Dear Workshop Participant,

 Congratulations! You have just won the consolation prize in the Ohio State Lottery’s mega jackpot, an invitation to attend Ted’s workshop on cooperative learning, as applied to developmental math; a tool for increasing student success and retention.

 I would like to thank you in advance for inviting me to your campus to spend the day sharing my enthusiasm and experiences with cooperative learning, especially in developmental math courses. I look forward to sharing our ideas, both yours and mine, on how to help our students succeed in math. I have two objectives for the day: first is my personal objective, to bring home at least one or two activities, ideas or approaches that I can use in my classes, based upon your input; second, to encourage (convince) you to try a few of the coop structures in your classes, as soon as you can see a way to fit them into your syllabus.

 Attached is an agenda for the day’s activities. I hope to be able to have us work through all the activities listed since the math will not be time consuming. One of the questions that arises about coop learning is what do I do with students who finish activities early and my answer is to be over prepared with extra worksheets that provide more problems for the day’s topic. That was my strategy in preparing this agenda. We will be able to modify the agenda during the day if we find a consensus to do so. The last topic is very interesting, so I hope we will get to the question of what your students are like? I have used this question as a basis for workshops at AMATYC and elsewhere with very positive results.

 I have attached two additional items. A questionnaire that will form the basis for our first activity and help me get to learn about your innermost thoughts before we start the math related activities. Please complete it before the workshop. Second is an article comparing collaborative learning to cooperative learning that will provide a context for the day’s discussions.

 If you would like to contact me prior to the workshop please feel free to email me at tpanitz@capecod.net or call me at 508-428-4787. I would love to chat with you before the workshop to get a better idea of how I can tailor the day to meet your interests. I look forward to meeting you and working with you on this exciting topic.

Regards,

Ted