



ONTARIO PUBLIC
SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES IN ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

School Board: Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

Contact Person and Email Address: Pino Buffone – pino.buffone@ocdsb.ca

Name of Program/Initiative/Strategy: Online Math Support

Hyperlinks to Documents or Website(s) Describing this Program/Initiative/Strategy: www.ocdsb.ca

Description of Program/Initiative/Strategy

The focus is on exemplary mathematics practices that excite, engage and increase student confidence and achievement. In the brief description please provide answers to the following questions: Where the program/initiative/strategy is delivered (school/board locations)? Who is responsible for delivering and monitoring the program/initiative/strategy? Who is the target audience? Are there any community partnerships involved? Are there any staffing or budget implications? Are there any special resources required? What are your indicators of success, etc.?

As part of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board's Action Plan for Numeracy, the Numeracy Committee – a working group comprised of educators (classroom teachers, instructional coaches, system principals, superintendent of curriculum) and non-educators (professionals including engineers, software designers, university professors, and parents/guardians) – created an online math support resource for use by students and their parents/guardians at home. The resource is a compilation of free and for-pay math web links, organized by grade groupings (primary/junior/intermediate/senior), to help students build their operational skills and problem-solving knowledge and experiences. The resources may be used with a parent/guardian or independently at home. The web links cover the 'big ideas' in the mathematics curriculum, K-12, and include a variety of videos, demonstrations, games, and exercises for purposeful practice.

What has been the impact on Student Learning?

The online math support was launched in January 2016 through the District's Newsletter and School Council Newsletters. The resource was also shared with teachers and administrators at mathematics professional learning networks. Although early in its launch, the responses to date have been very positive. Students and their parents/guardians have commented on the user-friendly nature of the resource, including the brief introduction to each web link (for consideration prior to selecting the web link), as well as the groupings by grade for ease of access and navigation. Teachers and administrators have also shared that the resource is useful in complementing classroom instruction. The Numeracy Committee will, during the Spring of 2016, work in collaboration with Business & Learning Technologies to track usage over time. The committee will also consider revisions to the resource (additions, deletions, updates, etc.) on an annual basis so that the supports selected are as current and useful as possible.

Members of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association are encouraged to view the online math support at www.ocdsb.ca!