

Ideas for Developing a Mathematics and Numeracy Focus in SD38 Elementary Schools

As elementary schools choose or continue a school goal and plan around mathematics and numeracy, the following are some ideas collated from schools that engaged in this professional work together in the 2024-2025 school year.

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE

Look at school data

What story does your data tell? What are you curious about?

Do an audit of math materials and resources in the school

Do a temperature read (number line, thumbs up/down/middle, emojis, etc) of how staff feels about knowledge around mathematics, numeracy, curriculum, instruction, assessment, etc

Student surveys

Learn38 frameworks and resources

Lunch and Learns

Pro-d Days – school-based (collab with other schools), mini-conferences

Burst videos (district Youtube channel – Numeracy Playlist, linked through Learn38)

Staff meetings: soft start math tasks, share school goal updates, content from Learn38

SD39 K-12 Mathematics Learning Resources List (on Learn38)

Coast Metro Elementary Math Website resources

Recommended text: Making Math Meaningful for Canadian Students by Dr Marian Small

Consult district K-12 Mathematics and Numeracy Professional Learning Map for other learning opportunities

NURTURING COLLABORATION

Join projects such SD38 Inquiry Grants and NOIIE grants to engage in small group inquiries and collaboration

Bridging opportunities – preK to Kindergarten, primary to intermediate, elementary to secondary

Collab times with admin release such as releasing all primary/intermediate teachers to engage in facilitated learning and collaboration (admin take students to gym, multi, etc)

Book clubs (consult district staff or the district's K-12 Mathematics Learning Resources list for recommendations)

Lesson study – teachers designing lessons together and then observing each other teach and refine the lessons

DEVELOPING A SCHOOL CULTURE AROUND MATHEMATICS

Regular cross-grade school teams activities with a math focus (games, tasks and routines, building and creating)

Assemblies – open with a WODB, Number Talk Image, graph or other visual math prompt for students to discuss quietly as they come into gym

Materials – highlight sets of math materials in the staff room each month either from the school math room/cart or DRC and have sign out forms available

Math bulletin boards around the school including interactive ones where students can share their estimates, responses etc (on a chart or with post-it notes)

Julia Robinson Math Festival (new district kit) (more info <https://jrmf.org>)

Math Play Space materials (district kit) – for meet the teacher nights, open houses, conferences (materials to put out on tables for families to explore)

DRC math materials kits, collab with TL

Cohesive language and strategies, including SBT, LRTs

Math visuals in school – strategy posters, vocabulary cards, math art, connections to outdoors