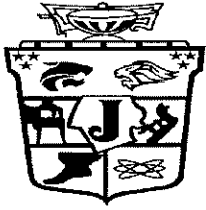


JACKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT



Christa McAuliffe Middle School
35 South Hope Chapel Road
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Dr. Stephen Genco
Superintendent of Schools

Debra Phillips
Principal

October 24, 2016

Dear Parent/ Guardian(s),

Over the past couple of years the mathematics curriculum has transitioned away from rote mathematics to students providing visual models, words and traditional mathematics representations to support their thinking and processing. This type of transition has forced students to think more about why the mathematics is solved in a particular way as opposed to just following a step-by-step procedure. It is important for students to have a multitude of tools to utilize when approaching these unfamiliar problems. They will be learning new strategies throughout the year, which will further bolster their skill set and confidence. We understand that this transition may cause frustration at home because it is new and uncomfortable for us who learned how to solve math problems differently.

We encourage parents/guardian(s) to help their children in the following ways. Encourage your child to use their foldables and/or notes, which contain step by step examples of the current topic they are working on. We encourage students to play "teacher" and to teach their parent/guardian the new method they are learning as parents/guardian(s) may have not seen this strategy before. Additionally, there are some great online resources you and your child can access for assistance. I have listed some grade 6 resources below to help with the challenging unit of fractions and ratios.

For additional practice, please refer to the Big Ideas Math online textbook. The solutions to the odd answers can be found at the end of the text. If your child is struggling with an even question, try the odd question next to it and refer to the back of the book for the solution.

Grade 6: Fractions and Tape diagrams

Visit Math Playground: http://www.mathplayground.com/tb_fractions/thinking_blocks_fractions.html

Grade 6: Ratios and Proportions

http://www.mathplayground.com/tb_ratios/thinking_blocks_ratios.html

Finally, we hope to continue to work collaboratively with you at home so that your child can find continued success at school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ashley Fedun'.

Ashley Fedun
Math Interventionist