



Welcome fellow Recovering Traditionalists to Episode 159: The Number Strings Queens.

Before we get into the episode, this week's positivity comes from the Facebook comments about the Virtual Math Summit. This episode is not about the summit because by the time this comes out the summit is already over.



Diane I. [redacted]

This is my 3rd or 4th year. I have learned so much. Can't wait to see what this year brings!

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Diane, I love to hear that you keep coming to the summit and that you are learning every time. This was our 8th year! If you are interested in watching any of the past 8 years of summits, they are inside the Build Math Minds PD site. You can become a member at buildmathminds.com/bmm

That site is full of PD videos and resources that we create for our members. Most of the videos inside the Build Math Minds PD site are created by curating the research and information out there about how students learn mathematics in the elementary grades.

One of my favorite people to learn from has been Cathy Fosnot. Her book series Young Mathematicians at Work changed so much of my thinking about how we set up the classroom to allow our students to experience mathematics. Her curriculum resource, Context for Learning Mathematics, is still one of my favorites and inside that was my first exposure to Number Strings...but she called them Mini Lessons.

I've since gotten to meet with and work with Cathy and I always come away with any time spent with her realizing I don't know what I think I know but coming away learning more. I don't know if that makes sense but basically I realize I misunderstood something, or didn't fully understand, but she clarifies it and makes me understand it better.

Simply put, I love any time I can spend in her presence because I know I'm going to learn a ton.

So, when I saw an opportunity to spend an entire day learning from her I got excited and it's not only with Cathy, but Pam Harris also.....so I immediately went to my calendar to see if I could make it work.

Now I am not getting paid to share this with you, I just want to tell you about this amazing opportunity to learn from the Queens of Number Strings...or as Pam Harris would call them, Problem Strings.

Number Strings, or Problem Strings, are a series of related visuals or problems that you show your students one at a time and spend time discussing how they relate to each other. Well that's the simplified version of what they are anyways.

Cathy Fosnot and Pam Harris are doing a 1 day workshop in New London, Connecticut on June 27 all about Problem Strings and I can't wait to attend. On the show notes page I'll put the link to the details for the workshop so go to buildmathminds.com/159 to get it and hopefully I'll see you there!

Until next week my Fellow Recovering Traditionalists, keep Building Math Minds.

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