Dear Teachers,

Can you challenge your students to figure out how many times a year Friday the 13th will occur??

Let’s teach our students not to be so superstitious about our math skills...every one of them has potential!

Two separate studies have found that early math skills are a good predictor for academic success. In fact, math skills at school entry (kindergarten) can predict reading skills in 2nd and 3rd grades better than reading skills at school entry! See more information in this Education Week newsletter: http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2012/03/28/26stipek.h31.html?r=732678721. If you would like to read the entire article (available only through subscription), please email either of us and we will be happy to forward you a copy.

See the next page of this newsletter for a few interesting pieces related to math that we discovered. As always, if you come across something interesting that you think we all would enjoy learning, please share the link with us!

Julie Tibbitt and Laura Riddell
Mathematics Curriculum Coordinators
Columbia and Frederick Campus

A new way to look at math.
Math Tidbits From Around the Country

NCTM: New Position Statement on Calculus

“According to a recently released joint position statement of NCTM and the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), the ultimate goal of the K–12 mathematics curriculum should not be to get students into and through a course in calculus by twelfth grade. Instead, the aim should be to have established the mathematical foundation that will enable students to pursue whatever course of study interests them when they get to college. The joint statement was developed by members and leadership of both organizations and approved by the MAA and NCTM boards of directors.”


This is very true! We are teaching our students for jobs that have not been developed yet! So many areas of life, both work and personal, relate to the area of STEM, not just Calculus.

Blog: Push Yourself Like You Push Your Students

“You’ve heard it said before – we don’t let our students stop learning and growing, so why do we let ourselves get into a rut? It’s late winter and the students might be feeling dull and you might be feeling dull too. If the MSAs are approaching, you are pushing hard and reinforcing skills and encouraging students. If it’s right after MSA time, you might be feeling drained. (Note to all Maryland teachers: I hope you are also energized because you watched your students work really hard during testing to demonstrate their progress. Take a moment now to celebrate their progress.)

Spring is the natural New Year – so pause for a look at you. Are you monitoring your own learning as honestly as you monitor your students’ growth? A spring resolution for teachers – Learn something new. Here’s my guide to spring rejuvenation: [see link to read more!]

Source: http://marylandlearninglinks.org/2632

engageNY

Ever wonder how states are dealing with the Common Core Standards? Maryland is a strong player, but please also take a look at what New York has done. Their site has many wonderful teaching and learning resources, much of which has been made available to the public.

Source: http://engageny.org