

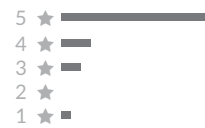
# Q2 MATH

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board  
Building Brighter Futures Together @OCDSB

## Q2 What are some ways that the OCDSB could improve how we support learning and well-being?

**Make kids learn their times tables!** If they can't do their times tables quickly in their heads, they will never be able to progress in math because they will waste precious brain energy.

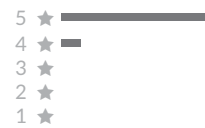
4.2 ★★★★★ (20)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

**Improve math curriculum and delivery.** Improve the perception of math in students eyes. Gain enthusiasm to gain understanding.

4.2 ★★★★★ (8)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

**More help in science and math** Hard subjects - many struggling students. Ontario's math program is terrible, perhaps a boardwide attempt at reform could help OCDSB students

4.1 ★★★★★ (25)



*Students Grades 9 to 12*

**Look at math curriculum to see where improvements can be made**

4.1 ★★★★★ (21)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

**Improve our math education** By itself, the math is important and our current math education fails.

4.1 ★★★★★ (20)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

**Introduce back mental math practice sheets, multiplication table memorization** Agreed that memorization may not be the best tool for all, but basics must be memorized to be applied quickly

4.1 ★★★★★ (17)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

**Need to improve how Maths is taught in schools, particularly at the elementary level** OCDSB students have not been faring well when it comes to understanding and applying mathematical concepts.

4.1 ★★★★★ (13)



*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

**In math, an equal mix of rote learning and critical thinking** Students cannot creatively problem solve without a complete toolbox (like times tables)

4.0 ★★★★★ (23)



*Elementary Staff*

**Better Math Curriculum** Math and science for 6-8 is poor and needs to be improved.

4.0 ★★★★★ (19)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

**Combine traditional and modern math . Do not eliminate traditional methods completely.** Kids are getting dumb because of this new approach to Math where more focus is on fun rather than hard work

4.0 ★★★★★ (12)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

**Teach basic Math!** Basic addition and multiplication tables need to be taught.

4.0 ★★★★★ (9)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

**Insist on improving the teaching of math and return to the traditional methods of teaching, away from discovery math.** Kids in schools are doing poorly in math and the discovery math often makes little sense, with little practical application.

3.9 ★★★★★ (28)



*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

**If the board and provincial government are concerned about falling math skills, they need to look at the 2 wasted years spent in kinder!**  
S

*Elementary Staff*

3.9 ★★★★★ (27)



**Focus on math basics.** To many complex concepts are being used to teach basic math. Teach basic arithmetic and then apply to real world problems, not the other way around!

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.9 ★★★★★ (25)



**My kid is having trouble with basic math skills such as remembering multiplication. There is not enough repetition required in school.** Basic math skills are essential to have a well educated society.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.9 ★★★★★ (24)



**Re-consider how math is taught. Eliminate the spiral method. Provide more instruction, less discovery.**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.9 ★★★★★ (24)



**Back to basics math before they get to word problems/problem-based learning** We've had to hire tutors for our kids as they aren't getting the explanations from teachers they need to understand basic concepts (fractions; algebra

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.9 ★★★★★ (22)



**Focus on the importance of mindset in mathematics** Encouraging students and feeding their self confidence has a huge impact on student success

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.9 ★★★★★ (22)



**OCDSB (and Canada as a whole) needs to beef up its curriculum and pedagogy in mathematics.** The recent media report on how postsecondary students are failing or just passing numeracy and literacy skills tests is a wake-up call.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.9 ★★★★★ (20)



**Have more resources for Math, and improve the Math curriculum.**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.9 ★★★★★ (19)



**go back to teaching math fundamentals you can't do advanced math without memorizing the basic time tables**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.9 ★★★★★ (19)



**Get people who like and know math to teach math** There is no substitute for a math-lover and math-understander at the head of the class -- and please stop using videos to teach math to my children

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.9 ★★★★★ (18)



**Return to emphasizing more basic math skills.**

Kids need to master basic math skills like multiplication tables in order to support learning of more complex math later.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.9 ★★★★★ (18)



**Teach arithmetic, everyone needs it, not conceptual math at the lower grades** You can't learn math without a foundation in arithmetic, they're not the same. Arithmetic shortcuts can't be taught, each person develops their own

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

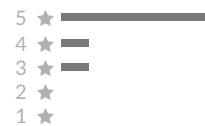
3.9 ★★★★★ (18)



**Improve math education** Math is a basic skill and can help kids be more logic

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.9 ★★★★★ (7)



**Math instruction needs to be reviewed and improved, with a renewed focus on traditional math drills.**

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.8 ★★★★★ (28)



**The "new" methods of learning math and the alternative ideas often confuse students more than they help.** Some students try to do both methods at once or don't understand one and then get confused. This means that often they don't help at all.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

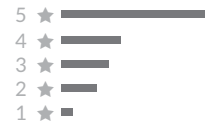
3.8 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



**focus on the fundamentals, I have been working on basic math with my 8 year old and was surprised by what she didn't know.** core mathematical skills are necessary for everything.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

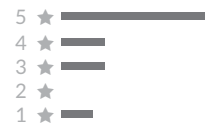
3.8 ★★★★★ (25 👤)



**Teach basic math.** Every day we have to reteach math because the don't get the basic concepts at school (three kids, different elementary grades)

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

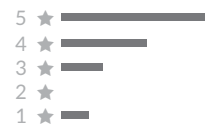
3.8 ★★★★★ (24 👤)



**Focus on math skills** Huge gaps in skills are seen by professors when our kids are reaching college and university. Focus on the fundamentals!

