

1114-97-328

Zvezdelina E Stankova* (stankova@mills.edu), 5000 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94613.

From the US School Reality to the Successful Math Circle: Is There Something in between? Preliminary report.

What stands between a successful math circle and the school reality of the surrounding neighborhood? The Berkeley Math Circle, for example, one of the oldest math circles in the US, has grown to 500 students in 12 sessions every week on UCB campus, hosted by three departments of the university. What makes the circle so successful also makes it hard to sustain. Can the circle continue in its present form, or should it change? Can the circle help revamp the school curriculum to bring it to the level required for successful participation in the circle sessions? We shall examine these questions in the context of the ever evolving, sometimes aspiring, and often contradicting movements in the math curriculum in the K-12 public and private schools throughout the Bay Area. (Received September 01, 2015)