know you are supportive

Support the coaching relationship between the teacher leader and the math specialist  
Provide opportunities for teachers to visit the teacher leader's classroom when he/she is ready.

Provide permission for the teacher leader to experiment with instructional strategies and not always follow the textbook as written. The teachers are expected to teach the district's expected curriculum.

Be thinking about ways to start the professional development in CGI during the next school year. There will be a need for approximately 30 contact hours for instruction. Some of the work can be done before the school year starts with the rest of the time spread out over the school year so that teachers have time to work with the strategies in the classroom and report back to the group about what they are learning.

The book teachers will need for the CGI class is *Children's Mathematics – Cognitively Guided Instruction*, Thomas Carpenter, et.al., 1999, Heinemann. ISBN 0-325-00137-5.

Begin conversations with other administrators in your district about SD Counts and begin to explore ways to cover the costs of the textbook (about \$25/book) and stipends, credit, etc. Title I and other funds available to the school district through the Consolidated Application would be a place to start.



### **Math Curriculum Resources**

*Some websites of interest and usefulness:*

[www.terc.edu](http://www.terc.edu)

[www2.edc.org/MLT/](http://www2.edc.org/MLT/)

[www.mathcurriculumcenter.org](http://www.mathcurriculumcenter.org)

*Good references for exploring the research in math and addressing issues:*

*Administrator's Guide – How to Support and Improve Mathematics Education in Your School*, Amy Mirra, 2003 copublished by ASCD and NCTM

ISBN 0-87353-552-9

List Price: \$18.95

*Choosing a Standards-Based Mathematics Curriculum*, Lynn T. Goldsmith, June Mark, & Ilene Kantrov, 2000, Heinemann

ISBN 0-325-00163-4

*Sensible Mathematics – A Guide for School Leaders*, Steven Leinwand, 2000, Heinemann ISBN 0-325-00277-0

*Math – Facing an American Phobia*, Marilyn Burns, 1998, Math Solutions Publications  
ISBN 0-941355-19-5