

1046-97-75

Richard Millman and **Eric L Clark*** (eclark@ms.uky.edu), Department of Mathematics,
University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506. *Bluma's Method: A Different Way to Solve
Quadratics*. Preliminary report.

In this talk, we introduce a different approach to finding the solutions of a quadratic equation and provide two proofs of its correctness. It involves transforming a given, arbitrary quadratic into one whose coefficient of the squared term is one and whose solutions are related easily to the solutions of the original. This is a technique that has been incorporated into middle and high school classrooms and has been a successful tool for professional development. We describe both the method and how to implement it in PD sessions and show how it can help develop a mathematical habit of the mind. (Received July 21, 2008)