



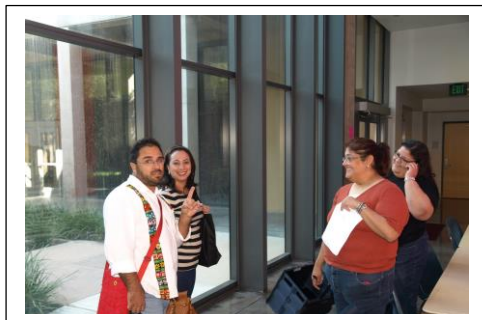
Rio Grande Valley Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Math Connection

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<http://rgvctm.org>

Spring 2014



Upcoming Conferences

49th Annual RGVCTM Conference New Mathematics TEKS at Your Doorstep

Saturday, November 15, 2014

UTPA

Edinburg, Texas

<http://rgvctm.org>

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Annual Conference

April 15-18, 2015

Boston, MA

<http://nctm.org>

Conference for the Advancement of Mathematics Teaching (CAMT)

June 24-26, 2015

Houston, TX

<http://camtonline.org>



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President's Message



For many years, the Rio Grande Valley Council of Teachers of Mathematics (RGVCTM) has organized an annual conference to support mathematics education across South Texas. The 48th Annual Mathematics Conference last November was a great success thanks to the efforts of RGVCTM Board Members, UTPA personnel, volunteers, presenters, exhibitors, and conference attendees. It is through the cooperation of all those involved that we are able to enrich mathematics education for the students of the Rio Grande Valley. We extend a special thanks to the University of Texas – Pan American for their continued support in hosting the conference.

The 49th Annual RGVCTM Conference, *New Mathematics TEKS At Your Doorstep*, will be held Saturday, November 15, 2014. We invite you to join us for this outstanding event. The registration form is on page four of this newsletter, and it is available at www.rgvctm.org. We welcome your suggestions for improvement of the conference, presenters, or exhibitors. Please send your suggestions to lucymunozrgvctm@gmail.com.



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Join our Facebook Group by clicking here:



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rgvctm/>



We are now accepting presenter proposals for the 49th annual conference. If you are interested in submitting a presenter proposal or an advertisement for our conference program, you may download the applications for both at the following address:

www.rgvctm.org

See the Side-by-Side TEKS here:

<http://www.projectsharetexas.org/resource/revise-mathematics-teks-side-side-teks-comparison/>

See the Vertical Alignment Documents here:

http://www.projectsharetexas.org/resource/revise-mathematics-teks-vertical-alignment-charts?field_resource_keywords_tid=vertical%20alignment&sort_by=title&sort_order=ASC&items_per_page=5



Aug. 21, 2014

STAAR performance standards maintained for 2014-15

AUSTIN – Commissioner of Education Michael Williams today notified districts and charters that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will maintain initial academic performance standards (Phase-In 1) for the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) program for the 2014–2015 school year.

The Commissioner cited a variety of changes impacting the STAAR program over the course of the upcoming school year. Those changes include:

- § Implementation of the new Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) mathematics curriculum;
- § Elimination of STAAR Modified;
- § First administration of STAAR Accommodated; and

§ First administration of the redesigned STAAR Alternate.

In addition to maintaining current performance standards for 2014-2015, TEA will be proposing changes to the existing plan to phase in performance standards for the STAAR grades 3–8 and end-of-course (EOC) assessment programs. The existing plan will be adjusted from two steps to three steps to allow for smaller, incremental movements toward final performance standards.

“While I firmly believe that our students are capable of reaching the high expectations reflected in the TEKS and the STAAR performance standards, moving to a three-step phase-in plan gives educators additional time to make the significant adjustments in instruction necessary to raise the level of performance of all Texas students,” said Commissioner Williams.

Academic performance standards represent the level of performance students must meet or exceed to pass a STAAR assessment. New performance standards will be established for the second phase-in and the newly established third phase-in prior to moving to the final recommended performance standards. The proposed three-step phase-in plan would include:

- § The current phase-in 1 performance standards will be maintained for the 2014-2015 school year.
- § The new phase-in 2 performance standards will be implemented beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.
- § The new phase-in 3 performance standards will be implemented beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.
- § The final recommended performance standards will be implemented in the 2021-2022 school year.

Current policy regarding STAAR EOC performance standards for each student will remain unchanged. The standard in place when a student first takes an EOC assessment is the standard that will be maintained throughout the student’s school career.

To learn more about STAAR academic performance standards, visit the Texas Education Agency website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/performance-standards/>.



Rio Grande Valley
Council of Teachers of Mathematics

49th Annual RGVCTM Mathematics Conference
The University of Texas – Pan American, Edinburg, TX
November 15, 2014

**EARLY REGISTRATION (\$50)
DEADLINE - OCTOBER 10, 2014**

On-Site Registration - 7:30 a.m. located 1st floor MAGC Bldg.

Conference 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Early Registration Fee - \$50.00

On – Site/Late Registration Fee - \$75.00

Registration forms must be submitted to Lucy Muñoz via email at lucymunozrgvctm@gmail.com on or before the registration deadline, Friday, October 10, 2014. Early registrants will receive a program approximately 2 weeks prior to the conference date.

Send check or purchase order to the address listed below. Make checks payable to RGVCTM.

Lucy Muñoz
906 Jay Drive S.
Mission, TX 78573

Phone: Home (956) 867-0456

Fax: (888) 435-8303

Method of Payment:

Personal Check # _____ District Check # _____ Money Order # _____ PO# _____

If method of payment is a school Purchase Order (PO), invoice should be sent to:

Person Responsible for PO: _____

Billing Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone # _____

Fax # _____

Please type or print (This form must be filled out completely.):

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. _____

Email: _____

School District: _____ Campus: _____

Campus Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Campus Phone Number: _____ Campus Fax Number: _____

Betty Rountree Education Grant

The RGVCTM offers several \$800 grants to potential and current mathematics teachers each academic school year. Our goal is to assist individuals who plan continued study leading toward a mathematics teaching certification or who desire to continue studies in undergraduate and/or graduate work in mathematics or mathematics education. Teachers or paraprofessionals who are current members of RGVCTM and have successfully completed a college level mathematics or mathematics education course may apply for a grant. A member may receive, at most, one grant during each year. The grant money is to be used to help defray tuition and textbook costs for any mathematics or mathematics education course.

RGVCTM's Betty Rountree Grant Application	Date of Application _____
Name of Applicant _____	
Position _____	Grade Level _____
Years of Experience _____	Work Phone _____
District _____	
Campus _____	
Home Address _____ _____	
Home Phone _____	
College or university in which you are enrolled _____	
Name of mathematics course in which you are enrolled _____	
Date or expected date of completion of course _____	
Winners must submit proof (e.g. transcript, report card) of completion to receive award.	
Please state the need for this grant (financial/academic) and the benefits to be expected from your successful completion of the course in which you are enrolled. If needed, use additional sheets.	

Send application to Velma Sanchez, 4010 N. Juniper, Pharr, TX 78577.	