

Elementary Math Adoption Update

February 19, 2009

The adoption committee met yesterday, February 18, 2009, and arrived at an agreement to recommend Math Expressions from Houghton-Mifflin to the school board for their adoption of the curriculum.

The committee's decision was based on many sources of information, including personal evaluation of the curricula, multiple presentations from the vendors, the state panel recommendations and evaluations, inquiries made of districts using the curricula, and of course, research data.

Three sources of preference ratings also supported the decision:

- The committee ratings favored Expressions,
- the parent ratings overwhelmingly favored Expressions, and
- the final teacher ratings after the in-service presentations on January 30th recommended Expressions at every grade level (with the exception of 3 blended classrooms). Some grade levels were strongly in favor of Expressions while others were less so, but as each grade level favored Expressions, a split adoption was not considered.

Continuing work will include refining implementation procedures, curriculum alignment to priority standards, and professional development steps. We will also work to address specific concerns that some teachers had.

This decision was made on the basis of receiving the necessary manipulatives and consumables, and with a commitment to effective, on-going professional development and implementation.

As we move forward with the adoption process, the committee is mindful of the current complicated budgetary situation. We are committed to being fiscally responsible and to providing the best instruction possible for all our students. While we are not purchasing the program this fiscal year, the decision of what to adopt and when will ultimately be the decision of the school board.

As head of the committee I would like to thank the members and commend them for their dedication, professionalism, and hard work (members are listed below). I also thank Kim Lindsey, math TOSA, for her invaluable help, and Carla Randall for her guidance and wisdom throughout. The resultant decision is one we can all be proud of.

Karen K. Johnson
Tigard-Tualatin School District

Elementary Math Adoption Committee Members 2008-2009:

Alberta Rider: Julie Inberg, Andrew Middleton, Rebecca Knudson

Bridgeport: Alana Ollerenshaw, Anna Southhards, Robin Malony

Byrom: Julie Wright, Serena Washington

Deer Creek: Rhianan Ewer, Terri Mattila

CFT: Virginia Nelson, Sharon Koch

Durham: Patti Jorgensen, Sarah Eagles

Mary Woodward: Rob Rossio, Tori Dickinson

Metzger: Carolyn Knisely, Jordan Mills

Templeton: Felicia Mason, Annette Glaser

Tualatin: Paula Bjork, Pam Rossio

Twality Middle School: Laurie Bostwick