



Tacoma Public Schools
Philosophy of Mathematics Teaching and Learning

Tacoma Public Schools is committed to the vision of mathematics teaching and learning outlined in the Washington State Essential Academic Learning Requirements and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics *Principles and Standards for School Mathematics*.

Our mathematics program must engage every student who enters our classrooms in meaningful mathematics experiences. It requires instructional decisions to be made based on standards, research, and assessment evidence of student learning. The program must provide and maintain high quality mathematics instructional materials and tools for students who have a wide variety of learning styles and special needs. Learning activities must be planned and facilitated by highly qualified teachers utilizing a rich variety of instructional methods. Teachers must be supported through initial and ongoing professional development as they make the transition to, and maintain the effectiveness of, a research and standards-based instructional program designed to improve student achievement in math.