

Core Beliefs about Teaching Mathematics

Pleasant View Elementary 2017

At Pleasant View Elementary, we believe...

- All students are mathematicians.
- Learning mathematics should focus on developing conceptual understanding through mathematical processes, hands-on problem solving, reasoning, and discourse.
- All students need a range of strategies to choose from when solving problems.
- Students learn mathematics through exploring and solving contextual and mathematical problems in a collaborative environment.
- The role of the teacher is to engage students in meaningful mathematical tasks that promote thinking and reasoning.
- The role of the student is to make sense of mathematics using multiple strategies and representations, justifying solutions, making connections between prior knowledge and experiences, and considering the reasoning of others.
- Students should be provided appropriate challenges, encouraged to persevere when solving problems, and supported in the productive struggle while learning mathematics.
- A wide variety of assessment opportunities and formats are used to determine student knowledge and growth.
- Mathematics should be noticed and noted in everyday situations.

Our beliefs are based on the research of *Everyday Mathematics* and The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.