## Local Systemic Change through Teacher Enhancement

## Mathematics (Grades 6-12)

 Questionnaire
## Privacy Notice

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Submission of the requested information is voluntary. Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0161 (expires: September 30, 2008). Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer for OMB Collection 3145-0161(LSC), Facilities and Operations Branch, Division of Administrative Services, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 295, Arlington, VA 22230.


Instructions: Please use a \#2 pencil to complete this questionnaire. Darken ovals completely, but do not stray into adjacent ovals. Be sure to erase completely any stray marks.

## A. Teacher Demographic Information

1. Are you:


Male
Female

2a. Ethnicity - Are you:
(Darken one oval.)
2b. Race - Are you:
(Choose one or more.)

- Hispanic or Latino

Not Hispanic or Latino

American Indian or Alaska Native<br>- Asian<br>Black or African American<br>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White

3. Describe your educational background: (Darken all ovals that apply.)

Undergraduate major in mathematics or mathematics educationUndergraduate minor in mathematics or mathematics education Graduate-level major or minor in mathematics or mathematics education Certification to teach mathematics

- None of the above

4. How many years have you taught prior to this school year? (Darken one oval.)
0-2
3-5
6-10
11-15
16-20
21-25
26 or more
5. When did you last complete a mathematics course for college credit? (Darken one oval.)
In the last 5 years
6-10 years ago
11-20 years ago
More than 20 years ago
6. Have you taught one or more classes of advanced mathematics in the last three years, e.g., algebra II / trigonometry, pre-calculus, calculus, discrete mathematics, abstract or linear algebra? (Darken one oval.)YesNo

## The National Science Foundation's Local Systemic Change (LSC) through Teacher Enhancement Program's Core Evaluation

You have been selected to participate in the nationwide evaluation of the federally-funded Local Systemic Change (LSC) program. LSC is a National Science Foundation Teacher Enhancement program that has funded more than 80 local projects that have offered science and/or mathematics professional development to teachers around the country. The cover letter accompanying this questionnaire identifies the LSC project in your area, as well as the instructional materials that are the focus of that LSC project.

Several times over the course of the LSC, each project will administer questionnaires to a sample of teachers who are targeted to participate in the local project's professional development activities. Note that you may be asked to complete this questionnaire even if you have not yet participated in the project's professional development; your response is important, regardless of whether you have already participated. A small number of randomly-selected teachers in each project is asked to provide additional information in interviews, sometimes in conjunction with a classroom visit. In order to continue receiving federal funding, each LSC project must participate in this national evaluation.

Data collection procedures have been developed to ensure high-quality data and protect teacher confidentiality. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential; they will be combined with the responses of the other teachers in your project and used only for the LSC evaluation. The name label and numbering on this questionnaire are used to help local projects deliver questionnaires to the proper teachers and follow up with teachers who have not responded; no information identifying individual teachers will be reported under any circumstances. After you complete the questionnaire, you should remove the name label and return the questionnaire as specified by your local LSC project.

## B. Teacher Opinions and Preparedness

7. Please provide your opinion about each of the following statements.
(Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Students generally learn mathematics best in classes with students of similar abilities.
b. I feel supported by colleagues to try out new ideas in teaching mathematics.
c. Mathematics teachers in this school have a shared vision of effective mathematics instruction.
d. Mathematics teachers in this school regularly share ideas and materials related to mathematics.
e. Mathematics teachers in this school are well-supplied with materials for investigative mathematics instruction.
f. I have time during the regular school week to work with my peers on mathematics curriculum and instruction.
g. I have adequate access to calculators for teaching mathematics.
h. I have adequate access to computers for teaching mathematics.
i. I enjoy teaching mathematics.
j. I am well-informed about the NCTM Standards for the grades I teach.
k. The mathematics program in this school is strongly supported by local organizations, institutions, and/or businesses.
8. In the left section, please rate each of the following in terms of its importance for effective mathematics instruction in the grades you teach. In the right section, please indicate how prepared you feel to do each one.
(Darken one oval in each section on each line.)
a. Provide concrete experience before abstract concepts.
b. Develop students' conceptual understanding of mathematics.
c. Take students' prior understanding into account when planning curriculum and instruction.
d. Practice computational skills and algorithms.
e. Make connections between mathematics and other disciplines.
f. Have students work in cooperative learning groups.
g. Have students participate in appropriate hands-on activities.
h. Engage students in inquiry-oriented activities.
i. Have students prepare project/laboratory/research reports.
j. Use calculators.
k. Use computers.
9. Engage students in applications of mathematics in a variety of contexts.
m. Use performance-based assessment.
n. Use portfolios.
o. Use informal questioning to assess student understanding.

| Importance |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Not | Somewhat | Fairly | Very |


| Preparation |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Not Adequately Prepared | Somewhat Prepared | $\begin{gathered} \text { Fairly } \\ \text { Well } \\ \text { Prepared } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Very } \\ \text { Well } \\ \text { Prepared } \end{gathered}$ |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |


| Strongly |  | No |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Disagree | Disagree | Opinion | Agree | | Strongly |
| :---: |
| Agree |

a. Encourages me to select mathematics content and instructional strategies that address individual students' learning.
b. Accepts the noise that comes with an active classroom.

| © | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |

c. Encourages the implementation of current national standards in mathematics education.
d. Encourages innovative instructional practices.
e. Enhances the mathematics program by providing me with needed materials and equipment.
f. Provides time for teachers to meet and share ideas with one another.
g. Encourages me to observe exemplary mathematics teachers.
h. Encourages teachers to make connections across disciplines.
i. Acts as a buffer between teachers and external pressures (e.g., parents).
10. Are you the mathematics department chair for your school? (Darken one oval.)

O No (continue with Question 11)
Yes (skip to Question 12)
Our school does not have a mathematics department chair (skip to Question 12)
11. My department chair: (Darken one oval on each line.)

| Strongly |  | No |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Strongly |  |  |  |
| Disagree | Disagree | Opinion | Agree |
| Agree |  |  |  |

a. Encourages me to select mathematics content and instructional strategies that address individual students' learning.
b. Accepts the noise that comes with an active classroom.
c. Encourages the implementation of current national standards in mathematics education.
d. Encourages innovative instructional practices.

e. Enhances the mathematics program by providing me with needed materials and equipment.
f. Provides time for teachers to meet and share ideas with one another.
g. Encourages me to observe exemplary mathematics teachers.
h. Encourages teachers to make connections across disciplines.
12. Many teachers feel better prepared to teach some mathematics topics than others. How well prepared do you feel to teach each of the following topics at the grade levels you teach, whether or not they are currently included in your curriculum? (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Estimation
b. Measurement
c. Pre-algebra
d. Algebra
e. Patterns and relationships
f. Geometry and spatial sense
g. Functions (including trigonometric functions) and pre-calculus concepts
h. Data collection and analysis
i. Probability
j. Statistics (e.g., hypothesis tests, curve fitting and regression)
k. Topics from discrete mathematics (e.g., combinatorics, graph theory, recursion)

1. Mathematical structures (e.g., vector spaces; groups, rings, fields)
m. Calculus
n. Technology (calculators, computers) in support of mathematics

| Not <br> Adequately Prepared | Somewhat Prepared | Fairly Well Prepared | $\begin{gathered} \text { Very } \\ \text { Well } \\ \text { Prepared } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (1) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (1) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | ¢ |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | ¢ |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | 4 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |

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13. Within the arena of mathematical processes, many teachers feel better prepared to guide and help develop student learning in some domains than others. How well prepared do you feel to provide guidance in the following, at the grade levels you teach? (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Problem solving
b. Reasoning and proof
c. Communication (written and oral)

| Not |  | Fairly | Very |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Adequately | Somewhat | Well | Well |
| Prepared | Prepared | Prepared | Prepared |
| ¢ | (2) | (3) | 4 |
| Q | (2) | (3) | ¢ |
| Q | Q | (3) | ¢ |
| Q | Q | (8) | ¢ |
| ¢ | Q | (3) | ¢ |

14. Please indicate how well prepared you feel to do each of the following. (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Lead a class of students using investigative strategies.
b. Manage a class of students engaged in hands-on/project-based work.
c. Help students take responsibility for their own learning.
d. Recognize and respond to student diversity.
e. Encourage students' interest in mathematics.
f. Use strategies that specifically encourage participation of females and minorities in mathematics.
g. Involve parents in the mathematics education of their students.
15. Please rate the effect of each of the following on your mathematics instruction. (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. State and/or district curriculum frameworks.
b. State and/or district testing policies and practices.
c. Counseling department policies and practices.
d. College placement tests.
e. Quality of available instructional materials.
f. Access to calculators for mathematics instruction.
g. Access to computers for mathematics instruction.
h. Funds for purchasing equipment and supplies for mathematics.
i. System of managing instructional resources at the district or school level.
j. Time available for teachers to plan and prepare lessons.
k. Time available for teachers to work with other teachers.
16. Time available for teacher professional development.
m . Importance that the school places on mathematics.
n. Consistency of mathematics reform efforts with other school/district reforms.
o. Public attitudes toward reform.
17. How many of your students' parents do each of the following? (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Volunteer to assist with class activities.
b. Donate money or materials for classroom instruction.
c. Attend parent-teacher conferences.
d. Attend school activities such as PTA meetings and Family Mathematics nights.
e. Voice support for the use of an investigative approach to mathematics instruction.
f. Voice support for traditional approaches to mathematics instruction.

| None | A Few |  | About 1/2 |  | Almost All |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q | Q | (2) | (3) | (4) | ¢ |
| Q | Q | Q | (3) | (4) | 5 |
| (-) | Q | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| Q | Q | Q | (3) | (4) | ¢ |
| Q | Q | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| ه | Q | Q | (3) | (4) | (5) |

## C. Your Mathematics Teaching

17. Which of the following are you currently teaching?

Middle school mathematics
(Darken each oval that applies.)
High school mathematics

## Questions 18-20 ask about your mathematics teaching. Please answer for your first middle/high school mathematics class of the day.

