

Leading Education's Advocates

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES IN ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

School Board__Toronto District School Board_____ Contact Person and Email Address______ Name of Program/Initiative/Strategy: Nspire Hyperlinks to Documents or Website(s) Describing this Program/Initiative/Strategy

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.?

Nspire Learning Series:

This five part learning series provides schools with Nspire and Navigator technology along with ongoing learning opportunities to deepen their knowledge and skills to explore how this technology can support the teaching and learning of mathematics. Teachers study mathematics for teaching, integrate and collaborate to embed technology as a tool then try out the new learning through JEPL using co-planning and co-teaching. Nspire is offered centrally. The Math Team constructs, facilitates, monitors this annual, ever growing series and partners with Texas Instruments. OT coverage, resource funds and manpower required are costly. Success indicators begin with the teachers and administrators as co-learners alongside their students. It is the change in mindset, repertoire of strategies, in depth content knowledge, use of teaching and learning tools which leads to learning experiences that excite, engage, increase confidence and achievement of all learners.

What has been the impact on Student Learning?

Technology enhances student achievement in mathematics. They are engaged and exploring meaningful

mathematics, able to continuously make conjectures and test their hypothesis to assess their thinking and understanding. This technology expedites the actions for making connections between and amongst the content being studied and allows the teachers and students to focus on the crucial concepts. Students are risk takers, can communicate their thinking in a supportive math community without fear. They view their teachers a co-learners and students are excited, curious and confident to persevere in their pursuit of learning. Students are recognized as and view themselves as individual learners who bring immense ability and knowledge into the classroom. Technology offers opportunities to adapt and bring the learning into the students' hands and supports the co-construction of knowledge through lived experience learning which deepens understanding.