

# CEI Newsletter

The Center for Education Innovation at Friends Academy of Dartmouth MA.

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## Office Hours:

Dr. Lori Weider—Exec Director

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Make an appointment for support

Chris Perry

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Campbell School by appointment

Hathaway School on Thursday

Hayden McFadden on Monday

Lincoln School by appointment

Pacheco School on Wednesday

Swift School on Tuesday

Feel free to contact us and arrange for assistance with technology integration issues and training requests. We are here to support technology best practices in your classroom. You can also reach us and post a question/suggestion at:

<http://lweider.weebly.com/contact.html>

## Front Row — Featured Software this Month

Our goal at CEI is always to support technology integration in thoughtful and meaningful ways that advance learning for students. Teachers have asked for math applications that offer differentiated instruction and are aligned to Common Core Standards. In addition, math content is enhanced by actively involving and engaging students in understanding mathematics, at every level. Through the use of in-hand or on-line manipulatives, objects help students visualize relationships and applications.

Like Lexia, Front Row begins with a pre-test (10-30 min) followed by an individualized learning path. This ensures students are always engaged and challenged, never facing material that is too difficult for too easy for them. Teachers can also see exactly where each student is on any given standard.

Front Row has over 30,000+ math questions and 500+ ELA articles each at 5 different reading levels, covering all K-8 standards. Front Row's Home Page <https://www.frontrowed.com/>

Facilitating inquiry based lessons is a great way to incorporate Front Row for the whole class. The lessons are designed to encourage collaborative problem-solving among students. The lessons are most effectively used with whole classes that can be split into groups of 3-4 students. Each lesson series covers one or more math standards and spans anywhere from 3 to 5 days.

Front Row's practice program gives teachers a lot of flexibility in determining how it will best fit into their classrooms. It enables independent, small group and whole class practice & targeted instruction. Some examples for use include:

- Beginning of the math block as a review tool with the whole class
- Generate a homework assignment or check for understanding after a lesson.
- Use as a computer based center.
- Use during math intervention.

## More Math Web Site Resources and Apps

**Building Blocks** K-6 software, was developed by a team at the University of Buffalo and was funded by the National Science Foundation. This research based program incorporates standards aligned learning activities and assessment with immediate feedback for students. It is installed on all computers and not not require Internet access for use.

**The National Library of Virtual Manipulatives (NLVM)** is a National Science Foundation (NSF) supported project that began in 1999 to develop a library of interactive, web-based virtual manipulatives or concept tutorials for K-12 mathematics instruction. The New Bedford district recommends that NLVM be incorporated into math instruction. These on-line tools require the latest Java (an Internet plug-in) to operate.

**Math Maven Mysteries** - A Scholastic math site that reinforce concepts by solving mysteries using the power of math. There are 27 mysteries and each is categorized by concept and level of difficulty. Each mystery is supported by printable sheets as well as audio to assist with new and struggling readers. <http://teacher.scholastic.com/maven/>

For assistance with any of these tools or Apps please see your CEI consultant who will be happy to answer questions and assist you as needed.