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**Press Release**

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**New K-6 Mathematics Program for the Linden School Students**

The Linden Public Schools has adopted a new mathematics program for all grades from Kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The new program entitled GO MATH from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, was selected because it best aligned with the New Jersey Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

The State of New Jersey, along with most other states in the United States, has adopted the new Common Core Standards for Mathematics. In response, the Mathematics Department of the Linden School District began an intensive search last October for a program that would align with the new common core standards. The search committee comprised sixteen teachers and mathematics specialists represented all grade and ability levels.

The new program will be an easy transition for the children and will also provide an opportunity for parents to be actively involved in their children's mathematics study using online support materials at home paired with the classroom materials. GO MATH is written to target each standard while emphasizing depth of learning; utilizing the traditional methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; and offering multiple strategies for all levels of students. Each section has a key question pinpointing the critical areas of study and a section specifically aimed at NJAS- type questions.

The new standards require children to write and strategize more, which are skills built into the GO MATH program. Each lesson provides activities for all level of learners from "go ahead" accelerating activities for enrichment to extra support and activities to reinforce understanding. The district's teachers have expressed excitement in using the new program. Training began last June as they received their new materials to work with over the summer. As school begins in September, the district plans to continue the professional development needed to support the complete implementation of the program.

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