



# CHAMP

Cooperative Highly  
Accelerated Math Program

August 2015—May 2016



**GATE**  
GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION

**Audience** Fifty (50) students grades 7-10 participated in the CHAMP Program. Twenty-nine (29) students were in CHAMP Year 1; twenty-one (21) were in CHAMP Year 2. Twenty-nine (29) were male; twenty-one (21) were female. Two (2) students received financial assistance. Eligibility criteria for CHAMP are: SAT Math score of 530 and a Total score of 1010 or ACT Math score of 21 and a Composite score of 23.

**Funding** The CHAMP program is supported mainly by student tuition. The CHAMP program receives funding from the Thoman Foundation to provide financial aid scholarships to qualifying families. Support from the MSU Mathematics Department includes identifying three Math professors to teach 2.5 hours each Thursday afternoon.

**Objectives** This program seeks to

- \* identify 6th-8th grade students who perform extremely well in mathematics;
- \* develop students' mathematical potential through the use of appropriate curriculum and instructional pacing commensurate with their abilities;
- \* coordinate with multiple school systems and existing community resources to successfully meet 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 courses.

**Description** Year 1 of CHAMP covers Algebra I and Algebra II and one unit of Statistics. CHAMP Year 2 covers Geometry and a standard pre-calculus course of Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, College Algebra and a brief introduction to calculus concepts. Students in each year attend class Thursday afternoons from 1:00-3:30. All four classes are instructed by MSU mathematics professors. Class size is limited to 20 students. Additional study sessions are held Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings on the MSU campus. Six MSU Math undergraduate teaching assistants help students during study labs. Students also have access to LON-CAPA and the a D2L forum for 24/7 online assistance. An orientation session for new students is held the last week in August.

## Outcomes

In surveys, CHAMP students referenced time management and study skills as two of the major benefits of the program. Many felt that these two assets would prove beneficial when attending college. Students also felt that the accelerated pace of the program was a valuable challenge to their learning. They strongly agreed that having their math skills challenged was a positive aspect of the program and that they would not have had this experience in a conventional school setting. 100% of the Year 1 and Year 2 CHAMP students rated their learning experience as either "excellent" or "good". Many former CHAMP students in the past have applied for dual enrollment at Michigan State University. These students usually enter MSU enrolling in MTH 153H, MTH 234 or MTH 235 having completed AP Calculus AB or BC at their home school.

The majority of the students are from Ingham county. Students also come from Shiawassee, Eaton, and Clinton counties, bringing urban and rural students together on MSU's campus.

## Expansion of the CHAMP Program

The 2015-2016 academic year was the first year of the CHAMP-Novi program. Classes were held at the Tollgate Education Center in Novi to serve students in the Southeastern Michigan areas surrounding Novi. Weekly study labs were held at the Novi Library. The first year of the program had 10 students (6 male, 4 female) from 8 different school districts.

## Contact Information

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