



Michigan Mathematics and Science Centers

1 What are the Michigan Math/Science Centers?

The Michigan Math/Science Centers is a statewide network of 33 centers funded by the state of Michigan to provide resources to local school districts to enhance math and science teaching and learning.

2 What are the services provided by Math/Science Centers?

Centers provide:

- support to districts as they identify ways to enhance and improve their existing science and math curriculum
- unique programs for students in grades K-12 including summer camp experiences, workshops, field studies, field trips, etc.
- professional development for teachers
- a resource clearinghouse of equipment, classroom activities, literature, etc.
- leadership on key issues related to science and math education

3 How do Math/Science Centers deliver these services?

The types of services and how they are provided vary considerably by geographic area, population and educational need. By evaluating existing community and other resources, each Center identifies the most appropriate and cost-effective combination of programs and resources that will most benefit the students, teachers and community in their region.

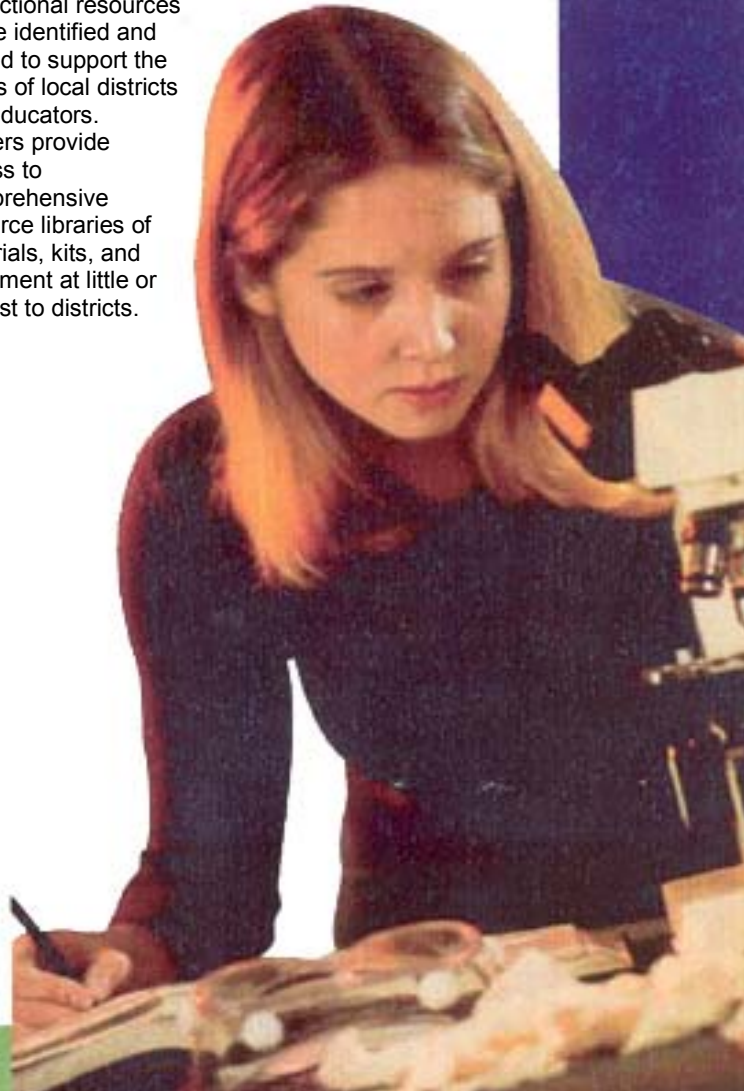
4 What are the goals for Michigan Math/Science Centers?

—Provide leadership that promotes collaboration and ensure all partners are kept informed of key issues. In 2001-2002 over 6,022 hours of service were spent collaborating and consulting with local school districts, Michigan Department of Education, intermediate school districts, professional organizations, business and industry, universities, museums and other educational institutions to provide high quality mathematics, science, and technology education. Over 2,200 additional hours were devoted to actively working to engage families, business, and civic organizations in math and science education activities.

—Support schools, especially low performing schools, as they strive to meet high math and science achievement standards, as established by the Michigan Curriculum Framework, and to provide students with opportunities to explore and pursue careers related to science and math. In 2001-2002, 6,975 activities were offered with over 309,297 enrollments in these events that included 2-6 week summer programs in many regions.

—Provide professional development opportunities that enable and sustain effective teaching in math and science. In the 2001-2003 year, 3,436 professional development programming for over 21,904 teachers. The average participation was 17 hours per teacher. In addition Math/Science Centers offered over 3,683 hours of curriculum support activities in school districts.

—Ensure human and instructional resources will be identified and shared to support the efforts of local districts and educators. Centers provide access to Comprehensive resource libraries of materials, kits, and equipment at little or no cost to districts.



5 How do Michigan Math/Science Centers coordinate and collaborate statewide to meet these goals?

Through the statewide infrastructure, Centers are able to leverage funding, programmatic and staffing resources. Local school districts benefit from savings associated with economies of scale and shared access to innovative programs, equipment and facilities. The network also creates valuable partnerships with Michigan Department of Education, professional organizations, business and industry, institutions of higher education, intermediate school districts, and museums.

6 How do Michigan Math/Science Centers help schools implement the Michigan Curriculum Framework, Education YES! And No Child Left Behind Act of 2002?

Centers work with schools and districts to align their curriculum with the state of Michigan's established guideline for teaching science and math. The Centers also work with districts and schools to adequately prepare them for the requirements of No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 and Education YES! This work includes leadership, professional development, and curriculum development expertise to align their instruction with the new mathematics grade level performance expectations, in order to prepare students for the grades three through eight testing. In addition, the statewide infrastructure of the Centers allows them to quickly mobilize to help schools implement the requirements of any new legislation.

7 How are Michigan Math/Science Centers helping to close the achievement gap in mathematics and science?

Centers provide targeted assistance to low performing schools to ensure meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students. In fact, teachers from 71% of low performing schools in the state received professional development from Math/Science Centers. In addition to the other services provided, Centers also support schools in the analysis of data to identify specific areas for improvement.

8 How do Math/Science Centers leverage additional funding for mathematics and science education?

In addition to the \$10.2 million in funding the Centers received from the state in 2001-2002, the Centers also successfully seek funding from collaborative grant writing, contributions and by offering special programs and projects (over \$7.7 million in 2001-2002) and receive over \$2.1 million in-kind resources including donated professional time, facilities and equipment from partners.

9 How are Math/Science Centers building advocacy for mathematics and science education among parents and community?

Centers engage family and community involvement through a variety rich science and math experiences. These experiences include Family Math and Science Events, after-school and summer school programs and internships. Centers involve the community in planning and implementing programs through advisory boards and task forces. In addition, Centers are a "first-line resource" in promoting public understanding and awareness of the important issues in mathematics and science education.

10 How can I learn more about Michigan Math/Science Centers?

Visit our website at <http://www.mscenters.org>. Here you can view the latest information in math and science education. There is an interactive county map to choose the center in your region.

