

## Menageries of Mathematics: Strategies for Middle School Classrooms with Diverse Learners



What: A professional development opportunity funded by the Utah State Board of Education &

the CEEDAR Center, consisting of hands-on instruction from professional teachers

Who: Targeted toward in-service mathematics teachers of students in both general and special

education mathematics classes at the middle-school level

When: Spring of 2016, 2017, and 2018

Why: To assist in-service teachers in their efforts to provide meaningful access to rich

mathematics content and pedagogically sound instructional strategies to all

learners in their classrooms

## Menageries of Mathematics content includes:

- effectively operating within the Multitiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to support all learners.
- b. differentiating instruction using rich math tasks such as *Tilted Squares* and *Equation Solving*.
- implementing evidence-based instructional practices for mathematics understanding.

## **Moving Forward**

A second session for participating teachers will train lead teachers in their classroom teams to implement the strategies at their school sites.

Pre-service teachers will be invited to attend the *Menageries of Mathematics* workshops.

Trainers will provide coaching and support at schools sites.

Participant feedback will continued to be collected to refine content and overall structure of the workshops.

## **Results from Past Workshop Participants**

Each of the 11 participant teachers identified themselves as "a better mathematics teacher to my students" as a result of their participation in the workshop.

Nine of participant teachers responded that they are "better able to teach all students in my classroom, despite the students' varying sets of skills, experiences, and challenges".

A majority of teachers (n = 7) that responded to the survey have incorporated the *Tilted Squares and Equation* Solving into their teaching. A majority of teachers (n = 8) have implemented the eight standards of mathematical into their teaching, as well.



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