

# NIGEL NISBET

of MIND Research Institute



**SPEAKER MEDIA KIT 2016**

 [@nigel\\_nisbet](https://twitter.com/nigel_nisbet)



**Nigel Nisbet**, Vice President of Content Creation at the **MIND Research Institute**, has a long history of speaking and performing in front of an audience.

Nisbet spent more than seven years teaching secondary and high school math in California.

Nisbet has engaged audiences in visual-spatial math, game-based teaching, and blended learning at events such as **TEDxOrangeCoast** and **District Administration Leadership Institute**. His presentations show that he is a passionate believer in teaching students to learn math conceptually with the visual games and tools MIND's ST Math® has to offer.



Compiled in this media kit is a list of speaking topics, speaking history, writing history, photos, videos, and testimonials for Nisbet. For speaking and writing availability, contact Abby Daniels via phone at 949-345-8637 or via email at [adaniels@mindresearch.org](mailto:adaniels@mindresearch.org).

**“One of the most dynamic presentations — he taught us how to do math right.”**

## **NIGEL NISBET BIOGRAPHY**

Armed with a degree in mathematics, and early success as a rock musician with several hit songs in Europe and the U.S., Nisbet began his education career by teaching a class of 15 at an idyllic private all-girls school in rural England. After moving to the U.S., Nisbet taught Mathematics, AP Physics, and AP Computer Science at Van Nuys Senior High, where he was a pioneer of integrating technology into the classroom, and utilizing project-based learning to engage students' critical-thinking skills. At Van Nuys, he successfully spearheaded the implementation of the LAUSD Los Angeles Virtual Academy program as a solution for Algebra 1, and collaborated with the AP Readiness Program in Computer Science.

Leaving the classroom in 2006, he became a Mathematics Specialist for the Los Angeles Unified School District, the second largest school district in the United States. At LAUSD, Nisbet designed and delivered professional development programs and implemented the transition to Response to Intervention (RTI) programming. He has written, designed and implemented several instructional guides and curricula, focusing on middle school and high school math (Grade 6 and 7; Algebra Readiness; Algebra 1 & 2; and Geometry).

A passionate believer in the power of all students to learn mathematics conceptually, Nisbet joined the nonprofit MIND Research Institute in 2010, becoming the Director of Content Creation in early 2011. In addition to leading MIND's project team in the creation of middle school curricula, Nisbet travels the country on behalf of the organization and speaks on such topics as "STEM Is a State of MIND" and "So You Think You're Ready For Common Core." Reviews of his presentations have included "One of the most dynamic presentations -- he showed us how to do math right. Why didn't we think of this before?" and "Exciting example of breakthrough technology!"

At MIND, Nisbet devotes his time to reaching into the structure and beauty of mathematics and finding ways to build engaging, interactive and completely visual games that teach all students how math really works. He recently led the team that developed new games for middle and high school ST Math programs, including games that introduce Algebraic concepts visually. He feels that there is much work left to be done to ensure that all children are mathematically equipped to solve the world's most challenging problems. But given his experience of working with children in very different parts of the world he believes that given the right tools, all students can be mathematical thinkers and problem solvers.

Nisbet received a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics at Queen Mary University, University of London in 1990. In 2009, Nisbet received a Master in Educational Administration at California State University Northridge.

# “Exciting example of breakthrough technology!”

## SPEAKING HISTORY

Below are highlights from Nisbet’s latest speaking engagements:

- **“Learning is NOT Linear,”** District Administration Leadership Institute, Oct. 10, 2015 (Bonita Springs, FL), Nov. 7, 2015 (Phoenix, AZ); January 14, 2016 (Orlando, FL), and April 7, 2016 (Colorado Springs, CO)
- “The Science of Learning: How Understanding Brain Function Increases Student Math Success,” National Title I Conference, January 29, 2016 (Houston, TX)
- “Connecting the Blended Learning Dots,” National Charter Schools Conference, June 24, 2015 (New Orleans, LA)
- “Digital Debate: Will Technology Undermine or Augment Mathematics Education,” National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics, April, 2015 (Boston, MA)
- “The Geometry of Chocolate,” Mathx by DirecTV, April 7, 2015 (Los Angeles, CA)
- “Better Blends,” Florida Education Technology Conference, January, 2015 (Orlando, FL)
- “Leading the Learning Revolution: Active versus Passive Classrooms,” District Administration Leadership Institute, January, 2015 (Orlando, FL)
- “Building Better Blends,” iNACOL, November, 2014 (Palm Springs, CA)
- **“If Rigor Was Easy, We’d All Be Doing It,”** District Administration Leadership Institute, March 27, 2014 (Phoenix, AZ)
- International Society for Technology in Education, June 2013 (San Antonio, TX)
- **“Myth Busters: Adaptive Learning Edition,”** District Administration Superintendent Summit, October, 2013 (Naples, FL)
- **“Algebra: An Upgrade for Your Mind,”** TEDxYouth@BomberCanyon, December 2012
- **“The Geometry of Chocolate,”** TEDxOrangeCoast, September 2012
- Region 1 ESC: Teachers as Leaders of Learning Conference, May 2012 (Texas)
- **“So You Think You’re Ready For Common Core,”** District Administration Superintendents Summit, March, 2012 (Orlando, FL)
- “iPads in the Mathematics Classroom: Interactive Algebra 1,” Florida Education Technology Conference, February 2012 (Orlando, FL); Florida Association of Math Supervisors, January 2013 (Orlando, FL)
- **“STEM Is a State of MIND,”** District Administration Superintendents Summit, February, 2012 (Phoenix, AZ)
- “Hands-on Algebra 2,” National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics, 2009
- “Blended Learning,” NACOL, 2007; LACTMA, 2006

