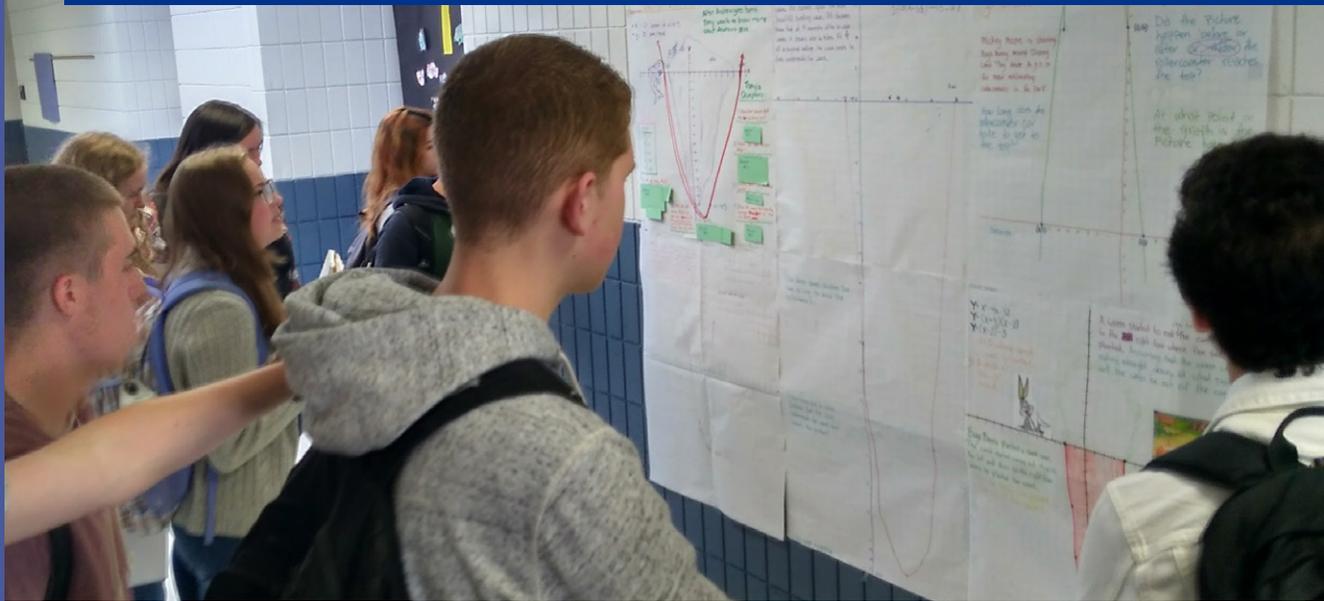


PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: COLLEGE-LEVEL MATH



Secondary students earn confidence and college credits

Students in veteran-educator Joanne Schmitt’s math classes earn more than just a grade when they finish her courses—they gain self-confidence, hands-on support, and even college credits. Mrs. Schmitt has worked at Chimacum School District for nearly 34 years and she currently serves as the upper-level math and College-in-the-High-School (CiHS) teacher at CJSHS.

Chimacum has partnered with Central Washington University’s (CWU) CiHS program, which allows students to take CWU courses from their high school teachers. Students in the dual enrollment program complete entry-level college classes before graduating high school, which can shorten the time (and cost) required to get an associate’s or bachelor’s degree.

One of the primary differences between the CiHS program and Running Start, which also allows students to take college classes in high school, is that students remain on the Chimacum campus for all of their classes and are more likely to participate in other events like assemblies and spirit weeks.

“Many of my students say they prefer CiHS over Running Start because they learn the same material at a slower pace—90 days versus 45—and they feel there is more support when they are struggling,” Mrs. Schmitt said. “They can stay more active in the high school and feel less isolated. Often precalculus is taught in a lab setting on the computer with very little instruction at community colleges.”

This year, Schmitt adjusted the CiHS precalculus class from Math153 and 154 to Math152 and 153, to cover more of the Algebra 2 concepts that may have been missed last year due to the pandemic. Schmitt then had the time to allow every student to understand each concept before moving to the next in order to build mastery and confidence.

“Students had the opportunity to go from a mindset of feeling like they’re not good math students to the realization that they can achieve and learn in higher-level math classes,” Schmitt said.

Behind the Program: Joanne Schmitt

Joanne Schmitt is about to complete her 36th year teaching and 34th in Chimacum School District. She has a Bachelor’s from the University of Puget Sound in Math Education and Physics, a Master’s from Lesley University in Technology in Education, and earned National Board Certification in 2017.

When not teaching, Mrs. Schmitt also coaches the high school Knowledge Bowl Team—which took third place in the 1A State competition this year, even while playing up a division!

She also loves playing video games, reading, and riding OneWheels with her family.





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In Chimacum School District, our students are combining Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) to learn, explore and problem solve in creative and innovative ways. Follow all of our STEAM learning at www.csd49.org.



Pi Program students apply math to 3-D design

Students in Chimacum's Pi Program work with their families and teachers to create flexible learning plans that best fit their own strengths, needs, and passions. The program allows for students to attend in-person or remotely, depending on their needs.

Glen Milligan, a first-year Pi Program teacher, has found that most of his math students have preferred in-person classes because it allows for a more hands-on approach to both learning and teaching.

As a secondary math and science teacher, Milligan uses platforms such as Google Classroom, IXL, and Khan Academy to support flexible learning.

Milligan also received a grant from the Friends of Chimacum to purchase two 3-D printers, a storage system, and five rolls of the "ink," or filament, for the printers. With this generous grant, students gain very direct, practical, experiences in how math interacts with the world by applying mathematical concepts to 3-D design.

Students sketch out their designs and convert them to 3-D using the computer. Once designs are ready, students print them using the 3-D printers—starting with basics such as simple shapes before moving to more complex designs of cars, hinged boxes, and model houses.

One student even took it to a new level, designing and printing the components to make a functioning 3-D printer for home. "These printers have allowed us to inspire students to experiment with what is possible. They've increased student engagement and encouraged students to innovate using the 3-D design process," says Milligan.



New class to launch this fall: Math in the Modern World

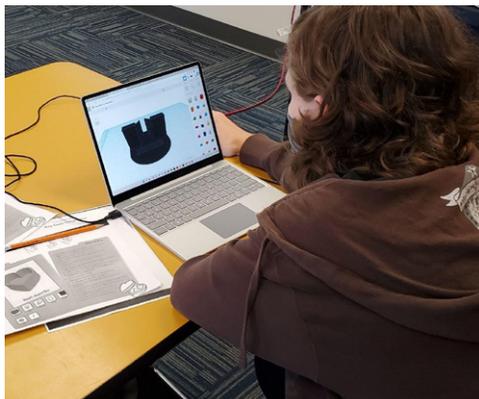
Next school year, students will have the opportunity to take a brand-new class offered through the CJSHS Math Department's Math and Society Program, Math101: Math in the Modern World.

This class is meant for students who do not intend to pursue STEM majors but still want to complete their math requirements and earn college credit. The focus of the class is applying math concepts directly to settings you will encounter as an employee and member of society.

Students will learn how to analyze complex content such as national debt over time, tuition increases compared to per capita income, understanding apportionments to the U.S. House of Representatives, personal finance concepts, the differences between simple and compound interest, and proportional reasoning.

Math101 teacher Joanne Schmitt says, "I want to provide a path for students to start seeing themselves as being capable of going to college."

Above: Puzzles help with math concepts like spatial reasoning & visual analysis



From concept to completion: Pi students use computer aided drafting to design and print 3-D objects.