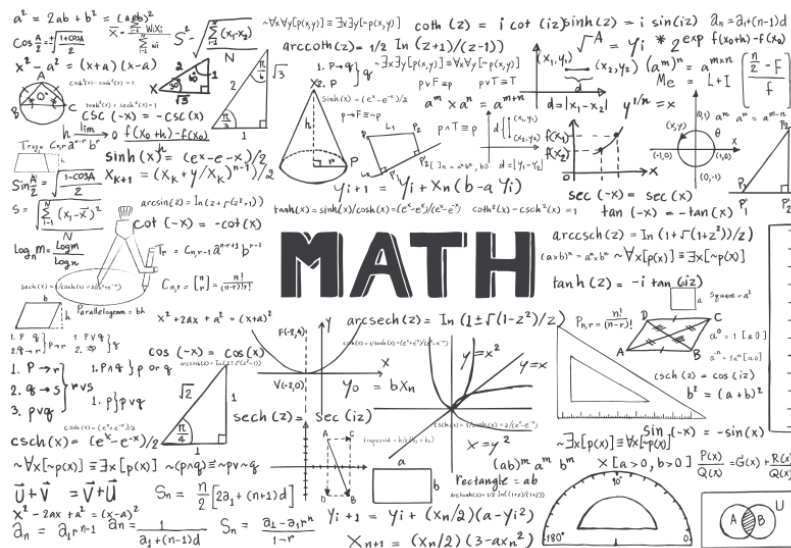


PS 205's Vision for Mathematics

At PS 205, we believe every student has the potential to excel in mathematics. Our vision is to create a dynamic, fun, engaging, and inclusive learning environment where all students—ranging from Pre-K through 5th grade—are inspired to explore, understand, and appreciate the beauty of mathematics. We are committed to nurturing a growth mindset, where every student feels empowered to engage with mathematical concepts, understanding that challenges and productive struggle are a natural part of the learning process, not signs of failure.

At PS 205, we aim to instill a lasting love for mathematics by fostering curiosity, problem-solving, and creativity. Through rich mathematical discourse, we encourage students to share their thinking, ask questions, and solve problems collectively with their peers. We aim to ensure that every student has the time, support, and opportunity to thrive, building confidence and success in their mathematical journey. Together, we will cultivate a collaborative mathematical community where all students feel capable, confident, and excited about learning.



Our Mathematical Vision includes:

- **Time to Struggle:** We value the process of learning and understand that time to grapple with challenging concepts is essential. Struggling with a problem is an important part of deepening understanding, and we embrace this process as part of the journey toward success.
- **Collaboration and Communication:** Students are encouraged to work together, discuss, debate, and problem-solve as a team. We create opportunities for students to share their thinking, explain their answers, and listen to their peers' strategies. We believe that learning to communicate mathematical ideas clearly and effectively is a critical skill.
- **Manipulatives and Hands-On Learning:** We use a variety of manipulatives to make abstract mathematical concepts more tangible and accessible. Whether it's using blocks, number lines, or digital tools, our students engage with math in interactive, meaningful ways.
- **Learning Through Math Play:** Play is a natural and powerful way for students to engage with mathematical concepts. We incorporate math play in the classroom to foster curiosity and creativity, allowing students to explore mathematical ideas in fun and flexible ways.
- **Low Floor, High Ceiling Tasks:** We provide tasks that offer low entry points, allowing all students to access the problem at their level, while also offering high ceilings, encouraging deeper thinking and challenge for those ready to extend their learning. This ensures every student can participate and grow at their own pace.
- **Flexibility and Access to Supports:** We ensure that all students have the support they need to succeed. This includes differentiated instruction, flexible grouping, and access to additional supports for those who need them. We embrace diverse learning styles and recognize that each child's path to understanding may look different.
- **Strong Routines and Protocols:** Consistent routines and protocols provide a strong foundation for learning. Students are guided by clear expectations for problem-solving, discussion, and sharing ideas, which helps create a safe, organized environment where learning can flourish.
- **Equity of Student Voice:** Every student's voice matters in our classroom. We prioritize creating an environment where all students, regardless of background or ability, have the opportunity to share their ideas, ask questions, and contribute to the collective learning experience.
- **Sufficient Time and Flexible Entry Points:** We believe that all students should have sufficient time to engage with mathematical problems and to participate in the learning process at their own pace. We also offer flexible entry points, allowing all students to access the content in ways that suit their individual needs and strengths.
- **Failure Is Part of Learning:** In our classroom, not knowing the answer right away is NOT failure. We see mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow. We encourage a mindset where students feel comfortable taking risks, making mistakes, and learning from them.
- **Debate and Disagreement is OK:** We believe in the power of debate and respectful disagreement. Disagreeing with a solution or approach is a healthy part of the learning process. Through respectful debate, students can explore multiple perspectives, refine their thinking, and strengthen their understanding.

- **Connections to the Real World:** Mathematics is not an abstract subject; it's deeply connected to the world around us. We strive to make connections between the math students are learning and real-life situations. Students see how math helps solve problems, make decisions, and understand the world they live in.