EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE NC EMPT PROGRAM STATEWIDE

An informative and user-friendly website, an e-mail distribution list that has grown to include more than three thousand educators, and bimonthly e-newsletters help spread the news about NC EMPT’s free services. An efficient office, staffed by seasoned and loyal people, helps deliver the news and services offered by the program. However, meeting teachers face-to-face is also a powerful tool in answering questions and in spreading the word about the amazing early intervention services offered by the NC EMPT Program. By staying abreast of workshop and staff development offerings, the associate director tries to reach out to math teachers on their home turfs. By conferring with the mathematics staff at the NC Department of Public Instruction and public school secondary math coordinators, the associate director searches for opportunities to present the NC EMPT Program and to provide a platform for teachers to learn, question, and make suggestions. Outreach efforts occur throughout the year, but increase a great deal during the summer months when groups of secondary mathematics teachers gather statewide for workshops and professional development. In addition, the associate director stays abreast of actual mathematics placement procedures currently used at UNC institutions and NC community colleges.

An amazing team: Debby Hodges, NC EMPT Administrative Support Associate of 10 years; Ellen Hilgoe, Associate Director of 23 years.
Sweeping changes are in process as community colleges and UNC institutions as strive to reduce or remove math barriers to help incoming students place and be successful in a first gateway college math course. **Listed below are the efforts made by the associate director during 2018-2019 to promote the outreach services offered by NC EMPT and to stay abreast of K-16 math initiatives.** In addition, see p. 7 for a list of the educational groups contacted by the associate director throughout school year via email, State Courier Mail, US Postal Mail, and the NC EMPT website (www.ncempt.org).

- **Sept 4, 2018:** invited by ECU Provost Mitchelson to join and meet with the ECU team that will participate in the UNCSO (University of North Carolina System Office) SUM UNC (Summit for Understanding Math Pathways across the UNC System); included were ECU representatives from the mathematics, engineering, and chemistry departments, academic advising, math lab, administration, IPAR (Institutional Planning, Assessment, and Research), and NC EMPT; Greenville, NC

- **Sept 4, 2018 – May 4, 2019:** prepared and uploaded each Monday morning a new practice “Math Placement Test Question of the Week.” Thirty-seven new questions were added during the 2018-19 school year, and the collection now includes 211 practice questions and solutions with free download by students and teachers at www.ncempt.org

- **Sept 7, 2018:** invited to present the NC EMPT Program as part of Best Practices across NC at a SUM UNC; faculty and staff from all UNC institutions were introduced to the challenges and recommendations developed during Phase One of the Math Pathways Project, Center for School Leadership and Development, Chapel Hill, NC

- **Sept 19, 2018:** attended a RISE (Reinforced Instruction for Student Excellence) professional development seminar along with community college math educators from the eastern region of the state, Pitt Community College, Greenville, NC

- **Oct 4, 2018:** attended a RISE professional development seminar with community college math educators from the eastern region of the state, Pitt Community College, Greenville, NC

- **Oct 11, 2018:** was invited by Dr. Michelle Soler to become a member of the Task Force and to become the chair of the placement subcommittee of the UNCSO Math Pathways Project. Dr. Soler is the Director of Competency-Based Education and Assessment at the UNC System Office, Chapel Hill, NC

- **Oct 26, 2018:** organized and led a meeting for twenty-three NC EMPT Advisory Board Members in an annual face-to-face meeting; discussions centered around 1) 2017-18 final report, 2) DPI math revisions to standards of fourth-level high school math courses, and 3) updates from NC community college members on the RISE Program, EdReady software, changes in math placement procedures, and the introduction of co-requisite math courses; UNC General Administration Building, Chapel Hill, NC
• Oct 31, 2018: participated in the State Leadership Seminar in Mathematics sponsored by the NC Dept. of Public Instruction and NC Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCCTM); topics included “Building Powerful Numeracy,” DPI “K-12 Mathematics Implementation and Updates,” and “Providing the Leadership Needed to Nurture More Effective Teaching and Learning of Math;” Greensboro, NC

