



K-12 STANDARDS

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NEWSLETTER

March 2015

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STEM

Featured Professional Development

[Geometry in the Middle School](#) - March 31st - \$15

This full-day professional development will examine the progression of Geometry Standards in the middle-school



Regional Centers offering Professional Development around the State!

[The Five Regional Centers](#) are a key implementation mechanism for helping schools and district personnel transition smoothly to enhanced standards and rigorous assessments. These centers provide regionally-based service, support and technical assistance to schools and districts in successfully implementing Arizona's academic standards. Upcoming Regional Professional Development offerings can be found [here](#)



grades as well as incorporating mathematical practices with the content. The conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency as well as application in the geometry standards will be evaluated with a plan to bring back to your classroom to teach these standards.

[STEM 101](#)

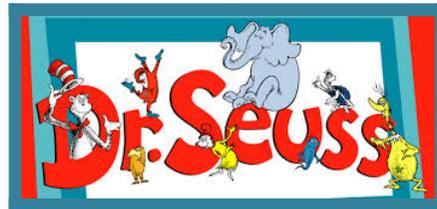
March 18, 2015 Cost is **\$20 per person**

This training will provide an overview for K-5th grade teachers of what is STEM teaching and learning and what STEM literacy means for students. The day will also focus on planning support for building rigorous, relevant, and engaging interdisciplinary STEM lessons and units, including resources that support teachers as they create a standards-driven STEM learning environment. [A few spots still available! Register Here](#)

[Special Engagement: Using Socratic Seminar to Meet the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards with Diana Green Level II](#) A

Mathematics Teachers Favorite Day of the Year!!

Mathematics Teachers Favorite Day of the Year!! Pi Day or March 14th, is a great day to celebrate mathematics and eat pie! This year holds extra-special significance as the first ten digits of pi will be represented on 3/14/15 at 9:26:53 am and pm. Online resources are plentiful starting with an official [Pi Day](#) website. This Pi Day site contains information about Pi, videos and Pi sightings as well as things to do for Pi day. The home of the first celebrated Pi day, [Exploratorium](#) also has an amazing Pi day website with activities and links for home and the classroom. Feel free to double the learning fun this day by celebrating Albert Einstein's birthday (March 14, 1879).



Get involved!

Get involved! [NEA's Read Across America Day](#) is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on **March 2—Dr. Seuss's birthday**. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together kids, teens, and books, and you can too! Find activities, lesson plans and much more to help celebrate.

2. Discover resources to foster creative student publishers
3. Practice a variety of technology integration strategies and tools



Upcoming Ed. Tech. Productivity Tools in the Classroom and Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series.

Join us for engaging Webinars that explore a variety of digital tools that support learning and engagement in the classroom. Exploring “*how digital tools help us do what we do better*”, these two Webinar series bring to the classroom digital tools that are free, easy to use and that can produce immediate benefits in the classroom.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT

Upcoming Ed. Tech. Productivity Tools in the Classroom and Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series.

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Educational Technology Professional Development Opportunities

March

- 3/10 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Digital Classroom Collaboration with Padlet](#)
- 3/23 [Productivity Tools in the Classroom Series: Customize Learning Using Symbaloo](#)
- 3/25 [Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series: SketchUp and Math \(Geometry\)](#)

April

4/7 [Digital Tools for Digital Learners: Applying the SAMR model to transform teaching and learning](#)

4/21 [Digital Tools for Digital Learners Webinar Series: Going Interactive with Thinglink](#)

4/23 [Productivity Tools in the Classroom Series: Chrome Extensions for the Classroom--Part 1](#)

May

5/4 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Digital Classroom Collaboration with Lino](#)

5/11 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Become More Productive Using Evernote Part 1](#)

5/18 [Productivity Tools in the Classroom Series: Chrome Extensions for the Classroom--Part 2](#)

5/21 [Productivity Tools Webinar Series: Become More Productive Using Evernote Part 2](#)

Upcoming face 2 Face Ed. Tech Professional Development

April

4/14 [Digital Tools: Produce, Publish, Interact and Collaborate in Digital Writing](#)

June

6/1-2 [Two-Day STEM Boot Camp for Teachers, Grade 3-6](#)

July

7/6-7 [Two-Day STEM Boot Camp for Teachers, Grade 3-6](#)

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WHAT'S NEW IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Tim Shanahan Blog!

