

Dear Parents of Students in Grade 4 Math:

As you know, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has been implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in Curriculum 2.0 in kindergarten through Grade 3. Next year we will implement Curriculum 2.0 in Grades 4 and 5. Plans are already under way to help teachers and students prepare for the more rigorous Curriculum 2.0 mathematics next year. Since students entering Grade 5 next year would be encountering the CCSS for the first time, Grade 4 teachers are receiving professional development, including reviewing the new standards, consulting with teachers in kindergarten through Grade 3, and learning how the new standards are more rigorous and how they differ from the current Grade 4 curriculum.

To prepare students in Grade 4 Math for the new standards and more complex concepts that are part of the Curriculum 2.0 mathematics program, we will implement a transition unit during the fourth marking period. This unit will focus on one of the more challenging aspects of the CCSS, understanding fractions. The current Grade 4 Math in combination with the transition unit will well position students for success in Curriculum 2.0 Math 5.

Topics of study in the transition unit include—

- unit fractions;
- building fractions from unit fraction;
- visual fraction models, number line models, multiplicative reasoning;
- comparison of fraction;
- fraction representations of whole numbers;
- addition and subtraction of fractions;
- line plots (halves, fourths, eighths);
- multiplication of a fraction by a whole number, including word problems; and
- addition, subtraction, & multiplication involving distances, intervals of time, masses of objects.

Since the Curriculum 2.0 transition unit replaces the fourth quarter of Math 4, for those schools continuing to administer the Unit Assessments, the final unit assessment will not be administered. As a result, the end-of-year report for Math 4 will not be available. Student progress in the transition unit will be reported on the fourth marking period report card.

We are excited to begin teaching your child the rigorous CCSS in mathematics this year! Please contact me or your child's teacher if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Principal