

October 2, 2018

Dear Carlos Gilbert Families,

I would like to start off by introducing myself to you. The students know me as Mrs. Padilla. I am the Math Strategist as well as one of the technology educators for Carlos Gilbert. The last two years I taught Eureka Math to 6th graders and now I have the pleasure of teaching all grade levels using Eureka Math and other resources as well as assist students, teachers, and parents through this transition.

I hope you have all been doing well transitioning into Eureka Math, the rigorous math curriculum we are using this year. It has been brought to my attention that parents have struggled with helping their children with homework because they are unsure of how the lesson was taught or what is expected since most of us were taught math differently. We would like to share a couple of things with you, so that you have a better understanding of how the lessons and homework are structured as well as show you where to find free parent help.

First of all, this curriculum allows the students to explore endless ways to model and solve problems. We encourage students and parents to teach each other the different ways they have learned to solve problems so that through their lives they will enjoy a good challenge and endure with confidence. Having the knowledge of many methods will allow them to explore which are the most efficient for them personally or when working collaboratively. We encourage parents to setup ONE ACCOUNT PER CHILD at greatminds.org/store/signup ([click here for link to instructions](#)) to view Online Homework Helpers, Parent Tips, Grade Roadmap, and Parent Handbook for Eureka Math. For additional help with how lessons were taught in class please go to <https://embarc.online/> to watch short videos.

Secondly, the lessons are structured to differentiate within the lesson. What I mean by this is that each lesson or homework is designed with below-level, on-level, and beyond-level problems so that all students may learn together. As the year goes on this will help you to gauge how your child is doing in math. If they constantly struggle with most of the problems, there is a concern. If they understand most of the problems but struggle with a couple, they are meeting grade level standards. If they are doing well with all of the problems, then they are showing an advanced understanding of the standards they are learning.

Through Eureka Math our students are gaining a deeper understanding of the math standards that we teach in New Mexico. This change may seem difficult now at the beginning due to the higher level of rigor in the lessons and possible gaps that we need to work together to fill in. Please let us know if you have questions. We'd be glad to help.

Sincerely,

Daisy Padilla
Carlos Gilbert's Math Strategist & Technology Educator