



Our students will shape and lead the future

News release

July 21, 2015

Summer school math camps are *virtual* AND real important

[Math-Whizz](#) partners with the district to boost elementary student math skills



On average, across the nation, the math skill level of elementary students may vary by four years. As this “average” plays out, a fourth-grade classroom might have students with math skills at only first-grade.

“The further students are behind in the early grades, the further they are likely to fall behind in later grades,” explains [Dr. Cynthia Jones](#) who oversees programs designed specifically to help those struggling students catch up. “Our district goal is 100 percent graduation.

Graduation success depends upon the success and learning all the way through to that high school senior year.”

This summer the district has partnered with [Math-Whizz](#) in an innovative, interactive way to engage third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students in oh-so-important math skill-building.

“Starting on July 27, more than 200 students at three different schools will be immersed two and a half hours a day for 12 days in the magic of math,” says Jones. “We are building their scholastic skills, yes, *and* we are building their sense of confidence in a very important subject they have struggled with. They’ll enter school this fall feeling better about what they know and more confident about school. All that helps lead to more learning and more graduation success.”

Because student skill levels vary, teachers have an extensive tool kit. This year the teacher kit includes [Math-Whizz](#) virtual tutoring online learning software.

“The software includes engaging, skill-appropriate math lessons that support the focus of our math camp this summer. That is, place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and problem solving,” states [Monica Wagenhoffer](#), Math Camp Site Coordinator for Everett Public Schools. “Kids are grouped by skill and ability so teachers can provide appropriate lessons. As well, the [Math-Whizz](#) online learning software adapts to each child’s ability. This means students have the right lesson at the right time for optimal progress and improved math ability.”

(more)

Jones indicated the Everett Public Schools math camp program is part of a three-pronged elementary summer school intervention program. In addition to the math camp, students entering third- and fourth- grade who are one and a half years below reading standard, are attending similar reading camps. "We also have an intensive language development experience for first-, second- and fifth-grade students who do not speak English as their native language."

Students attending these camps will come to camp locations at Garfield, Emerson and Penny Creek elementary schools from 16 of the district's 17 elementary schools, (Hawthorne Elementary School is running its own summer program with nearly 200 of its own students). The math camps begin on Monday, July 27 and run through Thursday, Aug. 13. The reading and English Language Learner programs begin on Monday, July 13.

"Our partnership with [Math-Whizz](#) is an important part of the support package for students this summer. "By combining the incredible skills of our teachers with the innovative and flexible tools of [Math-Whizz](#), we are able to keep students enthusiastically engaged in school over the summer and open doors to their school success in the years ahead."

Dr. Cynthia Jones, Director of Categorical Programs

About Whizz Education

Whizz Education is a pioneering education company that partners with parents, schools, districts and Ministries of Education to raise standards in math through virtual, adaptive tutoring, teacher-led digital resources and the application of best practices. In 2004, the company was founded on the belief that every child deserves a learning experience that caters to his or her individualized needs and pace of learning.

Whizz Education is an International company with offices in Seattle, London and Dubai and representative offices in Russia and New Zealand. Whizz Education has harnessed technology to empower learning communities in every continent to reach their full potential. For more information visit www.whizz.com.

---end---

Media Contacts:

[Mary Waggoner](#), Director of Communications
Everett Public Schools
425-385-4040

[Dave Dardano](#), Vice President
Whizz Education
360-325-6849