

**FROM SUPERINTENDENT DR. MIKE MATTHEWS
MATH WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 21, 2015
5:00 P.M.
MBMS MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

As you all know, one of the biggest changes we are making this year is in the area of mathematics. In an attempt to hear from our employees and the public, the Board is holding a workshop on the topic of math next Wednesday evening. I encourage you to attend and participate. Workshops are a different type of board meeting, in that they are less formal and allow for more direct and interactive communication between the public and the Board. Here is the description of the workshop.

The changes in the California Standards for Mathematics are substantial. The California Standards are now twofold: (1) The California Common Core Standards for Mathematical Content, and (2) The Common Core Standards for Mathematical Practice. MBUSD teachers began receiving training on the Standards for Mathematical Practice in the 2014-15 school year, and are making the move to the Standards for Content this year. The District applauds the efforts of our teachers, who are engaged in a year of substantial learning. It is also a year of transition for our parents. The daily mathematics that our students are experiencing are much more focused on problem-solving, and less focused on memorizing and repeating procedures and algorithms. This is a big change.

In the Elementary Math Workshop, District staff will give a short presentation on Elementary Mathematics, including test score data, the process and timeline for adopting new textbooks, and the type of questions that our students are experiencing in math. Following that presentation, workshop participants can learn more and give feedback on how parents can support their students in math, the textbook process, and Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) - one of the central methodologies of teaching math in MBUSD.

The elementary portion of the workshop will be from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. and the secondary portion continues from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room at Manhattan Beach Middle School. Thank you for your consideration.

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