



2018-2019

Letter of Idea: Mastering Mathematics Instruction

Osceola Magnet Elementary would like to continue to invest in Singapore Math training that will continue to directly increase the mathematics learning gains of our students. Singapore math has been successfully used to complement Indian River County's core Mathematics program (Go Math) during the mathematics instructional block.

Name of Project: Mastering Mathematics Instruction through Singapore Math Strategies

Information about Singapore Math

The foundation of Singapore Math consists of three primary areas of understanding: concrete, pictorial and abstract.

- First, every mathematics problem that you do should relate to real-life; something concrete. Every mathematical problem can and should relate to an actual, real-life problem.
- The second area of understanding is the student's ability to see the mathematics in a pictorial form, also called visualization. Students are taught to visualize and then draw the problem they are trying to solve, seeing how the numbers are composed or decomposed.
- Finally, all students must be able to understand and solve the problem abstractly, using only numbers. All mathematical situations require procedural steps to solve the problem.

Singapore Math is often summarized with a statement such as this: *"Getting the right answer, without knowing what it means, is useless."* Students need to be able to get the right answer **and** understand what it means conceptually. Understanding the "what" and "why" in addition to getting the correct answer is what separates those who excel in mathematics and those that give up by high school.

Amount Requested:

The cost to implement Singapore Math Training:

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| • Trainer to come to Osceola Magnet (training 34 staff): | (flat rate) | \$2,500 |
| • Cost to send 2 teachers to Singapore Math Conference: | \$495 x 2 teachers | \$990 |

Bringing a trainer to the campus helps deepen the instructional skills of experienced teachers and helps to train teachers new to the school. The training is differentiated to address the needs of teachers in both lower (K-2nd) and upper (3rd-5th) grades. Also, sending teachers to a conference creates a "train-the-trainer" aspect that brings new skills to the staff. Teachers are chosen that will return to implement new ideas and share those ideas with others.

As a means of proving a commitment to this project and forming a partnership with the Education Foundation, we would like to request that, regarding the teacher conferences, we receive the grant to only cover the cost of the conference registration for the teachers. Osceola Magnet will request to pay for remaining expenses (substitutes, lodging, transportation) through our SAC funds. By paying for the additional expenses, we are showing our lasting commitment through our limited school funds.

Targeted Population:

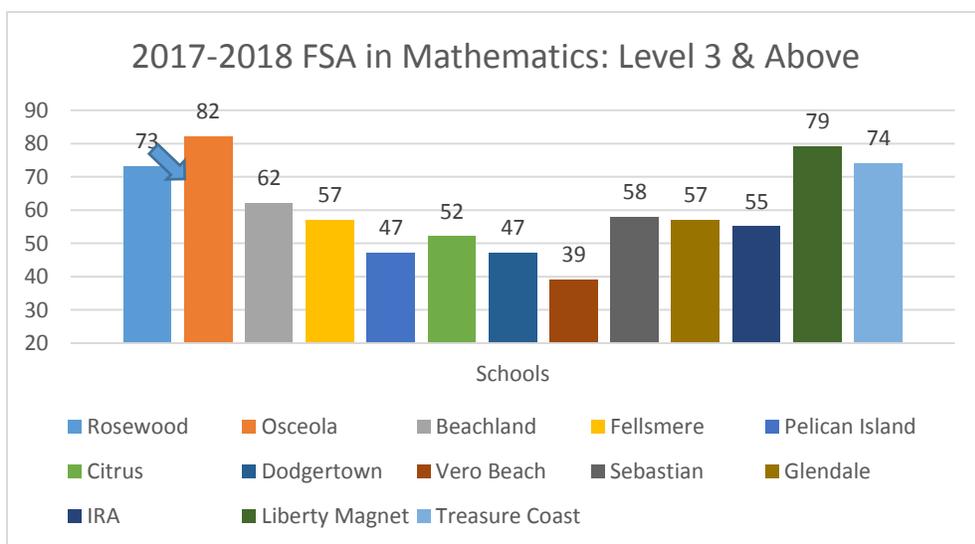
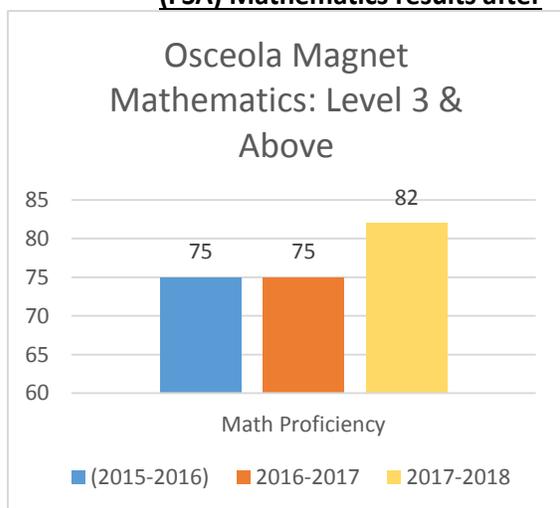
Our target population will be K-5th Grade students, approximately 543 students at Osceola Magnet. By providing our teachers with continued intensive training, our students will continue to lead in mathematics. The long-term goal is for our teachers to lead Professional Development in

Mathematics throughout the district. We have already had one teacher promoted to a Math Coach position and our teacher leaders regularly share ideas to other schools throughout the district.

Osceola Magnet Challenge

By providing Osceola Magnet with this funding, we will be able to continue to provide high-quality mathematics instruction, unique to the magnet status of Osceola. The implementation/action process will include the training and implementation of Singapore Math strategies for our students. The training was originally paid for by Mary Lou Hammond, one of the founders of introducing Singapore Math to St. Edward’s private school. Her support allowed 4 teachers to attend our first Singapore Math conference and she also funded a trainer to Osceola Magnet on a yearly basis. Sadly, Mrs. Hammond passed away during this last school year. It is our hope to continue the incredible investment in the improvement of mathematics instruction that she helped begin here 2 years ago.

Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) Mathematics results after



Grant Oversight, Monitoring, and Results

This program will be directly led by our Math Coordinators, teachers Kristen Bruckner and Marianne Thomas, at Osceola Magnet Elementary. Janice McCord, Assistant Principal of Osceola Magnet, will serve as the direct contact for the purchase, organization, and training. Scott Simpson, principal of Osceola Magnet, as well as Janice McCord, will monitor the implementation of Singapore on a weekly basis, analyze and lead discussions regarding the resulting data, and will report the results of the implementation to the Education Foundation and district office supervisors.

We will be able to directly connect the impact of our Singapore Math training through our Mathematics FSA scores. With 82% of our students at or above grade level during the 2017-2018 school year, this ranks Osceola Magnet at the top 10th percentile of the entire state for Mathematics achievement. Our numeric goal for 2018-2019 is to achieve 85% of our students at or above grade level, putting us at the top 5th percentile of the entire state.

Itemized Budget

Singapore Trainer	\$2,500
Conference Registration	\$990
total Amount:	\$3,490