

## What Your Colleagues Are Saying . . .

---

If you have anything to do with transforming mathematics teaching and learning at your school, then stop everything right now and read this book. Karp, Dougherty, and Bush's *The Math Pact* strategically navigates the complex topic of creating and cultivating cohesive mathematics instruction by introducing readers to their Mathematics Whole School Agreement and specific elements that ensure school-wide success. Building on the authors' renowned *Rules That Expire* work, this book takes readers through the essential components of best practices of mathematics teaching. This should be a required read for any mathematics leadership program.

**Hilary Kreisberg**

Director

Center for Mathematics Achievement

Lesley University

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Just for a moment, imagine the positive and impenetrable mathematics energetic forcefield that could be created in a school if every teacher strategically and collaboratively decided upon agreements around mathematics vocabulary, notations, representations, and the overarching philosophy about how mathematics should be taught? Guess what! You do not have to imagine! No more reteaching, revising previously taught material, and explaining that “Well, in my classroom, we do it, say it, notate it this way.” Because let's face it, those messages confuse students and families and can frustrate teachers. Grab this book, gather your colleagues, and get started in creating a unified and comprehensive whole school agreement that will positively enrich your students' mathematics learning experiences!

**Beth Kobett**

Professor

School of Education

Stevenson University

Board of Directors

National Council of the Teachers of Mathematics

As a fan of the “Rules That Expire” and “Whole School Agreement” articles, I consider this resource a welcome addition to my professional library! In this practical, easy-to-follow book, the authors provide educators with an extremely thorough and useful “go to guide” on establishing a Mathematics Whole School Agreement (MWSA). For those not familiar with the NCTM articles that initiated the movement, this resource defines what an MWSA is and why each school should establish one. More important, educators learn how to

create and implement an MWSA, and the role each school and district stakeholder plays in implementation. This user-friendly resource provides teachers, teacher leaders, parents, and administrators with a comprehensive blueprint that includes research-informed practices, vignettes, grade-specific examples, and tools to encourage reflection.

**Latrenda Knighten**

Elementary Mathematics Instructional Coach  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

*The Math Pact* is a critical guide that takes stakeholders on a journey to create a Mathematics Whole School Agreement (MWSA). This journey begins with a look inward at mathematics instruction in their schools and then moves onward to compare their practices to best practices. Stakeholders arrive at their MWSA when they can ensure a unity of message that promotes coherent and effective instruction within their school and even across their district.

**Juli K. Dixon**

Professor, Mathematics Education  
School of Teacher Education  
College of Community Innovation and Education  
University of Central Florida

*The Math Pact* is an essential resource for educators looking to develop and support a coherent schoolwide approach to the teaching and learning of mathematics. The authors provide clear guidelines with examples and references to numerous resources that will support you and your colleagues as you develop a shared vision for you and your students in mathematics education.

**Mike Flynn**

Director, Mathematics Leadership Programs  
Mount Holyoke College  
South Hadley, Massachusetts

This book brilliantly connects research-informed practices to empower stakeholders in engaging students in meaningful mathematics through a vertically articulated Mathematics Whole School Agreement! Building on the impact of the *Rules That Expire* series, the authors lay out an easy to implement approach to share, connect, and represent mathematical ideas across classrooms to intentionally and explicitly bring about change prior, during, and after instruction.

**Farshid Safi**

Mathematics Education  
School of Teacher Education  
University of Central Florida

*The Math Pact* will surely be hailed a seminal work in the field for years to come! The authors outline a crystal-clear, research-supported case for a unified approach to mathematics instruction. The embedded reflection opportunities and suggested parent communications make a Mathematics Whole School Agreement possible for everyone.

**Delise Andrews**

3–5 Mathematics Coordinator  
Lincoln Public Schools  
Lincoln, Nebraska

Maya Angelou said, “Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better.” *The Math Pact* is a practical guide that supports us in collectively taking responsibility for helping each and every one of our students to become problem solvers, critical thinkers, and capable and confident doers of mathematics. The detailed vignettes and suggestions are vivid guideposts for a journey of self-reflection and collective decision making with colleagues about really critical components of mathematics instruction. It will leave you both “knowing better” and collectively “doing better” for your students. No matter your level of experience, there is something new to learn here! I think it would work beautifully with pre-service teachers, new teachers, and veteran teachers. I even picked up some new things on my read that I hadn’t really thought about in my nearly 30 years in the classroom.

**Shawn Towle**

Mathematics Teacher  
Falmouth Middle School  
Past President  
Association of Teachers of Mathematics in Maine

Wow! *The Math Pact* will lead the movement to help educators and students overcome the idea that math is a mysterious set of “tricks and shortcuts.” The Mathematics Whole School Agreement process provides the steps, language, representations, and knowledge to build, implement, and sustain equitable learning outcomes for all students! The power to make change is in our collective hands and hearts! This book needs to be in the hands of all teachers, district leaders, and stakeholders.

**Cathery Yeh**

Assistant Professor  
Attallah College of Educational Studies  
Chapman University

This is a long-awaited publication that will help preservice teachers, educators, and administrators of all levels and curriculum coordinators abolish the use of tricks and magic in mathematics instruction. For years we have inadvertently led students down a dead-end street in their math instruction by teaching them expiring rules, tricks, and cutesy sayings that may help them perform short-term on a test but leave them conceptually damaged in the long run.

**Julie Duford**

Fifth-Grade Teacher  
Polson Middle School  
Polson, Montana

This is the perfect balance of inspiration and practical guidance! The inspiration motivates me to work harder at collaboration with peers, building common commitment. The practical guidance helps me put the ideas into action around what specific changes will improve mathematics teaching and learning.

**Lynn Selking**

Mathematics Consultant  
Great Prairie AEA  
Wapello, Iowa

Copyright Corwin 2021