2014 **FOCUS ISSUE**

Building a Math Village: Developing Partnerships among School, Home, and Community



It takes a village to raise a child.—*African proverb*

It takes a mathematical community to develop an eager, confident math learner. What are you doing to build partnerships among school, home, and community to help support children's mathematical understanding? Stakeholders must work together, but how?

The *Teaching Children Mathematics* Editorial Panel seeks articles for a special Focus Issue on building a mathematical "village" where everyone works together to improve students' mathematical learning. We encourage articles reporting on exemplary models and activities for partnering between school and home and between school and community. This may include challenging issues that are wrestled with in practice, as well as findings from research. The following list of topics and related questions is intended to guide—not limit—authors addressing one or more aspects of building a math village.

Developing home and school

- What interesting, novel, and effective ways have you found to develop partnerships between home and school?
- What are schools doing to support families in engaging in rich mathematics activities for early childhood students *before they enter school*?
- How do you support children's learning of mathematics *outside of school*? For example, how do you work together to help students bridge the gap between "school math" and "real-world math"?
- How have home and school worked together to address new standards, such as the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics?
- In what ways are home and school brought together to engage parents in understanding current instructional practice involving math?
- How do you use technology to effectively develop a strong partnership between home and school?
- What challenges emerge in school–home partnerships? Address some strategies or mechanisms for overcoming them.

Developing school and community partnerships

- What grassroots community efforts or other collaborative initiatives are you using to successfully make changes to mathematics curriculum, learning, or teaching?
- What interesting, novel, and effective ways have you found to develop partnerships between the community and school?
- How can school and community, in particular preschool and day care, work together for early childhood students *before they enter school*?
- What effective partnerships have you used to involve community members with specific skills or cultural activities to make connections to mathematics content into schools?
- Which important issues do you consider when creating out-of-school programs focused on mathematics learning?
- How do you use technology effectively to bring together communities and schools for the benefit of children's mathematical understanding?

Limit your manuscript to 2500 words excluding references and figures; include photographs and figures at the end. On the cover page, state clearly that the manuscript is being submitted for the October 2014 *TCM* Focus Issue on Building a Math Village. Author identification should appear on the cover page only. For detailed manuscript preparation guidelines, visit **www.nctm.org/journalsubmissions**.

Access **http://tcm.msubmit.net** to submit your completed manuscript to *TCM* **by July 1, 2013**.

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teaching children mathematics

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