

THE VALLEY OF VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS

September 2026

(V2CTM)

Volume 56, No. 1

Join us for our Fall Conference,
Thursday, October 22, featuring Dr. Jennifer Suh



Humanizing Mathematics for Students and Teachers in the Age of AI

Dr. Jennifer Suh is a Professor of Mathematics Education in the Graduate School of Education, College of Education and Human Development, George Mason University. Dr. Suh teaches mathematics methods courses in the Elementary Education Program and mathematics leadership courses for the Mathematics Specialist Masters and Ph.D Programs. She also directs the Center for Outreach in Mathematics Professional Learning and Educational Technology, COMPLETE, a joint center between the College of Education and the College of Science, where she engages in Lesson Study with teachers as co-designers. Her area of interest is deepening and elevating teachers' knowledge, building students' mathematical proficiency and positive identities, and strengthening school collective efficacy. She enjoys traveling with her husband and sons and doting on her malshipoo, Piper. Lately, she is enjoying playing pickleball and paddleboarding on the Potomac River :)

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026

Location:

Rocktown High School
[2970 East Kaylor Park Drive,](#)
[Harrisonburg, VA](#)

REGISTER at
[V2CTMFall2026Registration](#)
by October 13.

Conference registration is \$15
(\$5 for students),
payable by cash or check at
the door, and includes
a catered dinner.
There will be numerous
appealing door prizes!

Doors open at 4:30

4:30 – 5:00 Registration

5:00 – 5:45 Dinner catered by White Hill Catering
(Pulled Pork Barbecue, Cole Slaw, Mac 'n Cheese,
Green Beans, Garden Salad, Dessert)

5:45 – 6:00 Business Meeting: Amanda Rickard,
V2CTM President

6:00 – 8:00 "Humanizing Mathematics for Students
and Teachers in the Age of AI"

News from the Virginia Department of Education

VDOE Math Website

Mathematics Microcredential Courses

VDOE is offering several asynchronous mathematics microcredential courses for educators through Virtual Virginia. These courses are designed to strengthen mathematical understanding and enhance classroom instruction in grades 4-8.

[Elevating the Mathematics Process Goals to Increase Student Outcomes in Grades 4-8](#)

Examines instructional strategies, tasks, and questioning techniques that will deepen educators' understanding of how to elevate the Mathematics Process Goals across strands in mathematics to increase student outcomes in grades 4-8.

[Number and Number Sense in Grades 4-8](#)

Equips educators with mathematical insights and instructional strategies needed to foster students' number sense and proportional reasoning. The progression of ideas related to fractions, decimals, percents and ratios will be explored while analyzing grade level standards.

[Patterns, Functions, and Algebra in Grades 4-8](#)

Equips educators with mathematical insights and instructional strategies to foster students' algebraic reasoning. The progression of ideas related to patterns, functions, variables, algebraic expressions and equations will be explored while analyzing grade-level standards.

VDOE Released Assessment Item Sets Webinars

SOL assessment item sets — including items used in test forms during the 2025-26 school year — are being released this fall. These released item sets sample the depth and rigor of Virginia's updated standards and will support educators and students in preparing for SOL assessments in the 2026-27 school year. New released item sets will be available for Grades 3 through 8, EOC Algebra I, & EOC Geometry

The VDOE is hosting a webinar series to share information about the released item sets and assist Virginia educators in using them to inform and support instructional practices.

Please [complete this form](#) to indicate interest in one or more sessions.

Webinar Topics and Dates

- SOL Assessment Resources for Elementary Mathematics: Oct. 1, 4:00-4:45 p.m.
- SOL Assessment Resources for Mathematics: Grades 6-8 & EOC: Sept. 28, 5:00-5:45 p.m.

Mathematics Performance Level Descriptors

The performance level descriptors (PLD) for the SOL tests convey the knowledge and skills associated with each performance (achievement) level.

The PLD indicates the content-area knowledge and skills that students achieving at a certain level are expected to demonstrate based upon the SOL and Curriculum Framework or Instructional Guides.

These descriptors may guide educators and parents in understanding the type of student performance required for each achievement level.

Visit [VDOE](#) to view PLDs by course.

NOMINATIONS

H. Joseph Hill Award for Excellence in Mathematics Education

Each year, the Valley of Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics recognizes a classroom teacher at the elementary, middle, secondary, or university level for their outstanding work in the field of mathematics education. Nominees should have taught for at least five years and should demonstrate outstanding work in the field of mathematics education.

Nominations are due by December 18, and the award winner will be announced at the Spring conference. Nominate a deserving educator today!

[2027 Joe Hill Award Nomination Form](#)

Upcoming Events

Virginia Council of Mathematics Specialists
Annual Conference

DoubleTree by Hilton in Charlottesville

Nov 5-6, 2026

[Learn more here](#)

2026-2027 V2CTM Officers

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VCTM/NCTM Representative Jenny Gibson, James Madison University (gibso2js@jmu.edu)
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Amy Henderson, Harrisonburg City (ahenderson@harrisonburg.k12.va.us)

Higher Ed Representative: Dr. Jennie Carr, Bridgewater College (jcarr@bridgewater.edu)

Don't forget

V²CTM Fall 2026 Conference Registration

The conference fee of \$15.00 (\$5.00 for students) will be collected (cash or check) at the door on October 22. Please complete your registration no later than October 13 so we will have an accurate dinner count. If you register after the deadline, you may miss out on a delicious dinner.

We look forward to seeing you at Rocktown High School on Thursday, October 22!

PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH ALL CURRENT, PRE-SERVICE, AND RETIRED
MATHEMATICS EDUCATORS - PREK-12, HIGHER EDUCATION, AND ADMINISTRATORS