

Robyn Silbey <rsilbey@hotmail.com>
To: benjventura@gmail.com
Students Will Shock You!

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Robyn Silbey Professional Development Raising Teacher Quality and Student Achievement in Mathematics



Summertime is near! Instead of assigning a packet, how about challenging your students to be their best, individual selves? Keep reading for new ideas.

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Last Weeks of School: IGNITE Students!



IGNITE is an event in which presenters share their personal and professional passions, using 20 slides that auto-advance every 15 seconds for a total of

Shout Out! Baden Elementary

Baden Elementary School
Home of the Bobcats!
On the Prowl for Excellence!

The teachers at [Baden Elementary School](#) took a close look at the Common Core State Standards for Mathematical Practice. After analyzing the Standards, an open discussion ensued about how they might be best learned, embodied, and practiced by students. Next, staff worked collaboratively in grade level teams, analyzing

 just five minutes.

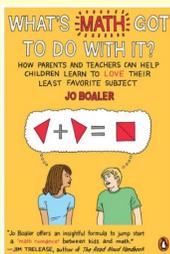
What are your students' personal and professional passions? End your school year on a creative note by igniting your students' ingenuity! Invite them to construct a presentation on any topic. Together with your students, explore delivery methods such as powerpoints or videos and set a time limit for each presentation no longer than five minutes. Provide time the last day or two of school for sharing presentations.

The gains? Students articulate their passion and are heard by their peers. You gain insight into the people your students are and will be in years to come!



For a sample IGNITE presentation, view [Robyn's IGNITE Session](#) from the [2013 NCSM Conference!](#)

What's Math Got To Do With It? by Jo Boaler



[Jo Boaler's](#) research underscores the need for a sweeping change in classrooms around the country. In her 2008 book, [What's Math Got To Do With It](#), Dr. Boaler investigates the 21st century workplace. Her surveys indicate that American employers want young people who "have the disposition to

think through problems that blend quantitative work with verbal, visual, and mechanical information; the capacity to interpret and present technical information; and the ability to deal with situations when something goes wrong." Dr. Boaler's fascinating book offers suggestions for educators that if followed, ensure that the American classroom prepares students for success in the workforce.

Life After the High-Stakes Assessment

The assessment season has passed. Since most high-stakes assessments consider and measure understanding of the entire year's work, what is left to teach? What are some ways to constructively utilize the remainder of the year?



Have a New Year's Party after the

their upcoming lesson plans and determining how they might be upgraded to increase rigor and address the Standards' mathematical "habits of mind."

Shout Out! Janney Elementary



At [Janney Elementary](#), the primary teachers are working

together to create a solid and seamless foundation for place value and whole number addition and subtraction. In the morning, teachers delighted in learning new and engaging mental math strategies. The afternoon was devoted to embedding the new techniques and strategies into their teaching for the closing weeks of school.

Engaged and excited students will excel at the new mental math methods they will learn-- and may surprise their teachers with a few of their own!

Planning and Teaching with the Common Core State Standards



assessment. Hold students accountable for retaining the current year's work as you challenge them to explore how the concept will be extended and enriched in the future.

Challenge students to solve more complex, real-life problems. Better still, ask students to create their own problems based on situations they experience or witness in their daily lives.



The weeks following an assessment can be the most creative, exciting, and stimulating time of year. Seize the moment with your students by diving into uncharted waters!

Plan for 2013-2014!



The mathematics education community is entering one of the most exciting years in decades! Make math edge-of-your-seat exciting for staff and

students! Send [Robyn](mailto:rsilbey@hotmail.com) an email at rsilbey@hotmail.com or call 301-802-5285.

teaching
children
mathematics



The **COACHES' CORNER** in the May, 2103 issue of

[Teaching Children Mathematics](#) is devoted to planning and teaching with the [Common Core State Standards](#). The content standards document is a road map that provides a context and sequence for specific instructional choices at each grade level.

Read [Robyn's](#) article for additional information. Look for the small gold star on page 536!

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Robyn Silbey Professional Development | 5 Tuckahoe Court | Gaithersburg | MD | 20878