Reading Rockets is a national Multimedia project that offers a wealth of research-based reading strategies, lessons, and activities designed to help young children learn how to read and read better. These reading resources assist parents, teachers, and other educators in helping struggling readers build fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. Several times a month, Timothy Shanahan (Distinguished Professor - University of Illinois at Chicago) posts a blog about reading called [Shanahan on Literacy](#).

Family Literacy Plus

Junior League of Phoenix and Southwest Human Development provide a program that focus on family literacy. One of the most unique elements of a [family](#)

[literacy program](#) is Parent and Child Together (PACT) time, a regularly scheduled session when parents and children play and learn together through interactive literacy activities.

Each of the literacy nights feature food, fun, literacy-related activities designed to engage parents and children, and distribution of the following items:

- Literacy Night One - a children's book
- Literacy Night Two - a children's backpack to be used to carry books to and from the classroom library
- Literacy Night Three - another book
- Literacy Night four - a literacy blanket. Blankets such as these have proven successful in providing families with a dedicated place in their home for reading and family time.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHTS

[Level II Socratic Seminar \(March 26 - \\$65\)](#)

This level II seminar builds on the basics from the first session. Participants will be provided opportunities to dive deeper into ideas and values, complexity and challenge, and relevance to the curriculum.

[Socratic Seminar \(April 29 - \\$95\)](#)

This seminar models for teachers how to facilitate deep analysis of text in a group setting. The main goal is for students to build a conceptual understanding of the texts and ideas by asking and answering questions, citing evidence, and conversing with each other in order to make meaning.

[Research, Information, and Writing Fluency:](#)

[Developing Independent and Engaged Researchers and Writers \(April 14 -](#)

\$40)

Teaching students to take control of their own research is critical if we want them to become independent, engaged, and active learners rather than passive receivers of information. How can we engage students in the research process so they see it as a relevant, transferable skill and not an assigned school task?

English Language Arts Professional Development Opportunities

March

- 3/3 [K-2 Writing Foundations](#)
- 3/3 [Academic and Argument Writing: Entering the Conversation 6-12](#)
- 3/11 [Webinar: Close Reading in the Classroom](#)
- 3/17 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations-Handwriting Part 2 of 4](#)
- 3/24 [3-5 Writing Standards Implementation](#)
- 3/26 [Webinar: Academic and Argument Writing 6-12](#)
- 3/26 [Special Engagement: Socratic Seminar Level II](#)
- 3/31 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations-Spelling](#)

April

- 4/9 [Webinar: Argument Literacy](#)
- 4/14 [Webinar: K-2 Writing Foundations Sentence Construction Part 4 of 4](#)
- 4/14 [Research, Information, and Writing Fluency 4-12](#)
- 4/16 [Webinar: Research and Information Fluency](#)
- 4/29 [Special Engagement: Socratic Seminar Level I](#)

May

- 5/7 [Webinar: Evaluating Instructional Materials and Aligning them to AZCCRS - PART 1 of 2](#)
- 5/12 [Multisensory Grammar](#)
- 5/13 [Close Reading in the Classroom](#)
- 5/24 [Webinar: Evaluating Instructional Materials and Aligning them to AZCCRS - PART 2 of 2](#) [Back to top](#)

WHAT'S NEW IN MATHEMATICS

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science

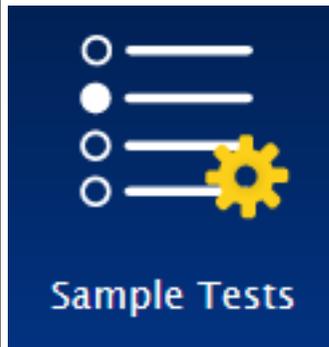
Teaching (PAEMST) are the nation's

Presidential Awards for Excellence

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

highest honors for teachers of mathematics and science (including computer science). Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education.

[AzMERIT Releases Sample Tests](#).



The purpose of the AzMERIT Sample Tests is to allow various users to become familiar with the AzMERIT Computer-Based testing (CBT) system and the different formats of AzMERIT test questions. The Sample Tests are not to be used as a predictor of performance on upcoming AzMERIT tests. For more information about the Sample Tests, please refer to the AzMERIT [Guide to the Sample Tests](#). See page 57 in the Guide to the Sample

Tests for the types of assessment items that will be present on the AzMERIT Mathematics Assessment



A challenge

has been launched for 7th grade formative assessment item development.