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.8 ★★★★★ (21 👤)



**Go back to traditional reading and math teaching.** Kids with learning challenges learn better with phonetics and traditional math approaches. This new approach disadvantage special needs kids and parents who can't afford it have to pay for tutoring the traditional way for kids to learn!!!

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.8 ★★★★★ (19 👤)



**Move away from "whole math" and return to the tried and true model where you teach kids the steps.** Math success rates tell the whole story here. The Boards and the province are failing our kids in math.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.8 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



**I teach math at the university. It is great to emphasize understanding but it shouldn't be seen as an alternative to rote memorization/repetition.** Students who do not have the basics down to the point where they do not need to think about them, will constantly struggle with the more advanced math

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.8  (16 )



**Math program needs a re-evaluation - back to basics** "New math" offers students alternative ways to solve problems and forces them to learn all. Totally confusing for the kids. Back to basics, please.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

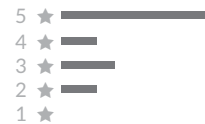
3.8  (16 )



**Students should have full year math in grade 9, supported by proper text books and work books**

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.8  (15 )



**The spiral math method is not a favourite of many of my children's friends. Learning by text book instead of photocopied sheets gives them power.** Having a text book they can look at the answers in the back or go back a chapter and review on their own time, or move forward if they wish.

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2*

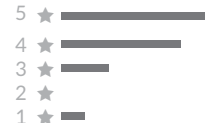
3.8  (15 )



**Teach us the fundamental basics during elementary school, not the same skill over and over. The grade 9 + 10 skills should be taught in elementary.** Elementary school was just a repeat (i.e same skills in math from Gr.1 - Gr.8) and then high school comes and feels like a beating to the face.

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.8  (14 )



**Teach math in a better manner. My child comes home having memorized how to do some sums like divide by ten. She is not being taught any basic concept** Basic concepts are the building blocks of any future studies. If she can't understand why we do something, she will never be able to learn higher math

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.8 ★★★★★ (12)



**Provide early intervention for all students identified with lagging skills in literacy, math and emotional regulation.** Otherwise, its impact on manpower is substantial in future years.

*Elementary Staff*

3.8 ★★★★★ (9)



**Go back to fundamentals in Math and NOT shy away from some traditional teaching methods.** It is abundantly clear that discovery math and enquiry-based learning can only be PART of our programming. Kids should be able to multiply by grade 6

*Elementary Staff*

3.7 ★★★★★ (22)



**Improve Grade 1 to Grade 8 Math Curriculum** It is important to prepare student to have a solid foundation for high school academic math program.

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.7 ★★★★★ (21)



**Updated math books and work books are required.**

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.7 ★★★★★ (20)



**Math program must be improved, teaching methods and curriculum seem too basic and out of touch as does the assessment of the students level** Math is critical to any STEM pursuits academically or professionally

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.7 ★★★★★ (19)



**More math practice please** Kids are not getting enough math work

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.7 ★★★★★ (18)



**If teachers want parents engaged, we need to know what is being taught and how it's being taught** New math techniques that were never taught in my day leave me struggling to help my children

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 4*

3.7 ★★★★★ (17)



**Refocus on math and use PROVEN TECHNIQUES in teaching math.** Feels like kids have lived through a giant experiment where new methods and strategies are always being taught, without basic numeracy as foundation

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.7 ★★★★★ (17)



**You need to help this cohort catch up after the poor math instruction they received in earlier years.** They are academically challenged from being taught the basics of math so poorly.

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 2*

3.7 ★★★★★ (16)



**Math enthusiasts in elementary school to ensure positive approach to math. Suspect many primary teachers are not math fans and attitude shows. Teach** Teachers must understand math to be able to teach it in different ways to all students. See math in non-math subjects, art, music, spatial sense, etc

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 3*

3.7 ★★★★★ (14)



**Math instruction needs improvement. You need your best teachers, trained in math to teach the curriculum.**

*Secondary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.7 ★★★★★ (12)





**Students are still underperforming in math.** It is important that there is a sustained focus on learning and understanding numbers. My child's teachers clearly need a lot of support in this.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.6 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**Better math classes** Simple linear problem solving has never been that big a priority, I think more creative math problems should be introduced sooner

*Students Grades 9 to 12*

3.6 ★★★★★ (13 👤)



**Teach multiplication tables! I should not have to be trying to teach them to my children.** They cannot do division or mental math without knowing these basic math facts. They lack a solid foundation for moving forward in math.

*Elementary Parents and Guardians - 1*

3.6 ★★★★★ (13 👤)

