



Howell Township Public Schools

PROUD OF OUR SCHOOLS CONCERNED FOR OUR

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Standards, as expressed by the State of New Jersey and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, stresses communication. This is a child's ability to "organize, consolidate and communicate their mathematical thinking clearly to peers, teachers, and others." This Standard challenges our children to think and reason about mathematics, expressing the results of their thinking orally and in writing. This offers opportunities for our children to exchange and reflect on ideas. It also serves as an assessment for the classroom teacher to evaluate and correct student errors.

In an effort to reinforce this Standard, we are requiring that students demonstrate their understanding and mastery of mathematics by explaining and showing their work on tests, quizzes and homework assignments. Each child will be expected to present and explain the strategy he or she used to solve a problem. Explanations should include mathematical arguments and rationales, not just procedural descriptions or summaries.

Since the success of your child will be based on the partnership formed between the home and the school, we anticipate your support and assistance in this initiative. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Thomas Feaster
Principal, Howell Middle School South*

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this letter to your child's mathematics teacher.

Student Name _____ Teacher _____

I have read the above letter and will reinforce these guidelines with my child.

Parent/Guardian Signature