

Vision/Mission/Beliefs

Vision

We envision a mathematically rich environment where students are challenged and equipped with math skills and strategies, empowering them to apply mathematics in all aspects of their lives.

Mission

The mathematics program will prepare all students to apply mathematics in an ever-changing world through the use of basic skills, reasoning, problem-solving strategies and technological resources.

Beliefs

The Indian Prairie School District 204 mathematics program creates opportunities for each student to develop his or her own mathematical power to the fullest. The program actively involves students in exploring, investigating, discussing and questioning mathematics.

The Everyday Mathematics curriculum supports the vision, mission, and belief statement of our District. The curriculum is based on spiral levels of understanding from simple explorations to advanced applications of concepts and skills. The program encourages students to explain how they got the answers and looks at multiple strategies for solving problems. Basic skills are learned using a variety of methods. Daily Otter Creek is utilized to help develop math skills automaticity.

This booklet provides a brief overview of the key content and special features of *Everyday Mathematics*. Suggestions are included to help your child understand and enjoy mathematics.

Everyday Mathematics:

1. Is a balanced program emphasizing both concepts and a mastery of basic skills.
2. Is traditional--teachers instruct and students are expected to learn basic facts "by heart."
3. Is pragmatic--discovery is welcomed giving students a sound mathematical foundation, in underlying concepts and in computational as well as other skills.
4. Meets or exceeds ALL of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics standards.
5. Is widely used--Over 1,000,000 students learn with it (more than any other research-based program).
6. Achievement data indicates students do well in computation, geometry, and data analysis/problem solving.
7. Is a full (rigorous) mathematics program exploring far beyond basic arithmetic: that nurtures higher-order and critical-thinking skills, uses everyday, real-world problems and situations and builds and maintains the basic skills.
8. Expects students to master a wide variety of mathematical skills but not the first time they are taught, and encourages students to practice through daily routines and games.
9. Is based on how students learn, what they're interested in, and skills they need for the future.
10. Introduces students to ALL the major mathematical content areas of number sense, algebra, measurement, geometry, data analysis and probability, beginning in kindergarten.