

## D.148 students to get new math curriculum



SEPTEMBER 04, 2013 12:00 AM • [FOR THE TIMES](#)

Dolton West Elementary District 148 students this year will learn how to better understand mathematics and will discover new ways to solve math problems.

At its Aug. 22 meeting, the School Board approved the purchase of the Math In Focus Online Program for students in kindergarten through eighth grade, district wide. The program is the U.S. version of Singapore's popular and proven math curriculum commonly referred to as Singapore math.

Singapore math devotes more time to fewer topics and focuses on the mastery of math concepts through detailed instruction, questions, and a variety of problem solving techniques which help students visualize and understand the math problem. Supporters say

the approach is an effective way to address children's different learning styles.

Franklin Elementary School teachers Connie Cullen and Marilyn Hirsch were on hand to demonstrate Singapore math during the board meeting.

Cullen and Hirsch were co-teachers during a trial of the program at Franklin School last year. They said all of their students made gains after using Singapore math.

This past summer, both educators led a workshop on Singapore math for their District 148 teacher colleagues. Teachers came away from the training excited and enthusiastic about incorporating the program in their classrooms.