

GVSD's New Elementary Math Program

All Garnet Valley Elementary students, K to 5, will be studying mathematics this year with the assistance of a newly written curriculum as well as new materials to help deliver that curriculum.

Our curriculum is aligned to the new PA Core Standards for Mathematics. This curriculum includes a shift in some important skills and concepts from one grade to another so that they are now placed in more age and developmentally appropriate years. In addition to concentrating on the content standards for each grade level, a strong emphasis will be placed on the Standards for Mathematical Practices. These practices, developed in conjunction with the NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics), are the same for all grades, K-12 and describe practices and abilities of very good math thinkers.

The major shifts in the primary years have been made so that students in these grades will have time to fully develop a strong understanding of numbers (numeration and place value), master addition and subtraction facts and concepts, and develop the ability to compose and decompose shapes (visualization).

At the intermediate levels, more emphasis will be placed on applying strategies and using properties, understanding relationships between and among shapes as well as an understanding of geometric figures based on their properties, identifying patterns, measuring with precision and purpose, and analyzing and solving problems based on data. Mastery of fractions will be an integral part of the elementary program at these grades.

In all grades, emphasis will be placed on reasoning, problem solving, modeling, decision making, and engagement in mathematics.

After much research and evaluation, Garnet Valley selected math materials from Pearson Publishing Company. Our new program, called *enVision Math*, is fully aligned to the PA Core Standards, and will provide the students with the materials needed to fully engage in mathematics. All units begin with a stimulating topic opener, provide opportunities for interactive learning, as well as sufficient opportunities for differentiation, and meaningful assessments. Students will have a hard copy of the text as well as online access to that resource.

We look forward to teaching with the new curriculum and materials as we all strive to have our students become the best mathematics students that they can be! Feel free to contact Mrs. Susan Iocco, District Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction (610-579-7304) if you are in need of any further information about the new curriculum and materials.