



Online Mentoring for Beginning Math Teachers

“Research has shown that the problem of attracting highly qualified candidates into the mathematics and science teaching workforce is overshadowed by the difficulty of retaining experienced teachers. Approximately half of all teachers leave within five years of entering the profession. Replacing teachers requires a much more significant, costly, and time-consuming investment than retaining them. The cost of teacher attrition goes beyond dollars as well, leading to a loss of teacher quality and student achievement.”*

Program Description

eMSS Math was created to empower and develop the next generation of math teachers providing content-focused mentoring through a national, online technology network. Through eMSS, new and veteran teachers collaborate in an interactive community to facilitate the exchange of information, ideas and experiences to advance high-quality math instruction for all students.

Background

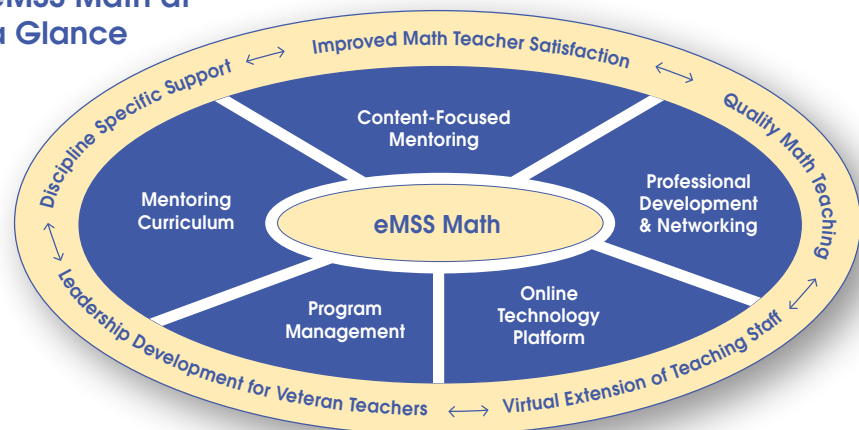
Initiated in 2002 with five years of support from the National Science Foundation, eMSS was developed as an online mentoring program for beginning science teachers. To date, eMSS has worked with over 1000 beginning teachers and 450 mentor teachers in all 50 states. Given the successes achieved in the eMSS Science Program, as documented by program evaluations and participant surveys, the NTC, with initial funding from the Goldman Sachs Foundation, has extended eMSS to beginning math teachers.

Program Features

eMSS supports and extends mentoring for beginning math teachers, anytime, anywhere through flexible and accessible technology that is easy to learn and use. The eMSS network is designed to promote professional development through dialogue and offers:

- Math-focused mentoring program inclusive of training, stipends and program administration
- Beginning math teachers matched with a mentor who has experience teaching the same grade level and content area
- Facilitated online curriculum that focuses on math content and pedagogy that directly applies to the teacher’s classroom
- Nationwide, online network of math educators that facilitates the exchange of information, ideas and resources
- Leadership and professional development opportunities for math teachers

eMSS Math at a Glance



*Business-Higher Education Forum (BHEF), *An American Imperative; Transforming the Recruitment, Retention, and Renewal of Our Nation’s Mathematics and Science Teaching Workforce*, 2007, p 9

“Research shows that the quality of P-12 mathematics and science teaching is the single most important factor in improving student mathematics and science achievement.”*

Program Contacts

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Program Benefits

We are committed to our clients’ success, and specifically dedicated to supporting the growth and development of math teachers. Beyond those high-level benefits, independent research conducted by Horizon Research, Inc. has shown that eMSS has had significant impact on:

- Preparedness to teach challenging courses and curricula
- Ability to teach content
- Preparedness in basic teaching and management skills
- Teacher satisfaction

eMSS Program Participants

- eMSS Mentees
 - Beginning (1–3 year) middle and high school math teachers
 - Employed by eMSS participating districts, organizations and departments of education
 - Matched with a mentor with experience at the same grade level
- eMSS Mentors
 - Experienced middle or high school math teachers

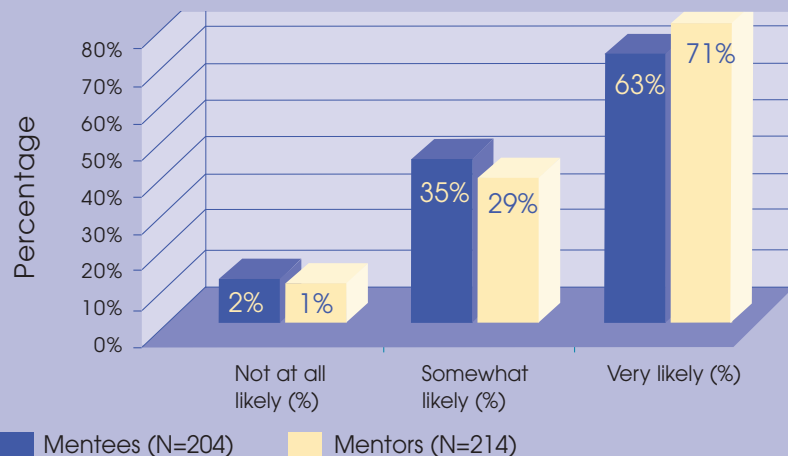
- Strong content area knowledge
- Evidence of exemplary teaching
- Mentor beginning math teachers
- Interact with a community of math teachers and content experts
- Receive stipends
- eMSS Content Experts
 - Responsible for monitoring, leading and promoting content-specific discussions on the eMSS web site

The Opportunity

If you are passionate about math education and would like to provide eMSS online mentoring to beginning math teachers in your school district or organization, we would like to hear from you! Please contact us so we can discuss the opportunity further.

Registrations for the 2010–11 school year are now being accepted. For more information on eMSS visit www.newteachercenter.org/emss.

Mentee and Mentor Ratings of the Likelihood that Participation in eMSS Inquiries and Mini-Inquiries Enhances New Teachers’ Ability to Teach Science/Mathematics



*K. Carey, *The real value of teachers: Using new information about teacher effectiveness to close the achievement gap*. *Thinking K-16*, Winter 2004.