Teachers are invited to create a collection of 10 formative assessment items that are aligned with the 7th grade AZCCRS in Mathematics. Teachers can [click here](#) to sign up and submit their items by May 24th. Help other educators by creating new items that can be used formatively to assess a student's understanding of concepts.

Nominations Are Now Open! The 2015 Awards will honor mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers working in grades 7-12. Nominations close on April 1, 2015. Nominate a 7-12 Mathematics teacher today!!!



Illustrative Mathematics

[Illustrative Mathematics](#) has recently added K-5 blueprints to their overflowing website of quality mathematics resources. The

website allows you to find illustrative tasks and other resources that are arranged by units through a given grade level. Middle school and high school blueprints will be added over the course of the next couple months. As always, amazing guidance documents are provided by Illustrative Mathematics which includes the Domain [Progression Documents](#), [Quality Mathematical Tasks](#) and Illustrations of the eight [Standards for Mathematical Practice](#)



MOOC-Ed
MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES FOR EDUCATORS

MOOC-Ed provides free online professional development on a variety of topics for educators.

This flexible environment contains podcasts, videos and readings to engage educators of all learning styles. Find your course and register today!

[Teaching Statistics through Data Investigations](#) is currently open for teachers in grades 6-12.

Mathematics Professional Development Opportunities

March

3/4

[Webinar: Integrating Math Practices in Grades K-5](#)

3/10

[Webinar: Evaluating Instructional Materials and Aligning to AZCCRS-Math, EQulP Part I](#)

3/19 [Engaging in Problem Solving in HS Geometry](#)
3/23 [AZCCRS Introduction to Shifts and Instruction K-12](#)
3/24 [Problem-Solving \(CGI\) for K-2 Teachers \(Day 1\)](#)
3/31 [Geometry in Middle School 6-8](#)
3/31 [Extending Fluency in K-2 through Understanding Equality & the Equal Sign](#)
3/31 [Geometry in Middle School 6-8](#)

April

4/8 [The progression of fraction understanding grades 3-6](#)
4/9 [Statistics in College and Career Ready High School Algebra](#)
4/20 [Webinar: Addition and Subtraction Problem Types in K-2](#)
4/21 [Problem-Solving \(CGI\) for K-2 Teachers \(Day 2\)](#)
4/22 [Integrating Mathematical Practices in Instruction, 6-12](#)
4/23 [Writing in Mathematics Grades K-5](#)
4/27 [Webinar: Math Journals in K-2](#)
4/28 [Webinar: Writing in Mathematics, grades 6-12](#)

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WHAT'S NEW IN SCIENCE

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) is accepting nominations for secondary science teachers for the 2015 Award Cycle. The PAEMST award is the nation's highest honors for teachers of mathematics and science (including computer science). Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education. If you know great teachers, nominate them to join this prestigious network of professionals. [Nominations](#) are open until April 1, 2015. Applications are due May 1, 2015. For more information visit the [PAEMST website](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT

[Making Sense of Science Facilitation Academy - Organisms Course \(K-8\)](#)

March 30-April 3, 2015 (5-days) Presented by WestEd

Cost is \$1,800 per person; includes lunch each day and facilitation materials.

A training-of-trainer model will be followed to prepare staff developers, district science leaders, and other

teacher educators to effectively lead Making Sense of SCIENCE Organisms Course. This course and materials were developed by WestEd with support from the National Science Foundation and the Institute of Education Sciences. The MSS approach develops teachers' content knowledge, instructional skills, and expertise through inquiry-based science learning, collaborative discussion, and a focus on literacy in science. This facilitation academy will provide you with the MSS Facilitator bundle that includes the necessary information to facilitate the teacher courses at your site. This workshop is for staff developers, district science leaders, and other teacher educators.

Science Professional Development Opportunities

March & April

3/30-4/3 [Making Sense of Science Facilitation Academy - Organisms Course \(5 days\) Presented by WestEd](#)

4/28 [Webinar: Developing Scientific Habits of Mind](#) (Part 3 of 3-part series on Nature of Science)

On-demand [View a recorded Science webinar](#) Presented by ADE

External Professional Development and Partnerships

Making Sense of Science Teacher Courses

Each course is developed and hosted by WestEd, and will be facilitated by NAU. Courses will be held at NAU North Valley (Phoenix) location.

