1023-Z1-1752 Cheryl L Olsen* (colsen2@math.unl.edu), University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Mathematics, 203 Avery Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0130. Discrete Mathematics for Middle Level Teachers. Preliminary report.

Although discrete mathematics does not appear as a separate standard in the NCTM Standards, it is an integral part of the curriculum. Aspects of discrete mathematics are distributed across the NCTM Standards and, in fact, across the four grade bands. Three important aspects receive particular focus: combinatorics, iteration and recursion, and vertex-edge graphs. As part of a Math/Science Partnership NSF grant at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a discrete mathematics course for middle-level (grades 5-9) teachers was developed and taught during the summer 2006. Concurrently, teachers took a curriculum inquiry course whose focus was on mathematics curricula and taught by a mathematics educator. The goals were to enrich teachers' mathematics knowledge as well as assist them in transferring mathematics knowledge into their classrooms. The course content and format will be described as well as the mathematician and mathematics educator partnership. (Received September 26, 2006)