

February 23, 2011

On February 10th, the math committee met to discuss the results of the mathematics program audit. Below, you will find the changes we are proposing as a result of our discussion.

Changes that we would like to recommend for 2011-2012:

1. All academic levels will add mental math exercises to their daily classroom routine
2. Adding additional instruction time to math periods
 - a. At least 50 minutes for middle and high school
 - b. At elementary, 60 minutes is considered minimum; 70 – 75 minutes would allow for better understanding of concepts
3. Delivering instruction through exploration and the use of manipulatives
4. Teacher training and peer evaluation on teaching for thinking and understanding
5. Accelerating more students at 5th grade into Course 1, so that more students are in Course 2 at 6th grade
6. Teaching the same content in middle and high school algebra (dependent upon item 2a above.)
7. Help for students is **required** based on homework completion and/or grades
8. Re-structuring our current thinking about grading (referring specifically how discipline, attendance, and homework should not be factors); Failure rates are above the acceptable level in two core classes at the high school
9. Creating one exam for each course for each semester at the high school level

Changes that we would like to suggest over the next 2 – 3 years:

1. Research and obtain new academic resources for students
2. Complete an overall mapping of the mathematics curriculum, aligning all courses with the Common Core State Standards