

Mid-Point Math Check-ups 2009/10

Mid-point check-ups have been developed by teams of teachers from across the school division to assess **basic facts, computation and problem solving skills** at each grade level (one to nine) at the mid-point of the school year.

Purpose:

The purpose of a division-wide mid-point check-up is to provide teachers with a **teacher-made** common assessment that can be discussed at the school level between grades and within PLC teams that have a math focus. These check-ups will provide a snapshot of where students are at the half-way point in the year in the three areas mentioned above. The professional discussion about the results and the sharing of successes and concerns are the key elements to the check-up.

Assessing these basic skills mid-way through the year allows time for re-emphasizing skills that are lacking and will give teachers opportunities to discuss with colleagues strategies for re-teaching and for effective opportunities for drill and practice.

Division-wide results will **not** be compiled. The results of these check-ups are for the teachers who are administering them. They will hopefully provide a common tool to generate discussion and professional dialogue around planning for the remainder of the school year. These check-ups should be administered in January. Principals will be asked to report the wider findings of the results as part of their annual Learning Improvement Plan. There is an attached document which teachers may find useful to lead discussion at the school level or within PLC groups.

The check-up is divided into three components: basic facts, computation and problem solving skills. As part of the assessment, teachers will engage in an interview portion of the assessment with each student. These check-ups will likely take 2 sittings. No time limit has been placed on the time students are allowed to take to complete the assessment. Some questions may be seen as a “post-test” assessment, while other questions may represent a “pre-test” for skills to be taught in the 2nd half of the year.

Note that all of the **interview questions** do not have to be done by all of the students. Teachers may choose how many students do each interview question.

Questions about the assessment can be directed towards Brian, Ron or any of the math catalyst teachers.

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