18. What grade level is this class? (Darken one oval.)

Middle school mathematics
High school mathematics
19. About how often do you do each of the following in your mathematics instruction in this class? (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Use the LSC-designated instructional materials (see cover letter) as the basis of mathematics lessons.
b. Introduce content through formal presentations.
c. Arrange seating to facilitate student discussion.
d. Use open-ended questions.
e. Require students to explain their reasoning when giving an answer.
f. Encourage students to communicate mathematically.
g. Encourage students to explore alternative methods for solutions.

| Never | Rarely (e.g., a few times a year) | Sometimes (e.g., once or twice a month) | Often (e.g., once or twice a week) | All or almost all mathematics lessons |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |

20. About how often do students in this class take part in each of the following types of activities as part of their mathematics instruction? (Darken one oval on each line.)
a. Participate in student-led discussions.
b. Participate in discussions with the teacher to further mathematical understanding.
c. Work in cooperative learning groups.
d. Make formal presentations to the class.
e. Read from a mathematics textbook in class.
f. Read other (non-textbook) mathematics-related materials in class.
g. Practice routine computations/algorithms.
h. Review homework/worksheet assignments.
i. Use mathematical concepts to interpret and solve word problems.
j. Work on solving a real-world problem.
k. Share ideas or solve problems with each other in small groups.
21. Engage in hands-on mathematical activities.
m . Play mathematics games.
n. Follow specific instructions in an activity or investigation.
o. Design or implement their own investigation.

| Never | Rarely <br> (e.g., a <br> few <br> times a <br> year) | Sometimes (e.g., once or twice a month) | Often (e.g., once or twice a week) | All or almost al mathematics lessons |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |

p. Work on models or simulations.
(2) (3)
(5)

| Never | Rarely <br> (e.g., a few <br> times a <br> year) | Sometimes <br> (e.g., once <br> or twice <br> a month) | Often <br> (e.g., once <br> or twice <br> a week) | All or <br> almost all <br> mathematic <br> lessons |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | $(3)$ | $(4)$ | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | $(4)$ | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |

## D. LSC Professional Development

Questions 21-27 refer to the NSF-supported Local Systemic Change (LSC) program. Please refer to the cover letter accompanying this questionnaire for information about the LSC project activities and designated materials in your district. If you have not yet participated in LSC professional development, darken this oval and skip to Question 26.
21. To what extent is each of the following true of LSC mathematics-related professional development in your district?
(Darken one oval on each line.)

| Not | To a |
| :---: | :---: |
| at all | great extent |

a. I am involved in planning my mathematics-related professional development.

| (1) (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |

22. Approximately how many total hours have you spent on formal, LSC-provided professional development in mathematics/mathematics education since the LSC project began? (Darken one oval.)
0
10-19
40-59
80-99
130-159

- 200 or greater
1-9
20-39
60-79
- 100-129
- 160-199

23. Please indicate the number of times you have participated in each of the following activities during this school year.

| (Darken one oval on each line.) |  |  |  |  | or |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 1-2 | 3-4 | 5-6 | more |
| a. Participated in an LSC academic year study group/discussion group. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| b. Was "coached" on my teaching by an LSC teacher leader/staff person based on a classroom observation. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| c. Received assistance from an LSC "teacher leader" in my school. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| d. Received assistance from an LSC staff person in my district. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| e. Received assistance from an LSC-designated mathematician/mathematics educator from a college/university/museum/industry. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| f. Read messages in a Listserv discussion sponsored by the LSC. | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| g. Posted messages to a Listserv discussion sponsored by the LSC | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |

24. How would you rate the overall quality of the LSC professional development? (Darken one oval.)

| Very |  |  | Very |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Good | Excellent |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

25. To what extent has participation in LSC mathematics-related professional development increased your: (Darken one oval on each line.)

| Not | To a |
| :---: | :---: |
| at all | great extent |

$\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { a. Mathematics content knowledge. } & \text { (1) } & \text { (2) } & \text { (3) } & \text { (4) } & \text { (5) } \\ \text { b. Understanding of how children think about/learn mathematics. } & \text { (1) } & \text { (2) } & \text { (3) } & \text { (4) } & \text { (5) } \\ \text { c. Ability to implement high-quality mathematics instructional materials. } & \text { (1) } & \text { (2) } & \text { (3) } & \text { (4) } & \text { (5) }\end{array}$
26. How many mathematics classes are you currently teaching that use the materials designated by your LSC (see cover letter) as the primary instructional materials? (Darken one oval.)

O None

- One
- TwoThreeFourFiveSix or more

27. Have you been identified as a teacher leader for your district's NSF-supported LSC project?

- YesNo


## Thank you very much for participating in this survey!


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