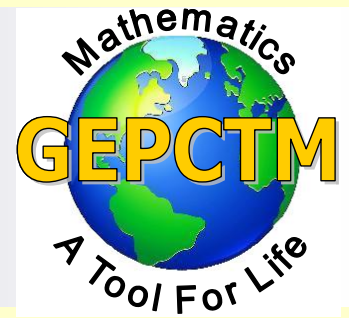


# GEPCTM

# Newsletter



The Greater El Paso Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Volume 9, Issue 2

P.O. Box 972771, El Paso, TX 79997

Email: [gepctm@yahoo.com](mailto:gepctm@yahoo.com)



Words from the PRESIDENT!

**Wow**, Time has sped by. I can't believe that we are halfway through the school year. It seems like yesterday we had our fall membership kickoff. I would like to thank Dr. Lesser for his support to GEPCTM and helping us out at the Kick-Off.

**Dr. Lesser YOU ROCK!**

First, let me say that I am grateful to be nominated and elected to this position. Second, I am looking forward to working with the GEPCTM officers this year, which includes two new faces - Craig Rhoads, our 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president, and Jon Espinoza, our secretary. These guys fit right in to the leadership team. Also, I am excited about this school year and the GEPCTM plans for the 2009-2010 Conference. We are already lining up speakers from all grade levels, and we have quite a few openings for presentations. If someone you know has given a presentation that could benefit other math teachers in the El Paso area, please let us know, and pass on the speakers request form to them or perhaps you have attended an inservice or conference in the past and gained something you can share with colleagues as well. Put it on your calendars -**March 13, 2010**- don't just pencil it in, put it in ink- and for the more tech savvy, put it into Outlook. Then share the forms with your campus and friends from other schools. We want the conference to be the most dynamic possible and we know it will be with your help and participation.

Sincerely,  
Glen Torguson

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

JANUARY 15, 2010

President's Message	1
GEPCTM Fall 2009 Kick-Off	1
Upcoming Events "2009-2010 GEPCTM Conference"	2
Conference Registration Form	3
Speaker Proposal Form	4
Equity: All Means ALL	5
Message From Our Members!	6
New On the Web!	6
GEPCTM 2009-2010 Officers	6
Quote of the Month	7
Comic Corner	7
Challenge Your Mind!	7

## GEPCTM Fall 2009 Kick-Off

Did you here the one about the Mathematician who couldn't divide?

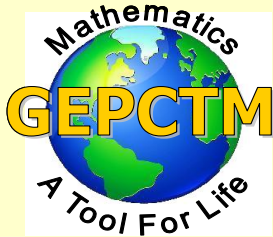
???

**American Idol Finalist!**

No, It's Not!

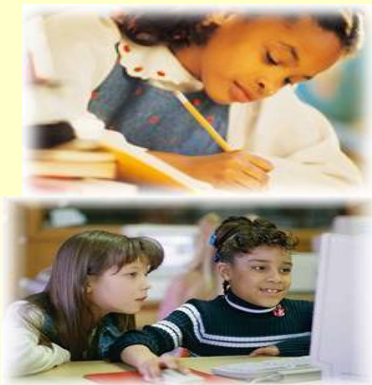
This is really hard!

Are you sure I won? I never win!

*Upcoming Events*

# GEPCTM 2009 - 2010 Conference March 13, 2010

## Equity: All Means ALL



**Special Multi-Function  
Lanyard - Usb Drive for  
the First 100 Paid Registrants**

**Over 20 Math Workshops and  
Presentations to Choose From!**

**Registration: 7:30 - 8:00 am**

Early Registration Fee (Includes Lunch)

<b>GEPCTM Member*</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Nonmember</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>

Postmark for Early Registration is February 13, 2010

On-Site Registration Fee (Limited Availability for Lunch)

<b>GEPCTM Member*</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Nonmember</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>

\*The GEPCTM Annual Membership Fee is \$10.00

El Paso Community College  
Transmountain Campus  
9570 Gateway Blvd. North  
El Paso, TX 79924

For information, registration form or  
if you have any questions, please contact  
Michael G. Harmon at  
[mharmon1@yisd.net](mailto:mharmon1@yisd.net)

**6 Hours of Continuing Education  
Certificates will be given.**



GEPCTM is an affiliate of the NCTM.