• Nov 1, 2018: attended several high school sessions and presented a session, “NC EMPT Successfully Links High Schools to Post-Secondary Mathematics” at the NCCTM State Mathematics Conference, Greensboro, NC

• Nov 2, 2018: participated in a UNC Math Pathways Project Task Force meeting, discussed math pathways while partnering with the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin, subcommittees met to draft recommendations to enable best practices in creating math pathways, led the placement subcommittee in rewrite of draft, Chapel Hill, NC

• Jan 23, 2019: participated in a UNC Math Pathways Project Task Force webinar to discuss feedback provided by task force members on all eight math pathways recommendations in preparation for presentation to UNC provosts, Chapel Hill, NC

• Feb 12-13, 2019: participated as a member of the ECU team and as chair of the placement subcommittee in the UNCSO Designing Math Pathways Leadership Convening, Center for School Leadership and Development, Chapel Hill, NC

• Feb 22 and Mar 6, 2019: met with the ECU Math Pathways Team and ECU’s Institutional Planning and Research group to create a survey and discuss the logistics of dissemination to department chairs of non-STEM majors on campus, Greenville, NC

• Mar 7-8, 2019: attended eight sessions and presented a session, “NC EMPT - Preparing for the Math Leap from Grades 12-13,” at the NC Math Association of Two-Year Colleges (NC MATYC) 31st Annual State Conference, Caldwell Community College, Hudson, NC

• Mar 19, 2019: introduced speakers and welcomed high school math faculty attending the 41st annual High School Math Contest at East Carolina University, presented the NC EMPT Program and its monthly e-newsletters to representatives of 32 middle and high schools and more than 400 students from eastern North Carolina, ECU, Greenville, NC

• Mar 22, 2019: participated in the NC Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NCCTM) Spring Leadership Conference, theme of conference was “Targeted Support for Mathematics Learning;” break-out sessions included DPI updates on revised fourth-level high school math course standards and the effects of House Bill 986, particularly for eighth graders placing into Math 1 Honors; High Point, NC

• Mar 29, 2019: participated with the ECU Team of the UNC Math Pathways Project to discuss team’s next steps towards establishing math pathways on the ECU campus; included were 1) inclusion of the importance of math pathways in the provost’s First Monday report to the campus, 2) submission of an RFP (Request for Proposal) to fund co-remediation in College Algebra and other math courses, 3) a summer bridge program, 4) meetings with each department to
• Apr 2, 2019: participated in an ECU Math Pathways Team Convening follow-up conference call with ECU Provost Mitchelson, University of Texas Dana Center, representatives and UNCSO; additional next steps shared by team include 1) an ECU website dedicated to math pathways, 2) team presentation to Faculty Senate, 3) convening of department chairs with provost, and 4) plans to host a UNC SUM Transferability Conference in Sept 2019; Greenville, NC

• April 23, 2019: invited to lead a panel discussion about statewide math placement by Dr. Heather Ortiz, State Implementation Specialist, Systems Implementation for Higher Education, The Dana Center, University of Texas at Austin, TX

• May 15, 2019: led a panel discussion about statewide math placement at a UNCSO Math Pathways Advising Convening held at NC A&T; convening was attended by advising teams from all UNC institutions; Greensboro, NC

• July 11-12, 2019: attended, presented, and promoted the NC EMPT Program at two sessions of the Appalachian State University Summer MELT (Mathematics Education Leadership Training) Institutes; sessions were titled “Math 3” and “STEM Leadership;” Boone, NC

• July 13, 2019: organized and conducted an informal NC EMPT Advisory Board meeting for retired and current members from western UNC institutions (UNCA, ASU, WCU), Asheville, NC

• July 15, 2019: presented and promoted the NC EMPT Program to Gaston County high school math teachers attending a math professional development workshop, Gaston Early College High School, Dallas, NC

• August 13, 2019: participated in a “Beginning Teacher Tea” and donated NC EMPT math classroom materials to all first-year teachers in Pitt County Schools, Greenville, NC. See the photo below.