



# Singapore Math Project

## Building a “High Performing Mathematics Program” (HPMP)

### in the

#### City of Baker School System

*October/November 2008*

### First Grade Teacher Presents Public Lesson



On the evening of Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, first grade teacher, Gertrude Walls, presented a “public lesson” to a group of 25 students as teachers, parents and other visitors observed. The purpose of the public lesson was for teachers to observe student learning and to document and discuss student misunderstandings and misconceptions.

Through a series of planning meetings, a team of 5 teachers and the project’s site coordinator met to identify the goal, sequence, anticipated student responses and points of evaluation for the lesson. During this lesson, students subtracted a one-digit number from a two-digit number where the subtrahend was larger than the digit in the one’s place in the minuend (i.e.  $12 - 5$ ).

Observers noted that students used a variety of strategies to subtract: taking away counters, counting back on the number line, counting back with their fingers, and number bonds.

Dr. Patsy Wang-Iverson, from the Gabriella and Paul Rosenbaum Foundation, served as a consultant for the public lesson. During her visit to Baker Heights Elementary, Dr. Wang-Iverson visited Kindergarten and First Grade classrooms and interacted with students. Dr. Wang-Iverson facilitated a post-lesson discussion with teachers during a professional development session on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.



Dr. Patsy Wang-Iverson

### Public Lesson Planning Team



From left to right: Erica Mars, Johnette R. Winfrey, Gertrude Walls, Simone Boudreaux, LaCole Wolfe  
Not Pictured: Cheryl Rami

### City of Baker School System Welcomes New Superintendent



Dr. Estes Taplin has devoted more than 30 years to educating young people. He has had a myriad of experiences, serving as teacher, principal and superintendent of schools in both Louisiana and Mississippi. After retiring from the state of Mississippi, he spent a great deal of his time serving as an educational consultant and motivational speaker. His current position as Superintendent of the City of Baker School System is proving to be the most challenging of his career.

His theme for the City Of Baker School System is "Good to Great – One Child at a Time"

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### Singapore Math Project Thanks....

Dr. Scott Baldrige for presenting "Building A High Performing Mathematics Program in the City of Baker School System" at the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics Conference on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

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Ms. Lipscomb and her kindergarteners go fishing to reinforce counting.

### Baker Heights Elementary Family Math Night A Huge Success

Baker Heights Elementary hosted "Family Math Night - A Harvest of Learning and Fun" -on Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Approximately 300 students, parents, faculty, and community volunteers were in attendance. Families participated in math activities and games that covered all six strands of mathematics: number and number relations, algebra, measurement, geometry, patterns, and probability. Families were treated to pizza and jambalaya prepared by members of NUBB (Neighbors United for a Better Baker). Door prizes were also awarded.

Special thanks to all sponsors and community partners who gave contributions to make this event so special: Peron McCastle and NUBB, Mr. James A. Jarreau – Baker's Texaco, Beasley Feed, Duane A. Jordan – Allstate Insurance, Judge Kirk Williams, Billeann Riddle – Billeann's Florist, Hancock Bank, Gregory Coleman and Baker Heights PTCO, McDonalds, Baker Walmart, Neighbors Federal Credit Union, Family Dollar, Dollar General, Papa John's, Coca Cola and Dairy Fresh of Louisiana.



Neil McAnelly plays a game from Singapore Math with Lillah Smothers and her grandmother, Brenda Smothers.



First grade teacher, Simone Boudreaux engages families in an activity with tangrams.

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### Comments about Singapore Math from Parents:

*" This is the best thing that could be going on in the classroom for our children. I'm so thankful for this program for it has really helped my child to learn math so much easier"* Terri J.

*"..very insightful..gives me different and better ways to improve my child's math skills"* – De'Shann S.