

NEWS

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Western Slope High School Students to Attend 14th Annual Math Extravaganza! at Colorado Mesa University

Grand Junction – Approximately 140 students from Western Slope high schools are expected to converge on Colorado Mesa University's campus Thursday, February 9, for the 14th annual Math Extravaganza!

The Math Extravaganza! event is hosted by the Colorado Mesa University Math Club. The math club recruits additional college student-volunteers to assist in activities designed to engage the high school students in mathematical concepts not typically seen in the standard high school curriculum.

"Math Extravaganza is a full-day event for high school students from across the region. This year, the students will learn exciting mathematics related to the concept of infinity" said Dr. Lisa Driskell, CMU Assistant Professor of Mathematics. "The college students have prepared interactive activities to demonstrate some of the unexpected properties of the infinite as well as other interesting topics in mathematics."

Colorado Mesa student Mandy Johnson said, "As a future math teacher, being the Math Extravaganza! Coordinator is very exciting and rewarding. We have spent months planning the event, and it will be nice to finally get to share exciting and meaningful math with students from all over the Western Slope."

This year's activities include: The Dangers of Doing Arithmetic with Infinity, Gabriel's Horn, the Koch Snowflake, Non-Euclidean Geometries, and Robotics.

At 8:30 in the University Center, the students will be welcomed by CMU President Tim Foster and from 8:35 to 11:30, the high school students will participate in the activities designed by Math Club members. At 1:00, after a lunch break and campus tour, the students will be treated to a presentation by Dr. Ed Bonan-Hamada, Associate Professor of Mathematics. Immediately following the presentation, prizes donated by the community will be awarded to students who score highest on a quiz that will test their understanding of the day's activities.

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