ABOUT THE CENTER FOR MATHEMATICS AND TEACHING, INC.

www.mathandteaching.org

The Center for Mathematics and Teaching (CMAT) is a non-profit educational group dedicated to igniting and nurturing passion in middle school students and teachers about the elegance and utility of mathematics.

At CMAT, we believe all students have the ability and deserve the opportunity to learn the mathematics that will make them capable and confident problem solvers, and put them on the pathway to college and career readiness.

CMAT provides cognitively demanding and engaging materials that are accessible to all learners, and delivers content-driven professional development to teachers.

In 2004, a small team of mathematics educators in the Department of Mathematics at UCLA were asked to help a local district find materials to help underachieving students prepare for algebra. Our search found many workbooks with procedural practice, but no comprehensive programs that were organized to

- engage students,
- maximize efficiency and coherence,
- develop concepts with accuracy and precision,
- provide practice for fluency,
- include time and opportunities to explore complex problems and tasks, and
- support teacher and student learning!

In a moment of clarity (or perhaps naivete), we all agreed. "We will write a program." In the years that ensued, CMAT emerged as passionate team of teacher leaders committed to helping all students succeed in mathematics and see its beauty and utility. Since leaving UCLA in 2010, the five CMAT leaders have become a professional team and family! We have successfully navigated adoptions, written innovative and effective core and intervention programs, been honored as some of the best professional development leaders, and earned a reputation as a team that listens, collaborates, and efficiently responds to the needs of our professional colleagues around mathematics education.

WHY IS CMAT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER PUBLISHERS?

At the Center for Mathematics and Teaching, we know that the mathematics classroom can be a place where teachers are confident, competent, and excited to help their students understand the work they are doing, experience the thrill of learning, and love math. We see the classroom as a place of joy and wonder, collaboration and purpose, and perseverance and empowerment. We believe we can change outcomes for both teachers and students.

We are driven by our passion for teaching and learning mathematics, and back it up with our knowledge and experiences!

We are driven by our unwavering beliefs that all students can succeed in mathematics. We are proving more students can succeed every day with lessons that engage students with a meaningful and accessible curriculum.

We are driven by a recognition that underprepared teachers deserve materials and support to help them do their jobs. We are inspired by the time taken and effort made by teachers, and we want to be part of their professional growth and success.

We are driven by YOU! We want to create relationships and work together to improve mathematics success in your professional world.

Thank you for trusting us with your latest math curriculum: *MathLinks* Core: Grade 8.

Shelley Triejlin

Shelley Kriegler President, Center for Mathematics and Teaching *MathLinks*: Grade 8 (2nd ed.) ©CMAT Teacher Edition