News release



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Come see elementary math books being considered for next school year District seeks input on math materials for kindergarten through grade 5

Next fall, students in kindergarten through grade 5 at each of the elementary schools will be using new textbooks.

Parents, staff, students and community members are invited to browse the materials being considered and to share feedback about those materials at one of the three Math Adoption Open House events:

- Hawthorne Elementary, Tuesday, Nov. 27 from 6 to 8 p.m.
- View Ridge Elementary, Wednesday, Nov. 28 from 6 to 8 p.m.
- Mill Creek Elementary, Thursday, Nov. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m.

History, background and timeline for selecting new math materials:

Everett Public Schools is in the third of a three-phase process to select math classroom materials for all students. This phase began last spring and will conclude in early spring 2013.

The first phase began with a selection of math materials for students who are currently in sixth-through eighth-grades and in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II classes. These grades were chosen because these are the first group of students whose high school graduation requirements will include meeting standard on the state math tests based on the <u>Common Core State Standards in Math</u>. Therefore, having classroom textbooks and materials that help students meet these standards is the district's highest math priority. The second phase of the adoption focused on advanced math courses at the high school level.

Throughout the math adoption process, the district involved parents as members of the Math Adoption Team. In each phase, a team of parents and teachers studies the <u>state math standards</u> and analyzes textbooks and other materials for how well those support learning state math standards. District teachers then "test" some of the publishers' math lessons and report those experiences and evaluations to the Math Adoption Team.

Now the team is ready to see what you think.

"During the three open house events, we hope parents, staff and community members will explore each of the curricula and give us feedback from their perspectives on how well each will meet the learning needs of our students. Team members have already done the first level review, and we want to know what others think of these selections," said Dr. Catherine Matthews, who is the district's Director of Curriculum and Assessment and is overseeing the math adoption selection process. "This step in the process is a valuable part of narrowing the selections to materials our students and teachers will use, starting next year. We are looking forward to the written comments and questions people leave at each of these open house sessions."

After hearing more from curriculum publishers and reviewing all of the open house feedback, the team will present its recommendation to the school board, in time to have materials in hand before school starts in September 2013.

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