GREATER EL PASO COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS

**2009 – 2010 Conference**

**Registration Form**

*Equity: All Means ALL*

Saturday, March 13, 2010

El Paso Community College – Transmountain Campus  
(Next to Cohen Stadium)

9570 Gateway Blvd. North

El Paso, TX 79924

Registration & Light Breakfast: 7:30 – 8:00, Sessions Begin at 8:00

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**School/Firm** \_\_\_\_\_

**position** \_\_\_\_\_

**Early Registration Fee**

(Includes Breakfast & Lunch)

**GEPCTM Member**

**\$25.00\***

**Nonmember**

**\$40.00\***

**POST-MARKED FOR EARLY REGISTRATION IS FEBRUARY 13, 2010.**

**Registration Fee**

(Lunch Extra. Limited Availability.)

**GEPCTM Member**

**\$35.00\***

**Nonmembers**

**\$50.00\***

Send Registration To:

GEPCTM – Conference Registration  
P.O. Box 972771  
El Paso, TX 79997

*If you have any questions, please feel free to contact  
Michael G. Harmon at mharmon1@yisd.net*

**Make Checks payable to GEPCTM** (GREATER EL PASO COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS)

\*Undergraduate or pre-service students pay half price.

**Presenters please use the Speaker Proposal Form.**



GEPCTM is an affiliate of the NCTM.

GREATER EL PASO COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS

**2009 – 2010 Conference**  
**Speaker Proposal Form**  
*Equity: All Means ALL*  
 Saturday, March 13, 2010

El Paso Community College – Transmountain Campus  
 (Next to Cohen Stadium)  
 9570 Gateway Blvd. North  
 El Paso, TX 79924

*Thank you for helping make this GEPCTM Conference a success! Your contributions are greatly appreciated!!*

Name of Lead Speaker \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Required!)

Educational Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Speakers \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation (Short & Catchy!) \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Presentation (Limit 50 words—to appear in the Conference program.)

---



---



---



---



---

Circle the Main Grade Band(s) that would benefit the most:

PreK-2    3-5    6-8    9-12    Higher Ed    Pre-service/New Teachers    General Interest

Presentation Type:     General Session (45 mins)     Workshop (90 mins)

Preferred Time Preference (If Possible!):     AM     PM     Either

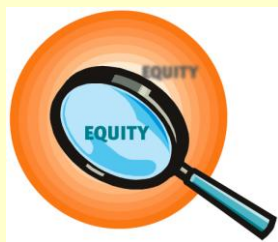
Would you be willing to present more than once? \_\_\_\_\_

Special Equipment Needs \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to:            GEPCTM  
    Conference Committee  
    P. O. Box 972771  
    El Paso, TX 79997

**Please submit this form by January 29, 2010 to be considered for a \$25 registration fee waiver.**

For further information, contact Glen Torguson at [gtorgu@sisd.net](mailto:gtorgu@sisd.net), or Craig Rhoads at [crhoad@sisd.net](mailto:crhoad@sisd.net)



## Equity: All Means ALL

### Why Equity?

As educators prepare students to thrive in a global society, focusing on equity in mathematics education becomes increasingly more important. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Principles and Standards for School Mathematics asserts that “All students regardless of their personal characteristics, backgrounds, or physical challenges, must have opportunities to study-and support to learn-mathematics.” The intent of this year long emphasis on equity is to help teachers, school leaders, and teacher educators examine equity and its salience in the mathematics teaching and learning process.

To achieve equity in mathematics education, traditionally underserved students (i.e., students of color, students who live in poverty, females, students who are not native speakers of English, students with disabilities) in preschool through college must have access to a coherent, challenging curriculum that is taught by highly qualified, effective mathematics teachers. All students benefit from rich mathematical experiences, engaging classroom discourse and the use of a variety of instructional tools (e.g., manipulatives, technology). Moreover, every student must receive appropriate guidance, preparation, and support to participate and excel in advanced level mathematics.

Teachers, school leaders, and teacher educators must hold high expectations for all students. As agents of change, they must challenge the pervasive societal belief that only some students are capable of learning mathematics. These expectations must be reflected in all aspects of the mathematics teaching and learning process – from instructional planning and decision making to implementation and assessment. Educators must challenge the implicit, often unspoken, notion that only the experiences of some students are valuable and reflect mathematical knowledge. The lived experiences, prior knowledge, intellectual strengths, and personal interests of all students should be valued and utilized as a springboard for learning. Therefore, educators must reconceptualize the nature of students’ mathematical knowledge, bridging informal and formal mathematical experiences, and providing students opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of mathematics in a multitude of ways.

