



## **WEST DE PERE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

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August 15, 2023

Dear Families,

We are excited to announce that West De Pere has adopted the Illustrative Math curriculum for grades K-6. A group of teachers and administrators have spent the last year researching math curriculums. This team of teachers and administrators visited numerous schools to observe and talk with teachers and students who are using Illustrative Math. The excitement teachers and students had for math because of Illustrative Math was off the charts!

Illustrative Math uses a problem-based curriculum that makes math engaging, rigorous, and available to all students. Students will spend most of their time in math class working on carefully crafted and sequenced problems. Teachers will help students understand the problems, ask questions to extend student thinking, and orchestrate discussions to be sure that the mathematical concepts are clear. Students will frequently collaborate with their classmates, gaining experience communicating their ideas both verbally and in writing, developing skills that will serve them well throughout their lives.

Why did we make this change? Wisconsin's new standards for mathematics were not present in our former math resource. Illustrative Math aligns well with Wisconsin's new standards. We are confident Illustrative Math, with its balanced approach, will help our students build mathematical identities, be flexible users of math, and make connections between mathematical concepts. Most importantly, gone are the days when students say "I'm not good at math." Illustrative Math shows all students that they are, indeed, good at math.

If you have any questions about this new curricular resource, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher, a school administrator, or me.

Thank you,

Amy LaPierre, Director of Curriculum

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