MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Teach. Learn. Lead.

NUMBER TALKS...
CHANGING THE CULTURE OF MATH

WMC Annual Conference: May 7, 2015
MPS Math Coaches:
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Teach. Learn. Lead.
Learning Goals:

• Understand the research behind Number Talks as an effective strategy to improve number sense and mental computation.

• Understand how to start using Number Talks in a classroom.
LET’S LEARN
• For the following statements, show a thumbs up/down to indicate your agreement or disagreement.

• Be prepared to justify your thinking.
Low achievers are often low achievers, because they know less mathematics (Boaler 2015).
Students who memorize more easily are higher achieving, have more "math ability", and higher IQ scores (Boaler 2015).
Math anxiety makes students unable to access math facts they have memorized (Boaler 2015).
Mathematicians are quick at their work and value speed (Boaler 2015).
The best way to develop fluency is to memorize math facts (Boaler 2015).
Number Talks – How to

• Read the starred section of your Parrish article, “Number Talks Build Numerical Reasoning.”
• Be prepared to share out teacher moves and student moves.
What are some teacher and student behaviors that are evident in a Number Talk?
“I’ve got a total”

The Same

“I had the same total.”
“I had the same thinking.”
“I used the same strategy.”
500 – 249 = 
525 – 249 = 
1000 – 499 = 
1000 – 671 =
YOUR TURN
• Form a group of 4-5 with the people nearby.
• Each person should take a turn leading the group through one of the expressions on your clipboard.
What are some teacher and student behaviors that are evident in a Number Talk?

As a facilitator, which of the behaviors/actions we have listed felt different than typical instruction?
“...The power in the Number Talks comes from inspiring each child to think and make sense of the mathematics they are presented. They are never trying to figure out what the teacher wants. Rather they are totally engaged in their own sense making process.”

Kathy Richardson
Learning Goals:

• Understand the research behind Number Talks as an effective strategy to improve number sense and mental computation.

• Understand how to start using Number Talks in a classroom.
RESOURCES

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

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