

Math Teachers' Circles - What, Why, When, and How?

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Abstract: I believe that K-12 teachers are the key to our future. I also believe that in general society does not do enough to support and encourage these teachers. I have spent my career teaching mathematics to future teachers. However, as we all know, learning does not stop at graduation. In 2009 I learned about Math Teachers' Circles and immediately knew this was something that I needed to provide for my local teachers. In 2010 I created the North Louisiana Math Teachers' Circle. I will talk about what Math Teachers Circles are and why I so desperately wanted to create one. I will talk about the struggles and the successes of this endeavor and will share tips on how to start your own Math Teachers Circle. And of course, there will be some math problems to solve as well!



Judith Covington received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics Education from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, her hometown. She then received a master's degree and PhD from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, now known as University of Louisiana Lafayette. While a graduate student Judith first became involved in educating future teachers. She spent 25 years at Louisiana State University in Shreveport where she taught courses for future teachers. In 2010, Judith founded the North Louisiana Math Teachers' Circle and for 8 years ran a very successful circle until she returned to teach at Northwestern State in 2018. Judith has an extensive background working with the MAA.

She is an original (1994) Project NExT Red dot and served on the Project NExT leadership team from 1997 until 2014. She has also served as a MAA Governor-at-Large for teacher education as well as the Governor/Representative of the Louisiana Mississippi Section where she is currently serving as the section chair.