

FORT ZUMWALT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROGRESS SOUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

201 Knaust Road
St. Peters, Missouri 63376

Honored for "Distinction In Performance" by the State Board of Education

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Dear Progress South Families,

In order to produce improvements in our overall math performance, we are instituting some exciting changes for our students in grades 1-5. These changes are intended to fine-tune instruction, sharpen student test taking skills, and ensure accurate understanding of major math concepts. As we embark on these district changes, it is important that you understand the process we will use.

- As students reach the end of a math chapter, you will be notified and as usual, they will prepare for the test.
- Students will take the test and within 2 school days, that test will be returned to them. There will be no visible grade, but any question that was missed will be highlighted. Using the highlighted test, students will then complete a self-reflection sheet. That sheet will detail, in student-friendly language, the concept tested per question and ask students to mark either *Correct* or *Incorrect*. If *Incorrect*, they will have to independently determine if it was a *simple mistake* or something they do *not understand*.
- A copy of that reflection sheet will come home to you so that you can see both the degree of success and what remains to be conquered. Thank you for patience - the graded test will come your way later.
- Students in need will then receive additional instruction on the concepts missed during WIN time. After this additional instruction and practice, they will be given the opportunity to rework the problem(s) missed and determine the final grade for the test. Those students who have demonstrated understanding will be challenged with enrichment opportunities during WIN. Remember, WIN is our school wide daily intervention time.
- The original test will be given back with a re-take sheet just for those problems missed. Student final scores as entered into the gradebook will reflect this re-take opportunity.
- Finally, the post-test and any retake work will be sent home to you.

This change of practice stems from our desire to create growth mindsets regarding math. Student self-reflection should produce productive struggle and increased attention to detail. Based upon our MAP results in math, only 66% of PSE students grades 3-5 demonstrate proficient or advanced skills. In contrast, 78% of the same students are proficient or advanced in English Language Arts. Our goal is that all students will perform proficient or advanced!

Sincerely,

Deb Yerkes

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