



**EDCO, EMI and
the Lexington Public Schools**

announce

MATHpath

***A Summer Math Program for
Middle School Students of Color***

Why are we offering this program?

The explicit goal of our program is to ensure that students of color in Lexington successfully complete algebra by eighth grade and are prepared to continue in high level mathematics courses throughout high school.

In 2008, a study completed by ACT, a national standardized testing organization, stated that "the level of academic achievement that students attain by grade eight had a larger impact on their college and career readiness by the time they graduate from high school than anything that happens academically in high school". (ACT, 2008)

What is this program about?

MATHpath is a four week summer program, located in Boston, designed to intrigue and excite students about math while supporting their skill acquisition. The program will include unusual and traditional topics for study, hands on experiences and field trips with a math focus. Students who will be attending grade six in the Fall of 2010 are eligible for this program. It is our goal to offer this program for entering grade seven and grade eight student in the coming years so that students grow together in their skills, confidence and success.

Program Goals:

- To develop math and study skills and achieve at a high level in math classes.*
- To find mathematics engaging and intrinsically rewarding.*
- To develop confidence as a successful math student.*
- To develop the capacity for self advocacy as a learner.*

The program will run from July 6, 2010 to July 30, 2010. Hours will be from 8:30 to 3:00. On Friday, July 16th and Friday, July 23rd students will have the opportunity to go on optional field trips.

For each class of 10 students there will be a master teacher of mathematics and an instructional assistant. Curriculum will be tailored both to engage students and to address their individual learning needs.

What will the day look like?

In a morning block each day, students will have the opportunity to explore the beauty and power of mathematics through the study of engaging topics such as cryptography or the mathematics of Africa and pre-Columbian America. Another learning block will be devoted to developing a deeper understanding of mathematical skills and concepts through problem solving and individualized practice. Technology, hands-on materials and group projects will enhance your child's learning experience. Efficacy and habits of mind will be supported by group dialogue, interactive activities, and reflective journaling. Through these activities, students will develop and practice strategies to support their personal academic success. After lunch, Choice Time activities will allow students to continue their study of math through activities that focus on unusual and fun applications of math. Sample activities include design and construction projects, math games, art projects or science projects.

In addition, there will be two Friday field trips to local Boston venues where students can see innovative math applications in action.

This is a program that makes math relevant, applicable to real life situations, and engaging. It will also help students develop awareness of their individual strengths, skills and strategies for effective study in math and other subjects.

What do we need from parents?

- To understand the importance of success in math and the pivotal role that this success plays in shaping choices in high school and after.
- To commit to supporting your child's attendance in the program and to expressing interest in the work that your child is doing.
- To help by chaperoning a field trip if possible.

The tuition for this program is \$600 for four weeks. Additional instructional costs will be supported by the Lexington Public Schools. The Lexington METCO Program will offset the cost of the field trips. Financial assistance is available on a limited basis.

So what happens next?

If you are interested in learning more about your child participating in this program, please contact George Saxon at 781-861-2310, ext. 1450.

For information about EDCO and EMI, please visit the EDCO website at www.edcollab.org.

