



# MathScience Innovation Center

*Imagine. Create. Lead.*

2401 Hartman Street, Richmond, VA 23223  
A Consortium of 8 Public School Divisions  
Contact: Robin Newton  
804-343-6525 x 227  
newton@msinnovation.info

July 9, 2009

## **Secondary Educators Explored Emerging Worlds of Math & Science**

Making a quick move from teacher to student, 99 middle and senior high school educators explored futuristic math and science topics at the first *Emerging Worlds Conference* held at the MathScience Innovation Center on June 17-19. The conference focused on effective ways to modify Virginia's *Standards of Learning* to include recent mathematical and scientific advances.

Conference participants interacted with 7 keynote speakers, either face-to-face or virtually, and selected from among more than 50 concurrent sessions. The 2009 conference highlighted 7 major themes: engineering, fractal geometry, nanotechnology, environmental innovations including green technologies, nanotechnology, teaching with the web, and virtual lessons.

Overall, participants gave the conference a rating of 4.54 (on a 5-point scale). They plan to share conference information with 696 other secondary teachers and to use the information with about 7,935 students during the 2009-2010 school terms. Here's what a few participants said about the conference.

*"The conference had experts in the field and educators which helped to turn industry concepts into classroom lessons..." -Kate Kelly, Colonial Heights Public Schools*

*"The sessions, the presenters, the material, overall layout of the conference...I am BLOWN away by the information provided to us..... Truly an A plus conference! I have never attended such a wonderful conference. THANK YOU THANK YOU!" -Michael Weisbrod, Hanover Public Schools*

*"one of the strengths was the variety....my ability to go back and forth between math and science sessions."*  
*- Sandra Schrader, King William County Public Schools*

*"Cutting edge info, techniques, and tools were used as integral parts of the presentations by the presenter themselves and their modeling went a long way to help my understanding."*  
*- Patricia Woodberry, Richmond Public Schools*

Initiated as part of the MathScience Innovation Center's mission – *to be the innovator, incubator and advocate of 21<sup>st</sup> century math and science* – the conference is designed to increase educators' understanding of futuristic areas of math and science, provide models and materials which educators can immediately use within their classrooms, and promote long-term change within divisions' core curricula.

For conference attendance, educators received Continuing Education Units, instructional materials, and honoraria. Within the Center's consortium are 46 middle and 37 high schools. Participating educators from the various school districts and schools are listed below.

The **attendee from Charles City Public Schools** was Nora Adkins from Charles City Middle School.

The **17 attendees from Chesterfield County Public Schools** included: Sara Moody and Timothy Winkler from Bailey Bridge Middle School; Judith Hall from Chester Middle School; Anna Butler, Katrina Halloran and Jessica Saunders from Falling Creek Middle School; Soubia Balkhi, Matthew Parks and Dana Wilson from Manchester Middle School; Cheryn Clark from Matoaca Middle School; Lorraine Kilpatrick from Providence Middle School; Meredith Collins and Kristine Kverka from Salem Church Middle School; Carolyn Wilkerson from Tomahawk Middle School; Sandra Harris from Meadowbrook High School; Nick Bohidar and Larunatta Pollard from Monacan High School.

The **2 attendees from Colonial Heights Public Schools** were Katherine Kelley from Colonial Heights Middle School and Melinda Kelley from Colonial Heights High School.

The **18 attendees from Hanover County Public Schools** included Shelley Burnside, Janielle Lattimore, Eileen Malick, and Jeremy Watts from Atlee High School; Karen Bedall from Chickahominy Middle School; Thomas Abernethy and Thomas Boshier-Perran from Lee-Davis High School; Elizabeth Winegardner from Liberty Middle School; Erin Degnan, Ellen Hughes, David Smail and Michael Weisbrod from Oak Knoll Middle School; Patti Beach, Christine Belcher, Bryan Buckalew and Gretchen Shaw from Patrick Henry High School; Marilyn Collins from Stonewall Jackson Middle School; and Renee Simpkins from The Georgetown School.

The **19 attendees from Henrico County Public Schools** included: Elizabeth Layne from Brookland Middle School; Rachel Lawrence, Carol Pugh, and Jennifer Sower from Deep Run High School; Christine Hill from Fairfield Middle School; Dada Delano, Hope Parham and Denise Williams from Godwin High School; Wallace Ford and Nancy Nelson from Henrico High School; Eleonor Mangoma from Hermitage High School; Kathryn Brock and Michelle DeLoach from Highland Springs High School; Jason Sterlace from Tucker High School; Jeffrey Williams from John Rolfe Middle School; M. Kathleen Stansbury from Mt. Vernon Middle School; Patricia Fernandez and Ellan Smithwick from Short Pump Middle School; and Kelley Ostrom from Varina High School.

The **3 attendees from King William County Public Schools** included: Michael Embrey, Instructional Leader; and Devon Ryan-Thiel and Sandra Schrader from King William High School.

**The 3 attendees from Petersburg Public Schools** included Carolyn Blackwell, Kim Gordon and Bernetta Thornton from Petersburg High School.

**The 9 attendees from Powhatan County Public Schools** included James Dawson from Powhatan Junior High School; and Samantha Gavin, Hedy Keller, Leslie Murphy, Louis Paris, Mary Payne, Kris Stewart, Nancy Taylor, and Karen Wilson from Powhatan High School.

**The 3 attendees from Prince George Public Schools** included Emily Ange and Felicia Kershaw from J.E.J. Moore Middle School; and Sandra Nicol from Prince George High School.

**The 19 attendees from Richmond Public Schools** included Terri Pollard from the Adult Career Development Center; Decardra Jackson and Jennifer Poore from Henderson Middle School; Patricia Woodberry from Holton Elementary School; George Powell and Wanda Wilder from Huguenot High School, Anthony Bird, Donyelle Granderson and LaTonya Waller from Lucille Brown Middle School; Carroll Ellis from MLK, Jr. Middle School; Theodore Barnett from Oak Grove Elementary School; Ruby Holman (retired); Cheryl Kayes and Kalota Stewart from Richmond Community High School; Frances McGruder, Richmond Juvenile Detention Center; Jermaine Harris, Danica Millner and Crystal Wood from Thomas Jefferson High School; and Jonathan Smith from Thompson Middle School.

**The attendees from other systems were:** Bradley Stylman from the College of William & Mary; Karen Stringer from Poplar Springs Academy; Laura Holloway from Danville Pittsylvania County Schools; Paul Busse and Amy Hale from The Steward School.

The MathScience Innovation Center is a capacity building workforce program for K-12 educators that provides expanded opportunities to learn about emerging fields (fractal geometry, engineering, nanotechnology, environmental modeling) and effective ways to integrate within the curriculum.

Established in 1966 we are one of the oldest examples of regional partnerships in the metro Richmond area. The MathScience Innovation Center is comprised of eight school divisions: Chesterfield, Colonial Heights, Hanover, Henrico, King William, Petersburg, Powhatan, and Richmond. Going into the 2009-2010 academic year, the consortium's 141 elementary, 46 middle and 37 high schools represent a range of urban, suburban, and rural schools.