

COLUMBUS STATE
UNIVERSITY

NOTES *to* NERDS

The official newsletter of the Math Collaborative



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THE MATH COLLABORATIVE MISSION:

The CRMC's mission is to improve math education for all students in our area by developing teacher leaders through deepening their content knowledge, developing best practices, and using available resources to improve student outcomes and experiences.



TO DO THIS, WE MUST:

Provide quality teacher growth experiences through continuous collaboration - in and out of the classrooms - with a focus on teachers' needs in support of student growth.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

CONTRIBUTED BY PETER ANDERSON, CRMC DIRECTOR

A Talk with a Friend, **THE TIME-DISTANCE FORMULA, AND A GRANDBABY!**

I was talking to a friend this morning about the CSU Day of Giving, when she mentioned that she and her husband were headed to Missouri to see the eclipse. They would travel on Saturday, see the eclipse on Monday, and return around Tuesday-ish to avoid the traffic congestion. And then it hit me!

My wife and I have travel plans to see our grandson's baptism, which will take us right into the solar eclipse path! It had not even occurred to me. **Oh**, don't get me wrong, I've been reading about the solar eclipse for almost a month now. I could have told you that it was on Monday, April 8th, and that it would affect the central part of the United States. But for some reason, the thought never crossed my mind that we would be traveling right through the path of the solar eclipse on the **very day** that it would occur!

After getting off the phone with my friend and realizing our trip would cross paths with the solar eclipse, I began to map out our return home. I considered when we would have to leave to avoid the heavy traffic, how it would reduce our speed, and other pathways that might get us safely home on Monday evening. Using a map of the solar eclipse path, Google Maps, and loosely applying the *Distance = Rate x Time Formula* - I devised a plan of which I am sure God is laughing at now.

Then, I remembered a question from a student in an Algebra One class at Spencer High School. He asked when we will ever use this stuff. My response was that it would be in the most unexpected of circumstances, but it would be one formula you would use for sure. He rolled his eyes with perfect teenage skepticism as we modeled a problem created purely from my imagination about a delivery man who wanted to complete his route before lunchtime. One student told me that each equation was like a story. That was pretty cool, **and here I am...**

creating a story that I hope will come true but is very much based on my understanding of the Time-Distance Formula.

If you read this on Monday afternoon, you will know that the story is in full play. I wonder how it will end as I sit at my computer in Frank Brown Hall on a Thursday afternoon.

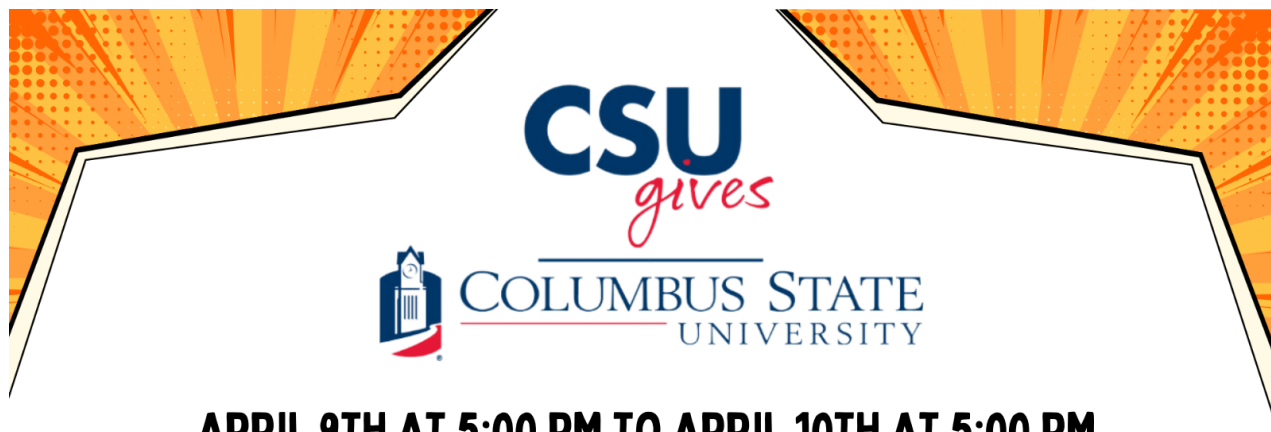
There's another thing at play here. I wonder if a real story could be weaved using math, the solar eclipse, my grandbaby, and CSU's Day of Giving—and still make sense. You can judge how well it turned out.

At any rate,
Happy Maths,

Pete



[HTTPS://ALMABASE.COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU/G/CSU-GIVES-2024](https://almabase.columbusstate.edu/g/csu-gives-2024)



APRIL 9TH AT 5:00 PM TO APRIL 10TH AT 5:00 PM

"CSU Gives" is Columbus State University's LARGEST 24-hours of fundraising efforts to benefit students, programs, and projects.

