

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: ENVISION MATH ADOPTION (Kindergarten-Fifth Grade)

Q: What research is currently available to support the effectiveness of this program?

A: In January 2013, the U.S. Department of Education’s What Works Clearinghouse issued a report validating research that Pearson’s enVisionMATH increases student achievement above and beyond other K-6 math programs. WWC showed that Pearson’s enVisionMATH showed “Statistically Significant” gains in Problem Solving, Understanding of Mathematics Concepts and Communications.

To view the What Works Clearinghouse report, go to:

http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/intervention_reports/wwc_envisionmath_011513.pdf

To view the PRES Associates Research Study on enVisionMATH, go to:

<http://www.pearsoned.com/wp-content/uploads/envisionmath-efficacy-report-year-2.pdf>

Hanover Research – enVision as Best Practices in Intervention:

http://www.fhdschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_995699/File/2014-2015/Academics/Best%20Practices%20in%20Math%20Interventions.pdf

Additionally, Francis Howell used internal data during our pilot. This data showed higher gains in classrooms that used enVision Math than in non-pilot classrooms, even when the assessments were aligned to the previous standards.

Q: How is this program different from other programs?

A: The new program may present different vocabulary, have new tools for helping students deepen their understanding of our number system, and is in a different format from our previous program. There may be an adjustment period for students in the beginning. Material is presented to students in a way that is developmental: first at a conceptual level, then moving into a visual model, and finally presenting the abstract after the foundational understanding has been built. Teachers will expect students to do more than just calculate; understanding numbers and being able to reason through problems without giving up is an important part of the program.

Q: How does the program help students with learning gaps due to the new standards?

A: The district is aware that there will be a transition from one set of standards to another. We have identified those areas where teachers may need to spend more time and communicated those to teachers through their pacing guide. All classrooms also received a “Math Diagnostic and Intervention Kit” to use for identifying and re-teaching/supplementing skills and concepts where students need additional support. Additionally, all buildings have established a minimum of 30 minutes each day to support students with learning gaps.

Q: Is this program aligned to Common Core?

A: Common Core Standards are a set of standards, and enVision Math is aligned to the Common Core Standards. The program is a resource for teachers to help them teach the standards that have been adopted by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Q: Which assignments will my child’s teacher give? What assignments will my child’s teacher post on the Realize website?

A: Teacher teams and individual teachers will assign homework and class assignments that fit the needs of their students. There could be some commonalities from classroom to classroom, but one would not expect the same assignments in all classes at all times. Similar to classroom written assignments, those assignments posted online will vary by teacher and building.

Q: Will students have to use only the way presented in the program to solve the problem?

A: Our goal is to have students be flexible in their thinking and to find the way that works best for them. At times, teachers could request students to solve the problem a particular way, so that they learn multiple methods but then choose the one that works best for them. Eventually, we want students to find that method they prefer and use it.

Q: Will students have to explain how they got the answer to their math problems?

A: There will be times when students will be asked to explain their thinking. This encourages students to demonstrate their understanding of concepts and not just the ability to provide correct answers or use formulas. Explaining answers promotes critical thinking and gives teachers a better grasp of your child's level of understanding. There will be a balance of computation, problem-solving, and explaining thinking.

Q: The program seems less teacher-directed and more student-directed. Why is this?

A: The program has a balance of student exploration, teacher-directed activities, group/partner work, and independent learning. Brain research shows that students learn best when they are actively engaged as opposed to listening only.