## SPEAKING TOPICS

Nisbet is well-versed and experienced in speaking on the following topics:

- Visual-spatial math
- Math learning, comprehension, and proficiency
- Game-based learning and teaching
- Teaching math
- Common Core and state math standards
- Blended learning classroom management
- Collaborative classroom technology
- Middle school math instruction
- Algebra 1 and visual math
- Financial literacy
- Perseverance and grit

# “Why didn’t we think of this before?”

## SPEAKER VIDEOS

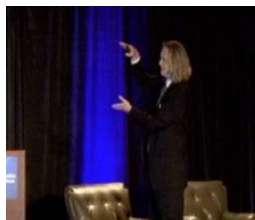
The following videos showcase Nisbet’s speaking at conference and interviews:



“**Learning is NOT Linear**” by Nigel Nisbet at District Administration Leadership Institute (2015-16)



“**Myth Busters: Adaptive Learning Edition**” by Nigel Nisbet at District Administration Leadership Institute (2013)



“**STEM Is a State of MIND**” by Nigel Nisbet at District Administration Leadership Institute (2012)



“**The Geometry of Chocolate**” by Nigel Nisbet at TEDxOrangeCoast (2012)



“**Algebra: An Upgrade for Your Mind**” by Nigel Nisbet at TEDxYouth@BomberCanyon

# WRITING HISTORY

**“Active vs. Passive: The Science of Learning”** March 31, 2015. Sums & Solutions.

**“Getting Middle School Math Right”** October 14, 2014. Sums & Solutions.

**“Here’s How To Get Kids Excited About Math (Yes, It’s Possible!)”** July 1, 2014. Huffington Post.

**“Myth Busters: Adaptive Learning Edition”** October 23, 2013. Sums & Solutions.

**“Middle School Math: Practical Methods for Foundational Learning”** webinar by District Administration (April 16, 2014)

**“Better Blends with Visual Game-based Math”** April 2014. MIND Research Institute white paper.

**“Blended Learning: Emphasis on Learning”** webinar by District Administration (October 17, 2013)

**“Spatial Temporal Reasoning and the Importance of Touch”** April 15, 2013. District Administration.

**“System Upgrade: What Math Can Do For You”** November 8, 2012. Edtech Digest.

**California State Examinations (CST Geometry)**

**California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)**

**Washington State Examinations (WCAP Geometry)**

General Education Diploma (GED Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2)

# COVERAGE

**“Game On: Learning Math Through Programming Games”** by Megan Crouse, Product Design & Development (August 26, 2015)

**“Leveraging Game-Based Learning to Increase STEM Engagement”** a STEMConnector TownHall (August 25, 2015)

**Cox Community Connection - MIND Research Institute**, Cox OC Connections (July 11, 2014)

**“So You Think You’re Ready for Common Core Math”** webinar by District Administration (April 25, 2013)

**“The New Flavor of Math Instruction”** by Liana Heiten on Education Week (November 19, 2012)

**“TEDx Speakers Discuss Redefining Relevance”** by Ian Hamilton on The Orange County Register (October 11, 2012)

# TESTIMONIALS

Below showcases remarks and testimonials from attendees at Nisbet's presentations:

- "This was an excellent session. Good information."
- "One of the most dynamic presentations - he showed us how to do math right. Why didn't we think of this before?"
- "Animated!!"
- "Exciting example of breakthrough technology; more like this."
- "Excellent session."

*For more information, contact:*

**Abby Daniels**

*Director, Communications*

949.345.8637 | [adaniels@mindresearch.org](mailto:adaniels@mindresearch.org)

 FriendsOfMINDResearchInstitute

 @MIND\_Research

**MIND**  
Research Institute

A neuroscience and education  
social benefit organization

[mindresearch.org](http://mindresearch.org)