

To all Middle School Mathematics Teachers:

Kimberly Vincent and *Preservice Teachers of Mathematics (PreToM)* are inviting you to bring your middle school students to WSU for a day of mathematics activities November 3, 2011. The activities will be designed for a collaborative rather than competitive setting to allow for students of all abilities to develop some excitement and understanding of mathematics outside of a traditional textbook approach. The activities will have a hands-on component to allow lower level students to develop some understanding and conceptual questions to challenge some of the more proficient students to push their thinking. Two of the activities will involve the use of electronic technology and one will involve problem solving that ties mathematics to the real world and/or firms up their conceptual understanding of underlying mathematical concepts. The math won't be particularly hard; instead the emphasis will be on collaboratively solving the problem and using critical thinking skills which can be quite challenging.

This is the Ninth annual *Inland Northwest Math Experience, IN ME*. Last fall was the eighth and it was a huge success for all middle and high school students who attended. The activities will be written and facilitated by future grade 4-12 mathematics pre-service teachers who are in their math methods class. This is part of their required practice teaching component of the methods course taught by Kimberly Vincent.

Copies of each of the activities will be given to each teacher. There is no cost for registration, but we have limited space (100 students), so registration is based on first come first serve. Please plan on attending the *entire day* so that each methods student is able to complete their requirements for their practice teaching. Since this is a graded portion of their class, we need all visiting students to *stay for all* of the sessions. Last year we had a waiting list so send your registration early and **please give us early notification if the number of students you bring is less than what you registered, so we can contact folks on the waiting list.**

I have attached a Word document that is meant to be a brief announcement, with dates and times. A second document is a registration form; you may fill out the registration electronically to return via email or you may print it and mail it through the U.S. Post Office (addresses are on the form). I have also attached a .jpg file that can be used as a small poster (8.5 by 11 inches) to display in your room. These documents will be on Dr. Vincent's Web site soon ([www.math.wsu.edu/faculty/vincent](http://www.math.wsu.edu/faculty/vincent)) and there will be a link from the Math Department home page. [www.math.wsu.edu](http://www.math.wsu.edu). You can visit Kimberly Vincent's Web site to see the activities that the methods students wrote for the fall 2003 and 2004 *IN ME*.

Please join *PreToM* in expanding your students' mathematical experiences and helping the methods students gain very valuable experience in working with middle and high school students. We look forward to a fun day of mathematics with you and your students.

Sincerely

Dr. Kimberly Vincent