

Math Philosophy and Goals

We believe in order to participate fully as a citizen and a worker in our contemporary world, our children must become mathematically literate and have the ability to explore, reason logically, work cooperatively, and apply a wide variety of methods to solve problems.

- recognize the importance of math in the real world
- is confident in their ability to do mathematics
- be proficient in basic computational skills
- communicate mathematically
- reason mathematically

We believe instruction should include strategies and application in meaningful contexts and teacher modeling of these strategies as well as positive mathematical attitudes.

- include cross-curricular activities
- collaborative and cooperative learning experiences
- teacher modeling of good mathematics attitudes and strategies
- guided opportunities for students to study important ideas of mathematics

We believe that curriculum should enhance ones understanding of mathematics and its applications.

- apply a variety of problem solving strategies and critical thinking experiences.
- engage one's interest and intellect
- promote the investigation and growth of mathematical ideas
- use technology and other tools for mathematical investigations
- include collaborative and cooperative, hands-on learning experiences as well as guided opportunities for students to develop conceptual material
- appreciate the history of the development of math

We believe mathematics assessment should acknowledge the individuals ability to explore, conjecture, reason logically, as well as use a variety of mathematical methods to solve problems effectively.

- emphasize process rather than product
- encourage the use of current technology when appropriate
- involve the students in self-assessments that occur in a variety of mathematical contexts and reflect a wide range of skills and abilities
- use a variety of techniques to reflect students' development of mathematics literacy