Math Moments Newsletter

Kim and Amber August/September

Inspiration Corner

“To love what you do, and feel that it matters. How could anything else be more fun?”

Kathrine Graham

Title Math Schedule for August/September

Aug 27 – Sept 11: AMC testing K-2 and some 3rd grade with Amber and Kim

Sept 17– Begin Tier 3 math groups

Teacher Connections

Manipulatives are wonderful and necessary tools for math instruction. However, without some guidelines, these quickly turn into toys for students of all ages, and simply taking them away continually defeats the purpose of having them. How do you establish rules regarding using manipulatives at the beginning of the year?

I do not get them all out at once.  I get out the manipulatives as I teach the lesson they go with.  Then I have a chance to go over all rules.  1/2 of one day's lesson may be spent on how to care for and use them. Then I don't have to do it each time when I spend longer at first. - Teresa L.

I also reward students who follow the rules and procedures with a short amount of play time after the lesson. - Marlys Trower

If I ever had, I would take their manipulatives away for that day. They may try again tomorrow to follow the rules and have fun with them. - Nancy Hahn

I always reviewed the lab sheet and instructions first, then we collected the tools, and they were to only use them as intended and not to start using them until the lab session started.  I am sure I will follow these basic instructions with any classroom manipulatives. - Therese Foster

I have them push them to the top of their desk and put their hands in their laps until we are ready to use them. -Lori McKinzie

When using math manipulatives I have students collect materials then I set a timer for one minute. Students can "explore" the manipulatives for that minute. Once the timer sounds they must set the tools down and follow directions. This seems to cut down on problems as it allows students to feed that urge to explore. - Kathryn B.

The procedures have to be in place also about how we hand them out and pick them up.   –Diana

Tech Time (T2)

www.k-5teachingresources.com

 This excellent website is full of great teaching resources for math. You can narrow by topic or grade. There are math and literature connections for each level. There are also a variety of games and activities for every math topic.

6-8 teachers: This is a great place to get intervention materials for those students struggling with a particular topic.

What’s New?

Posted online are various resources for teachers. We have included the materials from our trainings this summer. Also, available are sections with resources for primary, intermediate, and middle level teachers. The resources include games, teacher information, and other math kits. To find these resources. go under the Faculty and Staff header on the district webpage and choose Teacher Websites (this will soon change to Teacher Resources). If you click on the title of an article, you will get to see all the resources under that section.