TO: Dr. Carol Kelley, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Amy Warke, Chief Academic and Accountability Officer

Dr. Helen Wei, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

RE: District 97 2016 Eureka Math Implementation Update

DATE: October 13, 2016

Type of Report: Informational

Purpose of the Report: The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Education with an update on District 97's implementation of Eureka Math resources to support instruction aligned to the new Illinois Learning Standards in Math, based on the Math Common Core State Standards.

Background:

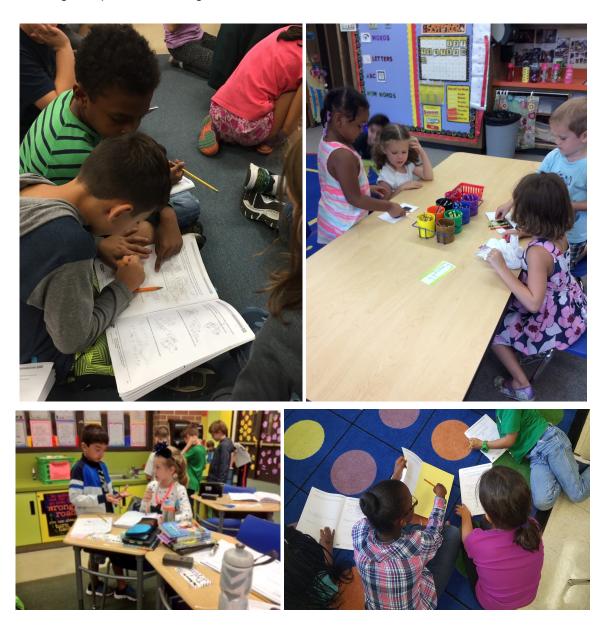
Upon the recommendation of the K-5 Math Curriculum Review Team last spring, following a thorough and structured review process, the Board approved the adoption of Eureka Math in kindergarten through fifth grade on April 12, 2016.

Instructional materials and supplies were purchased over the summer and distributed to all teachers in August. In addition, a full day of professional learning was provided to all K-5 teachers on an August Institute Day. Below is a schedule of full-day professional learning sessions scheduled for teachers over the course of the school year, to continue to support teachers in the implementation.

Institute Day 8-25-16	Session: Focus on Fluency
Institute Day 11-8-16	Session: Preparation and Customization of Eureka Lessons
Institute Day 1-27-17	Session: Understanding the Major Work of the Grade Band

Update:

We are finishing our sixth week of the school year and wanted to provide you with some qualitative evidence that supports the vision of District 97 creating a positive learning environment for all students that is equitable, inclusive and focused on the whole child. The pictures below are a few examples of how students are working in collaborative groups persevering and problem solving.



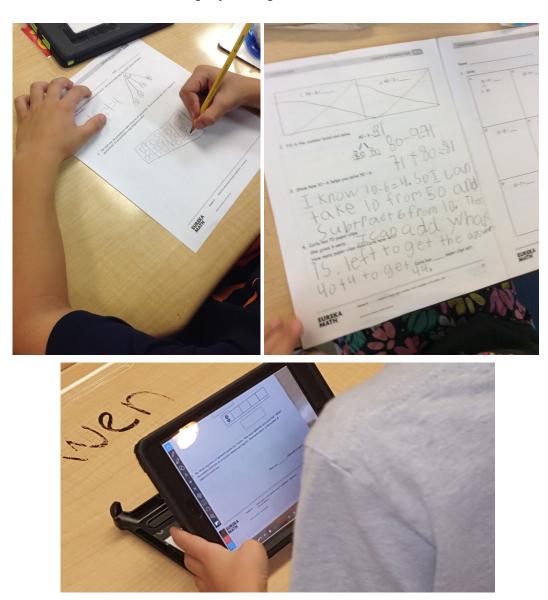
Students have indicated that they are enjoying learning the strategies and rigor of the lessons, and demonstrate how Eureka Math promotes a growth mindset approach to learning. Below are some quotes from students on how they view math instruction:

"Math is a little harder this year. There are different things too. There is more skip counting and tape diagrams. We draw and explain more too."

"I think it is easy. I like the sprints. They are fun. I like the exit tickets at the end. I like that I can see what I get wrong and work on it. I like that Zearn does the same with it. I do Zearn at home."

"I like getting to do the sprints and using number bonds."

"Eureka math is hard but it is making my brain grow."



Our teachers have identified benefits from implementing the Eureka math resources, as well:

"Math is no longer about just finding the right answer because Eureka Math challenges our students to justify their work and make their thinking visible."

"I like how the problems provided to students are from real world examples, making math practical to life experiences."

"I like the philosophy behind Eureka. The manipulation of numbers is great. The exit tickets are also a great way to get and receive immediate feedback."

"It's a rigorous program that makes the kids think. It makes the kids think instead of memorizing tricks."

"I enjoy the application problems provided in Eureka math. They really help to show real world applications."

Next steps:

We will continue to monitor implementation of Eureka Math in our elementary schools, and will be able to provide more data and evidence in the spring.