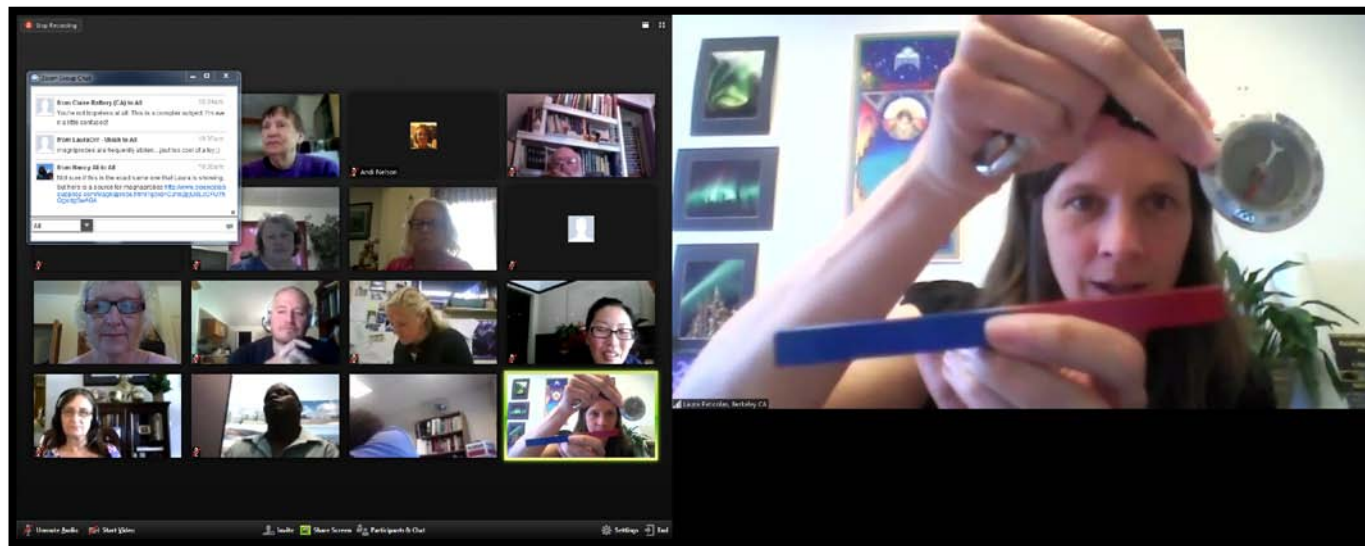


# Heliophysics Community of Practice for Teachers Virtual Retreat– 6/17- 6/18, 2013

On June 17 and 18, 2013, the Heliophysics Community of Practice Lead Teachers met together via **videoconferencing** and **online discussion** boards for a virtual retreat to expand their knowledge about current NASA Heliophysics missions, share resources and support each other in teaching Heliophysics, and discuss ideas for the future expansion of the community of practice. **Ten teachers from six different time zones** participated in the virtual retreat along with scientists and NASA mission E/PO specialists.



The Heliophysics Community of Practice for formal educators is a **multi-mission effort** that is currently led by the **THEMIS-ARTEMIS** Education/Public Outreach and supported by the **Van Allen Probes** and **IBEX**, with facilitation from the Heliophysics E/PO Forum. **SDO** and **IRIS** mission EPO contributed presentations and resources for the virtual retreat.

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# **Heliophysics Community of Practice for Teachers Virtual Retreat– 6/17- 6/18, 2013**

The Lead Teachers participated in a combination of whole group Zoom videoconferencing sessions, small group Zoom videoconferencing breakout sessions, and individual reflections and assignments. The videoconferencing sessions were supplemented by concurrent real-time chat features as well as online Wiggiio discussion boards.

Teacher comments on the post-retreat evaluation include:

- It wasn't so much what I expected, but rather I kept thinking when can we do this again. This was absolutely amazing!
- This was so successful that it went way beyond my expectations.
- [What I found most valuable was] Learning from the experts and strengthening my background.
- [What I found most valuable was] the fellowship of community members sharing their knowledge of what and how they teach heliophysics concepts as well as the presenters who taught us about the missions and science they are working with.

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