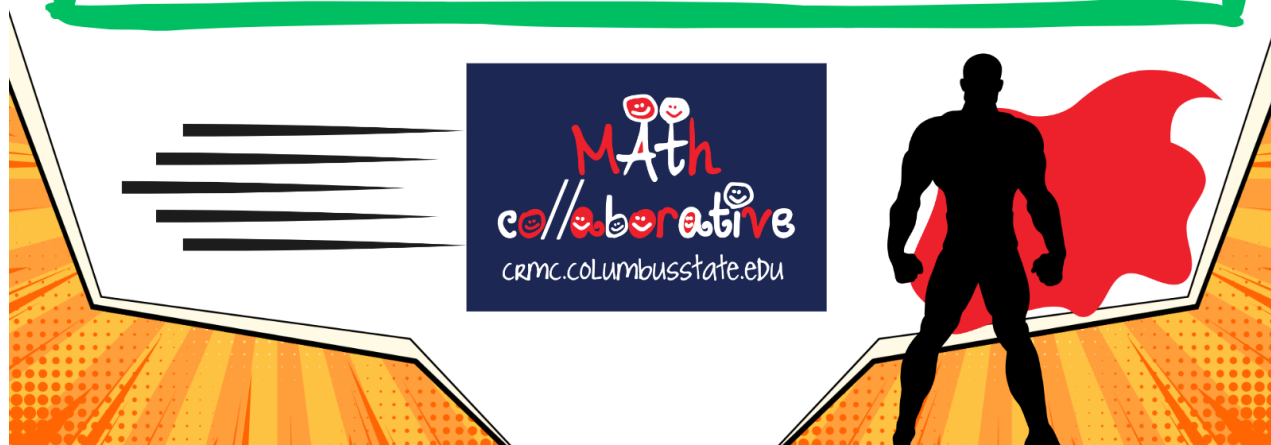
SUPPORT THE MATH COLLABORATIVE!

Are you prepared to join "CSU Gives" and become a superhero for the College of Education and Health Professions?

To participate, click the link or scan the QR code provided below!

Giving
Campaign
Link

OR



UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SESSIONS

We are trying something new just for you...can't leave the classroom for an entire day? We've got you covered!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH
AND AGAIN ON
TUESDAY, MAY 14TH!**

**KINDERGARTEN
THROUGH
GRADE 5**

"SLICING THE DAY A DIFFERENT WAY"

Connecting Grades K-5

"Exploring Progressions and How Language Impacts Mathematical Thinking"

CLICK HERE or scan the QR to register today. Sign up for one....or both!



MORNING SLICE: IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

A focus on counting and place value and the progression from Kindergarten to Fifth Grade.



AFTERNOON SLICE: BIG IDEAS

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

A focus on the mathematical operations and the progression from Kindergarten to Fifth Grade.



Frank Brown Hall, 1127 Broadway



706.565.1475



<https://www.columbusstate.edu/crmc/events.php>

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SESSIONS

We are trying something new just for you...can't leave the classroom for an entire day? We've got you covered!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

MIDDLE
SCHOOL
GRADES 6-8



JOIN US THURSDAY, MAY 9TH

**"SLICE THE DAY A
DIFFERENT WAY"**



Spend your morning OR afternoon with us:

(Share a slice* with a colleague...you'll only need one substitute teacher for the day!)

MORNING SLICE*

8:00 - 11:00 AM





AFTERNOON SLICE*

12:00-3:00 PM



A LITTLE GETS YOU LOTS!

"How small changes in using the math curriculum pays big dividends in student engagement."  Learn new ideas to complement and support the Math Curriculum Learning Plans that will help you prepare for August.

 Lean into small changes that can have a big impact on your instruction and students' understanding.

COOL TEACHER STUFF

CONTRIBUTED BY HOPE PHILLIPS, RESOURCE SPECIALIST

MAKE CLASSROOM GROUP PLACEMENT... FUN!

In his (Building) Thinking Classrooms, Peter Liljedahl uses visually random groups. Many teachers are now familiar with the procedure -- standing at their classroom door and handing out playing cards to each student. The cards randomly assign students to groups. The groups are temporary and change the next time the teacher hands out the cards.

A trusty deck of playing cards has always been my go-to for group placements – simple and easy.

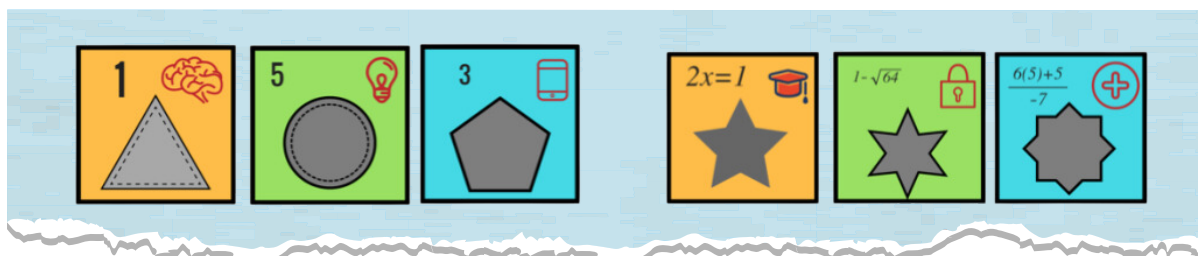
Recently, I read an article by Kyle Pierce and Jon Orr, the guys at “Make Math Moments”. They have elevated the humble playing card grouping strategy to a new level. Using this [link](#), you will find multiple sets of their randomizing cards. They are colorful, visually interesting, and at times, require a little math to determine one’s group.

So, what are you waiting for?!

Grab some cardstock. Get out your favorite pair of scissors. Hook up your color printer. Finally, add a little bit of patience to cut out all the cards. That’s it. You are all set for your next classroom group placement!

The cards work for groups of two or three.

With 12 colors, 12 symbols, 12 shapes, and 12 numbers that match math problems, you can use 36 cards for groups of three, OR, you can use 24 cards for groups of two.



Learn more about using random grouping cards in your classroom at this [link](#).

Want to know more about Building Thinking Classrooms? Contact Math Collaborative Director, Peter Anderson, at anderson_peter2@columbusstate.edu



Click here to read more about our website:

[Columbus Regional
Mathematics Collaborative
Columbus State University](#)



Keep the
Math Magic Going!
Pledge your Support!

Click the icons below to follow us on social media:



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