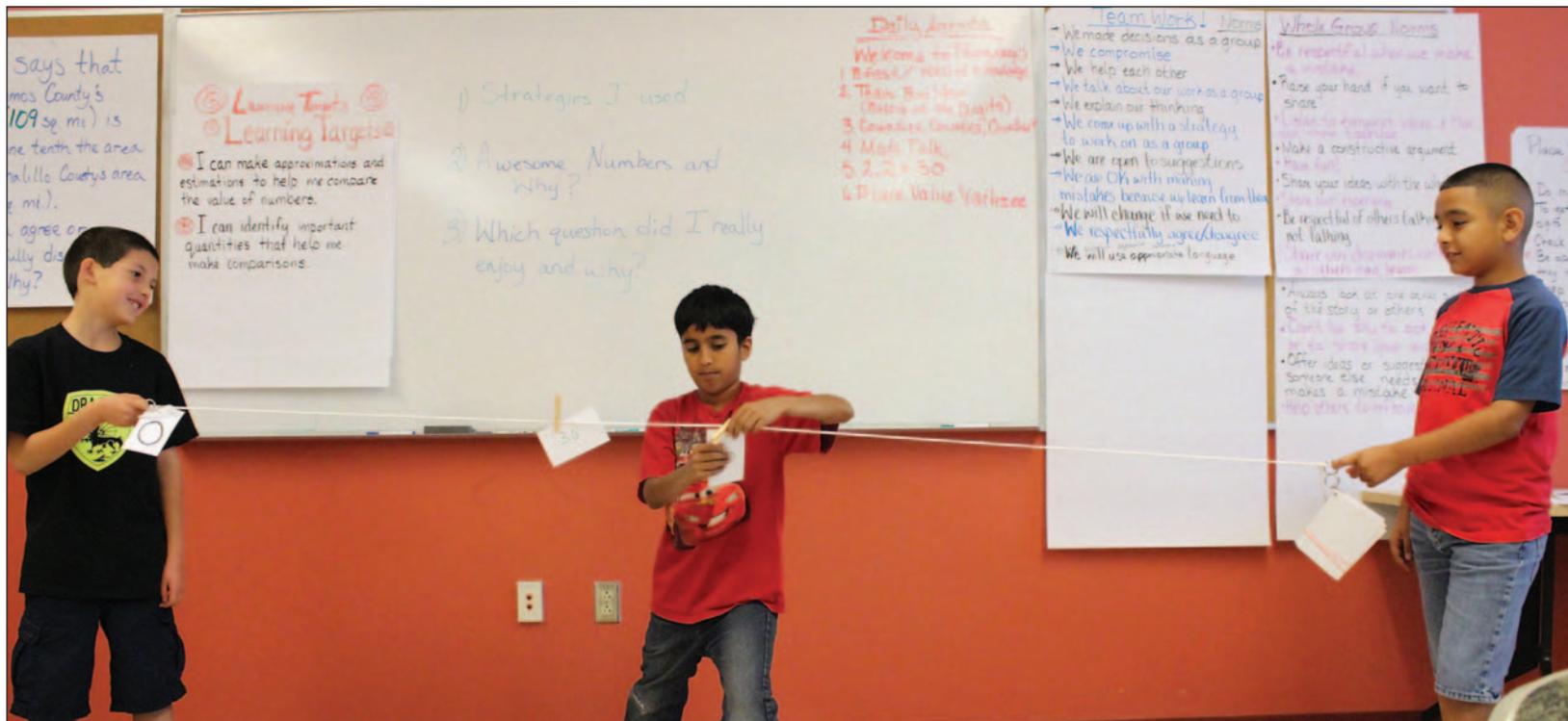


NMSU's math lab teaches students, educators new skills

About 80 students, along with 115 K-12 teachers, are deepening their math learning side by side during a unique summer camp this week on the New Mexico State University campus.

This year's Mathematically Connected Communities, or MC2, Math Lab is taking place inside NMSU's O'Donnell Hall, where the College of Education is located. During this week's Math Lab, which culminates today, students in the second, third and fifth grades and those taking Algebra I are rigorously working on math projects, from calculating areas of counties to understanding exponential functions to learning about the dangers of Ebola, said Sara Morales, the senior program manager and researcher for the MC2 Professional Development Program.

Morales said the students are learning from highly effective teacher leaders who are part of MC2. Meanwhile, teachers are watching live video of the lessons being given to students. Teachers then reflect upon exemplary math practice and discuss the impact on



Students participate in a math lesson during the MC2 Math Lab at O'Donnell Hall at New Mexico State University.

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY PHOTO

students' learning. In the afternoon, teachers participate in their own professional development based on the same core math concepts as the ones students are learning.

"Professional learning through collaboration using student classrooms is a unique, powerful opportunity teachers rarely experience," Morales said.

This is the second year MC2 offers its Math Lab. The MC2 program includes mathematicians from NMSU's College of Arts and Sciences, the program's teacher leaders, and educators and school leaders from Hatch Valley Public Schools, Belen Consolidated School District, Alamogordo Public Schools, the Gadsden Independent

School District and Las Cruces Public Schools. Two guests from the University of Victoria in Canada and a guest from the New Mexico Public Education Department's Math and Science Bureau are also participating in the Math Lab camp.

"Effective teaching engages students' individual prior knowledge and thinking," said Ted Stan-

ford, an NMSU associate professor of math. "All students are different, so an effective teacher has to always be studying the different ways that students solve problems, and the different ways that they communicate their ideas with each other. Our Math Lab format is ideal for this kind of studying."

Morales said the New

Mexico Public Education Department is also providing support experiences for teachers to enhance learning for students in their classrooms. Sixteen one-week Math Labs will be offered throughout the state during 2015-2016.

For more information, contact Morales at smorales@nmsu.edu, or Wanda Bulger-Tamez at wguzman@nmsu.edu.

NMSU, DACC host Distance Learning Association online conference

New Mexico's chapter of the United States Distance Learning Association recently hosted its first online-only conference with the help of pro-

fessors from New Mexico State University and Doña Ana Community College.

Julia Lynn Parra, an assistant professor in the Curriculum and Instruction Department in the College of Education at NMSU, and Krista Kozel

MacDonald, an assistant professor of communication and the online education coordinator at DACC, recently organized the online conference.

The first NewMexicoD-LA conference was a one-day free online confer-

ence, themed "What's New in New Mexico in Higher Education with Distance, Online and Blended Learning."

It attracted nearly 40 participants statewide, more than what organizers expected.

El Caldito to hold annual veterans appreciation dinner Saturday

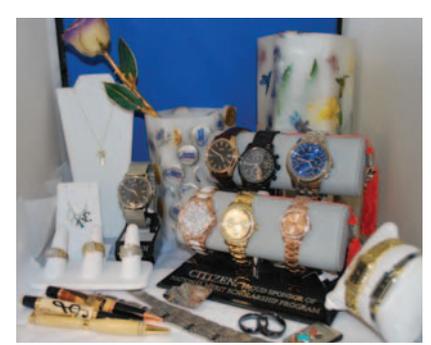
El Caldito Soup Kitchen on the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope, 999 Amador Ave., will hold its annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner Saturday, June 13.

The dinner starts with a social time from 1 to 2 p.m. and the dinner will be served from 2 to 4 p.m.

All veterans and their spouse or companion are welcome.



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