

September 14, 2020

The Cambridge Public Schools Mathematics Department is excited to let you know about a new elementary curriculum resource that we will be using during the 2020-2021 school year. This math curriculum is aligned to current content and practice standards, and builds a strong foundation in problem solving, conceptual understanding, and procedural fluency. Topics will be taught so that they build on previous understanding and prepare students for future math learning.

During the spring 2020, the CPS math department reviewed the [San Francisco Unified School District curriculum](#), which is freely available and adapted for remote learning. The elementary math coaches made the recommendation that we use that curriculum for this current school year. We then plan to form a group of teacher leaders who can choose a curriculum for the district to adopt long-term.

The curriculum is a strong example of culturally responsive teaching practices, including daily ambitious instructional routines like number talks, norms for math class, and a focus on group work. For example, it is built around 5 [Math Class Norms](#) that emphasize making sense of math collaboratively.

<p>Answers are important, but they are not the math.</p> 	<p>Talk about each other's thinking.</p> 	<p>Errors are gifts that promote discussion.</p> 	<p>Ask questions until ideas make sense.</p> 	<p>Use multiple strategies & multiple representations.</p> 
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You can see [Scope and Sequence Documents](#) for grades K-5 here.

This summer, CPS convened Educator Collaboratives at each grade level, JK - 5, to create materials for starting the year. The Educator Collaboratives were able to build on the work of the San Francisco Unified School District and the CPS math coaches and interventionists to create materials that can be used in both remote and in-person environments. As the Math Department continues to support Educator Collaboratives in thinking about how to make use of the SFUSD materials, we focus on adapting resources and materials that are culturally responsive, engaging, and adaptable to online learning.

We are also launching [STMATH](#) for all K-5 students. STMATH is an online visual reasoning program that is problem based and provides equitable access to learning through challenging puzzles. STMATH builds students' conceptual understanding with proven results.

Please contact us for additional information or to answer any questions.

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