

Fifth grade teachers target math supports

In an effort to address the individual math needs of fifth graders, teachers at John Wetten Elementary have created a new 30-minute support program that groups children by the specific skills they need to work on.

The Walk to Math support program is based on student performance data from chapter tests, math facts quizzes, computer-based assessments, and student participation in math discussions.

Students are grouped by their needs and abilities, mixing students from six homerooms into six leveled groups. Teachers provide targeted instruction, hands-on games, number talk conversations to improve logical reasoning and number sense, and collaborative, real-life problem solving.

“One student may need to strengthen their understanding of decimal place value, whereas another student may have mastered that concept and is ready to move forward with a more complex skill,” explained teacher Cathy Mitchell. “Walk to Math groups are flexible, as our team of teachers meets regularly to examine new test data and revise math groupings as needed.”

“The program has been a hit with students, who appreciate the opportunity to work with different teachers and peers,” she added. “As teachers, we are excited that we have been able to put this program in place at no added cost to prepare students for the rigors of middle school and beyond.”

PHOTO: Fifth grader Jackie Chairez-Robledo uses math games and other strategies to practice new math skills during support sessions targeted to individual skill needs.

.....
Gladstone High holds college application week

To support students through the college application process and help them meet deadlines, Gladstone High School held a college application week.

“This was a big success, with our College and Career Center presenting 18 informational sessions,” said counselor Alison Howell. “Sixty nine students participated this year.”

During the weeklong event, nine seniors were accepted to the Oregon Institute of Technology, seven were accepted at Portland State University, and two were accepted at Warner Pacific University. In addition, 22 seniors completed their OSAC college scholarship applications and 12 started or submitted their Oregon Promise applications.

PHOTO: Juniors Josie Landrus, Jami Anderson and Aaliya Asad meet with a college recruiter from the University of Oregon, one of many such opportunities provided throughout the school year by Gladstone High’s College and Career Center.