Accountable Talk. Has your child come home mentioning they used accountable talk? Math teachers at Carrigan have been fortunate to work collaboratively with Melissa Howey from ACES. One of the topics was using accountable talk in the classroom with their students. So what exactly does that mean? Emily, author of Education to the Core (https://educationtothecore.com) had that same question. This is her takeaway on the subject:

“What I’ve come to understand is that accountable talk is ultimately a classroom practice based in student-centered discussion – where the students must support and defend their claims with evidence.

Think about that for a minute…if you don’t understand what you’re talking about, you can’t really defend it using evidence. Which is what makes accountable talk so helpful to learning. And assessing.

Student-centered discussion using accountable talk is so beneficial to your student’s learning. For one, they remain highly engaged because they are allowed to use their natural desire to talk to one another. Having accountable conversation also allows students to process the lesson material much more deeply than teacher-centered talk. By actively discussing specific topics and defending their ideas and opinions on these topics, students internalize the material in a super authentic way.

Plus, when you implement accountable talk, you’re easily able to evaluate and assess each student based on their participation in the discussion.”

The Math teachers here at Carrigan have been hard at work teaching your child how to use accountable talk. There have been many great discussions and the learning that is happening is awesome! Try some at home using some of the stems listed in the sidebar. The more your child can explain and defend their answers, the more they are being held accountable for their learning.

FAMILY NIGHT

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CAME OUT TO MAKE OUR ANNUAL FAMILY NIGHT A HUGE SUC-
Math in everyday life

It is important to help children recognize that everyone uses math all the time. Here are tips to help your child have a positive attitude about mathematics.

- Make learning math a positive experience. Don’t talk negatively about math to your child—it can lead to “math anxiety” (a proven cause of low achievement).
- Schedule math homework at the same time in a quiet location every day. Be available during this period to talk with your child. Create a math homework toolkit with pencils, erasers, ruler, protractor, graph paper, counters (beads or beans) and a calculator.
- When helping with homework, follow the method being taught. Don’t teach short cuts that could confuse your child. Do not say, “Let me show you my way—it’s simpler and faster.”
- Be relaxed and positive. You are not expected to be an expert. You are there to encourage learning.
- If your child becomes frustrated, stop. Remind your child of the things they have already learned how to do successfully, such as riding a bicycle, writing a paragraph or speaking a second language.

We all use mathematics daily in what we do. Involve your child in using numbers to solve problems and make those everyday decisions with you. For example:

- Do we have enough plates and utensils for all the guests coming for dinner?
- We are doubling this recipe. How much of all the ingredients will we need?
- We are fertilizing the lawn. The fertilizer bag covers three square meters. How many will we need?
- This store is selling the game you want for 20% off of $27.00. That store is selling the same game for $19.99. Where should we shop?

Congratulations to our Summer Math Challenge participants!
PROBLEM OF THE MONTH

Julia spent $\frac{1}{4}$ of her birthday money. Then she lost $\frac{1}{2}$ of the rest of her money. She now has $15 left. How much money did she get for her birthday:

Student’s Name and Room Number__________________________

Parent Signature________________________________________