



## CHAMP

### The Cooperative Highly Accelerated Math Program

August 2011—May 2012



**Audience** Fifty-three (53) students grades 7—10 participated in the CHAMP Program. Twenty-nine (29) students were in CHAMP Year I, twenty-four (24) were in CHAMP Year II. Thirty-seven (37) were male, sixteen (16) were female. One (1) student received financial assistance. Eligibility criteria for CHAMP is SAT Math score of 530 and a Total score of 1010, ACT Math score of 21 and a Composite score of 23.

**Funding** The CHAMP program receives \$2,000 from the W.B. and Candace Thoman Foundation to provide a counselor. The Dart Foundation provides \$17,500 to keep tuition costs down. Student tuition is used to support the remaining program costs. Support from the MSU Mathematics Department provides four professors for 2 1/2 hours of instruction each Thursday afternoon.

**Objectives** This program seeks to

- \* identify 6th—8th grade students who reason extremely well mathematically;
- \* develop their mathematical potential through classroom use of appropriate curriculum and instructional pacing commensurate with their abilities;
- \* demonstrate that, with careful joint planning and coordination, existing community resources and multiple school systems can cooperate to meet successfully the needs of highly gifted students within the framework of the regular school day.

Students completing CHAMP are expected to return to their home school and take AP calculus. They should then consider dual enrolling at their local university or college for additional math coursework.

**Description** Year I of CHAMP covers Algebra I and Algebra II Year II and a unit of Statistics. CHAMP Year II covers Geometry a standard pre-calculus course of Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, College Algebra and a brief introduction to calculus concepts. Students attend class Wednesday afternoon from 1:00—3:30. All four classes are instructed by full time Michigan State University mathematics professors. Class size is limited to 15—19 students. Additional study sessions are held Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings in Wells Hall. Seven MSU Math TAs assisted in the labs. Students also have access to LON-CAPA and the MSU Math Forum for 24/7 online assistance. A prep session is held the last week in August, bringing students to campus to set up their MSU e-mail and NetID and a walk through campus to their class-

room. Sixty-two (62) students applied for CHAMP Year 1, thirty-seven (37) were accepted into the program. There is 157.5 hours of contact time in this program including labs.

### Outcomes

Students completing CHAMP cite time management and developing study skills as two outcomes they didn't expect while learning mathematical concepts. Many felt that these two assets would prove beneficial when attending college. Students also felt that the accelerated pace of the program was very valuable. They strongly agreed that having their math ability challenged was a positive aspect of the program and that they would not have had this experience in their home school mathematics class. 100% of the Year I and Year II CHAMP students rated their learning experience as excellent or good. In 2011 there were eleven (11) former CHAMP students dual enrolled at Michigan State University. These students enter MSU enrolling in MTH 152H, MTH 234 or MTH 235 having completed AP Calculus AB or BC at their home school.

98% of the parents of students in CHAMP Year I and Year II responded that they were pleased with the quality of the program and that 100% were pleased to have their child in the program. 100% of the parents disagreed that their child's home school work suffered.

The majority of the students are from Ingham county with participants from Shiawassee, Eaton, and Clinton counties bringing urban and rural students together to the MSU campus.

### Contact Information

Kathee McDonald, Director

Office of Gifted and Talented Education  
186 Bessey Hall

Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824

Phone: 517.432.2129 e-mail: [gifted@msu.edu](mailto:gifted@msu.edu)

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

Honors College

