

# **Milltown Public Schools Mathematics Program Grades 1, 2, 3**

## **Mathematics Program 2019-2020**

### **Explaining What We Are Doing**

As we did last year, our mathematics program this year is based on the New Jersey Mathematics Standards. We will also be using the EnVisions text. This part of the program, the standards and the text are the same as last year.

The difference this year is the order in which the topics are studied. The order is based on three ideas.

First we begin the year with graphing since it is a topic that the children can work with and understand. It is also a topic that can be used throughout the year in mathematics as well as in other subjects including science and social studies.

Secondly, we have adjusted the order to insure that students do not study a topic for too long. Instead the curriculum has the children studying parts of a topic at certain times throughout the year with the level raised each time. This to avoid what you might call cognitive overload, that is giving the children too much to learn at one time. However, the part of the topic that is addressed will be studied to mastery. So when the topic is revisited, the children will know the base that has been set. For example, in studying basic facts, we do not study all the facts at the same time. The number of facts studied at one time is smaller allowing all the children to master them before moving on to more facts later.

A third idea is that we know we should not teach similar mathematics at the same time. This causes confusion with children having them mistakenly applying rules for one skill to another. For this reason, similar topics such as addition and subtraction are taught separately in the beginning. Once the children understand each topic, we then can relate them. But not before they understand both separately.

So in summary, the grade level standards will be studied using the district adopted text using a different order than given in the text. In this, our curriculum is a Milltown Mathematics Curriculum no matter what support materials are used.