



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

November 13, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** Recommended Evidence-Based Practices for K-5 Mathematics

The [\*Alabama Numeracy Act\*](#) (ANA) mandates that teachers consistently implement the evidence-based mathematics teaching practices recommended by the Elementary Mathematics Task Force (ANA, Section 5). Following extensive research conducted by the Region 7 Comprehensive Center in collaboration with the Office of Mathematics Improvement, a comprehensive list of practices was identified that enhance high-quality mathematics instruction. It is crucial for districts to adopt the evidence-based definitions provided by the Elementary Math Task Force (EMTF) to ensure statewide consistency. Listed below are the first four evidence-based practices:

1. **Assessment and Feedback** in mathematics teaching involves the systematic process of gathering evidence to evaluate student understanding and progress. This evidence is used to provide input and support aimed at enhancing student learning and closing achievement gaps.
2. **Mathematical Language** includes specialized terminology, symbols and notation for interpreting and communicating math concepts effectively, describing mathematical ideas, and representing relationships and operations.
3. **Multimodal Instruction** in math involves presenting math concepts through various formats, allowing students to interact with math ideas using different cognitive skills.
4. **Systematic Instruction** is a teaching method in which lessons are organized in a specific, structured way to ensure all students understand the material. This approach involves breaking down learning into clear, manageable steps and using consistent instructional practices across lessons.

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To ensure effective implementation of these practices, the EMTF created a strategic timeline to release the practices in stages. Training will start with educators in full- and limited-support schools in January 2025 and then expand to all schools. As the implementation timeline progresses, training and resources for instructional leaders, coaches, and teachers will be developed and provided. The goal of this training will be to enhance the knowledge and deep understanding of all K-5 mathematics educators.

If you have any questions, please contact your regional coordinator or Dr. Karen Anderson, Director, Office of Mathematics Improvement, by email at [kanderson1@alsde.edu](mailto:kanderson1@alsde.edu) or by telephone at 334-694-4967.

EGM/KA/MLP

cc: Elementary Curriculum Directors  
Elementary Mathematics Task Force  
Mrs. Angela Martin  
Mr. Chuck Marcum

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