[Visit the WestEd Website for more information or to register.](#)

- June 1-5: [Force and Motion](#) (grades 6-8)
- June 8-12: [Matter](#) (grades 6-8)
- July 27-31: [Energy](#) (grades 6-8)

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WHAT'S NEW IN SOCIAL STUDIES

[Personal Finance Challenge](#) and the [EconChallenge Online](#).

Arizona teachers are invited to engage their students in these two outstanding academic competitions. Teachers can create as many student teams as they would like. The competitions are open to all Arizona middle and high school students that have taken a personal finance or economics-related course in school. Students compete in teams of three or four with

each student eligible to participate as a member of only one team. The competition period runs from January 7, 2015 through March 27, 2015. Teams must complete their testing by 5 p.m. on March 27th.

[Arizona National Geographic Bee](#)

March 27, 2015. 9:00 am. ASU-Tempe

Whether you are a competing student, a teacher, a parent or an interested member of the public, we invite you to attend Arizona's State Level event of the National Geographic Bee. Attend the state Bee to see who will go on to compete in the national championship at National Geographic in Washington, D.C. Support students and enjoy a day of exciting academic competition among the grade 4-8 school champions of the state.

Social Studies Professional Development Opportunities

On-demand [View a recorded webinar](#)

Presented by ADE

March

External Professional Development and Partnerships

3/7

[Common Sense Economics for Life](#)

External event, sponsored by Arizona Council on Economic Education

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WHAT'S NEW IN STEM

What's New in STEM:

Looking for helpful resources to support your interdisciplinary STEM planning? Each month we highlight a few links that provide you with ideas and information to help strengthen STEM teaching and learning. Here's this month's picks:

The 14 Best Resources on the Web for STEM Educators - A start to finding

good information you can incorporate into your STEM learning class modules. The resources found here will provide a good start to anybody looking to accelerate lesson plans for their STEM class. Additional links to compilations and other lists of great STEM resources as well!

[eGFI - Dream Up the Future](#) - *eGFI* is committed to promoting and enhancing efforts to improve K-12 STEM and engineering education. Here you will find a variety of tools to boost your students' math and science skills, enliven the classroom with engineering projects, expand your own professional horizons and stay informed.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT

STEM 101

March 18, 2015 Cost is \$20 per person

This training will provide an overview for K-5th grade teachers of what is STEM teaching and learning and what STEM literacy means for students. The day will also focus on planning support for building rigorous, relevant, and engaging interdisciplinary STEM lessons and units, including resources that support teachers as they create a standards-driven STEM learning environment. [A few spots still available! Register Here](#)

STEM Boot Camp

June 1-2 or July 6-7, 2015 Cost is \$50 per person (includes book: *STEM Lesson Essentials - Integrating Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*) [Camps are filling fast! Register Here](#)

STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) should not be viewed as curriculum, but rather a way of organizing, integrating, and delivering instruction through an intentional interdisciplinary mindset. There is an increasing need to better understand STEM and provide for more rigorous, relevant and engaging interdisciplinary STEM teaching and learning opportunities. This 2-day "boot camp" will energize and motivate teachers by building background, providing tools and resources with support to successfully implement integrated STEM connections.

Through this engaging, hands-on 2-day STEM Boot Camp participants will:

Develop a foundation for understanding the interdisciplinary nature of STEM teaching and learning. Build their own STEM teaching toolkit based on research and best practices
Create a framework to develop and sustain a STEM learning environment

STEM Professional Development Opportunities

March

3/18 [STEM 101 \(Grades K-5\)](#)

3/24 [Webinar: STEM Learning using the 5E Instructional Model](#)

3/26 [Webinar: Effective Discourse Communities in the STEM Classroom Using the Practices](#)

[Infographics in the STEM Classroom](#)

April

June

6/1-27 [STEM Boot Camp for Teachers, grades 3-6](#)

July

7/6-7 [STEM Boot Camp for Teachers, grades 3-6](#)

[View a recorded STEM webinar Presented by ADEz](#)

**On-
demand**

External Professional Development and Partnerships

Save the Date! 21st Century STEM - Integrating to Innovate

1/21-23/2016 National STEM Conference, organized by Science Foundation Arizona, ADE and the STEM AZ Education Collaborative (ASTA, AATM, AzTEA)

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K-12 Academic Standards // 1535 W. Jefferson Bin #5 Phoenix, AZ 85007 //