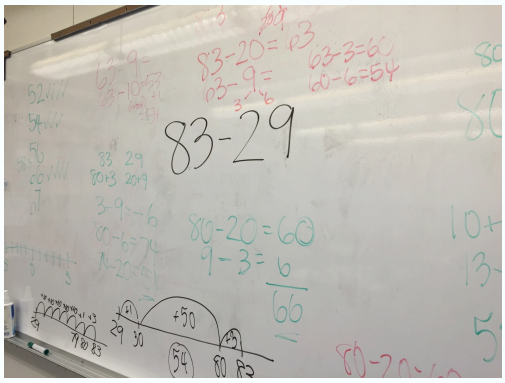
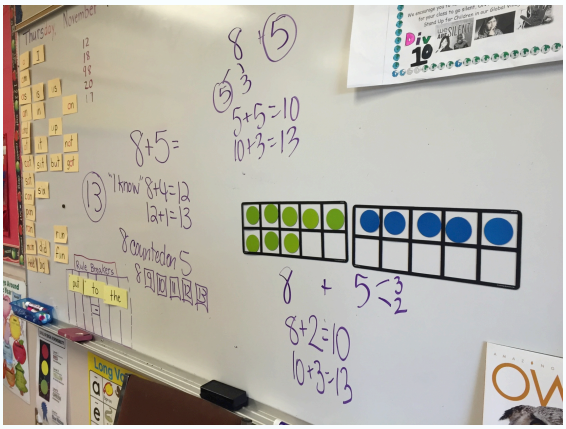
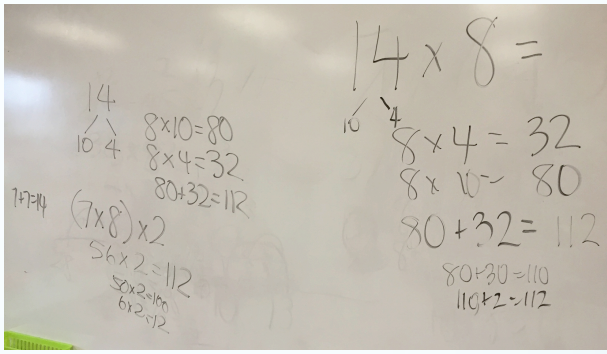
# Number Talks

Many K-7 classrooms across the Richmond School District are participating in regular Number Talks. A Number Talk is a short 10-15 minute routine that is done regularly throughout the school year. Number Talks builds computational fluency through regular practice, development of mental math strategies and awareness of operations and number concepts. Although typically done as a whole class routine, Number Talks can also be used in small groups as part of "guided math".




A Number Talk begins with the teacher posting a question to be solved. Students share their answers and then "justify" their answer by explaining how they solved the question while the teacher records. The strategies are compared and discussed.




Many number talks involve a "string" of related questions to support students in making connections. For example, a number talk may begin with 8+5, then move to 58+5, then move to 58+35.

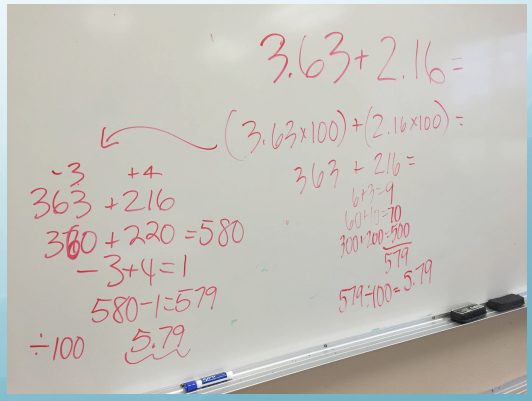
**Curricular Competencies**

- Develop mental math strategies and abilities to make sense of quantities
- Use reasoning and logic to explore and make connections
- Communicate in many ways
- Connect mathematical concepts to each other
- Share and reflect upon mathematical thinking

**Curricular Content**

*Will be grade level dependent but content is around:*

- Number concepts
- Computational fluency
- Operations
- Basic facts




As teachers, over time, we have noticed an increase in students' number sense and computational fluency, confidence and ability to engage in mathematical discourse.

Teachers who have set up a classroom environment that support number talks have had the most success – regular practice (2-3 times per week), use of visual tools and established partners for turning and talking.