

Hana Silverstein <hanasilver@gmail.com>

Math Teachers' Circle materials

Alison Marr <marra@southwestern.edu> To: Hana Silverstein <hana@aimath.org> Mon, Nov 25, 2013 at 8:26 AM

Hana,

I do have a handout that I have used at a couple of MTCs. I've attached it below. I've also written a few notes below for those interested in using this handout.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Alison

Notes on Magical Questions about Magic Squares and Magic Graphs.

This handout explores three ideas: magic squares, graph theory, and then takes those two areas and combines them to study the research area, magic graphs. Depending on the length of your circle, you could do one part, two parts, or all three parts w/ some questions for the teachers to take home. The first section is pretty self-explanatory. There are some references to a book that you could buy for your teachers if they are interested in studying magic squares more. The second section uses the old game, Instant Insanity. You can purchase these for your teachers, let them play with them for a bit, show them some of the math behind how to solve it, and then talk about how to create games that can't be solved. The last section is just a chance for teachers to work on current research questions in the field of graph theory.

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