The pursuit of equity in mathematics education requires moving beyond catchy slogans to implementing systemic changes that reflect a commitment to all learners, preschool through college. Simply put, “All means ALL.”

*Article taken from the NCTM Professional Development Focus*  
<http://www.nctm.org/profdev/content.aspx?id=15589>

### **NCTM Resources:**

[Elementary Resources](#)

[Middle School Resources](#)

[High School Resources](#)

## Message from our Members!

One of our members, just received a free calculator.  
Yes, a **FREE CALCULATOR!**

Here's how. Jillian Smiles from Casio e-mailed our member the following:

*Dear Educators,  
I would like to let you know that new enrollement for our free, online - ClassPad 101 - was extended to March 31, 2010. If you know anyone who would like to take the class, they still have time to sign up! The ClassPad is a very interesting and useful tool to learn with applications for all levels of mathematics. After completeing the course, any US math teacher will earn free ClassPad Manager software, recently updated, and a free handheld (a \$150 value), and optional college credit.*

*Best regard  
Jillian*

**Casio Education Technology M.R.D. Center**  
Email: [jsmiley@casio.com](mailto:jsmiley@casio.com)

[www.classpad101.com](http://www.classpad101.com)  
[www.casio.com](http://www.casio.com)

This sounds like a great opportunity.

Thanks Ulli for the info!

## New On the WEB!

Need a quick graph, check out this website.  
It's very user friendly and free.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createagraph/>

Have Fun!

## Tell Us How We Are Doing!

Is their a lesson or activity that really motivates your students?  
Is their a strategy that really help your students understand?

We would like to hear from you, our members. Write or email us to let us know what works for you in your classroom.

In future issues of the GEPCTM Newsletter, we would like to applaud your hard work dedication and share what works for you with all our members.

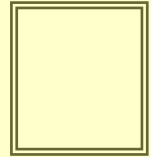
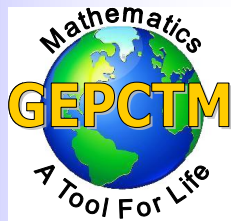
## 2009-10 GEPCTM Officers

President	Glen Torguson	Americas High School	<a href="mailto:gtorgu@sisd.net">gtorgu@sisd.net</a>
First Vice President	Erica Gomez	Parkland High School	<a href="mailto:phsmathislife@yahoo.com">phsmathislife@yahoo.com</a>
Second Vice President	Craig Rhoads	Americas High School	<a href="mailto:crhoad@sisd.net">crhoad@sisd.net</a>
Third Vice President	VACANT		
Assistant Third VP	Jose Avalos	(Retired)	<a href="mailto:jmavalos8@aol.com">jmavalos8@aol.com</a>
Recording Secretary	John Espinosa	Americas High School	<a href="mailto:jespin25@sisd.net">jespin25@sisd.net</a>
Treasurer	Michael G. Harmon	Bel Air High School	<a href="mailto:mikeylindaharmon@aol.com">mikeylindaharmon@aol.com</a>
Assistant Treasurer	Carol Culver	(Retired)	<a href="mailto:cleewc@yahoo.com">cleewc@yahoo.com</a>
NCTM Representative	Frank Nolasco	Americas High School	<a href="mailto:fnolas@sisd.net">fnolas@sisd.net</a>
Past President	Yolanda Gonzalez	Del Valle High School	<a href="mailto:ygonzalez@yisd.net">ygonzalez@yisd.net</a>
Newsletter Editor	Robert Ortega	Bel Air High School	<a href="mailto:bamathteacher@yahoo.com">bamathteacher@yahoo.com</a>

**The Greater El Paso  
Council  
of Teachers of  
Mathematics**  
P.O. Box 972771  
El Paso, TX 79997

E-Mail:  
[gepctm@yahoo.com](mailto:gepctm@yahoo.com)

The Greater El Paso Council  
of Teachers of Mathematics  
P.O. Box 972771  
El Paso, TX 79997



««AddressBlock»»

### The Quote of the Month

"The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple."

S. Gudder

### Comic Corner



### Challenge Your Mind

#### Give and Take

Glenn and John each have a collection of tennis balls. Glenn said that if John would give him 2 of his balls they would have an equal number; but, if Glenn would give John 2 of his balls, John would have 2 times as many balls as Glenn. How many balls does John have?

Answer on next issue.

### Be Part Of IT!

Submit your ideas, suggestions, articles, etc..., to include in future newsletters.

[gepctm@yahoo.com](mailto:gepctm@yahoo.com) – Attention Newsletter