



POLICY: Calculators

EFFECTIVE DATE: 4/8/2005

REVISION DATE: 4/8/2005

POLICY: PRA Calculator Policy

PRACTICES/PROCEDURES:

Technology, which includes, but is not limited to calculators and computers, is a valuable tool for teaching, learning and performing mathematical concepts, applications, and calculations. Effective technology enhances learning, but does not replace instruction. Nonetheless, when technology tools are appropriately available and used within the instructional environment, students can focus on decision making, reasoning, estimating and problem solving, thus helping them learn mathematics and science applications more deeply.

At PRA math is a core instructional area and the way it is taught demonstrates a commitment to our mission of providing a rigorous academic environment for our students. Accordingly, the general availability and use of calculators during and in support of mathematics instruction will be limited to higher levels of mathematics unless such use is included as an instructional tool in a student's IEP or 504 Plan.

These higher levels of mathematics will be defined as coursework and instruction in Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II (when provided) and to include the Algebra ½ level beginning the second semester. In all of these courses it will be the responsibility of the teacher to make clear to the students and parents the purpose and value of calculators for this course of study.

As an exception, intermediate level (grades 4-6) math teachers may appropriately plan with administrator approval for the classroom use of calculators when a lesson within the math curriculum currently implemented at PRA recommends the use of a calculator to understand, complete, or demonstrate the skill being taught in that lesson. Likewise, when scientific applications require the use of higher level math functions, a calculator will be deemed as an appropriate tool for that lesson. For these exceptions, the teacher will provide a calculator for each student needing one for that lesson and/or assignment.

By Order of the Governing Board

/s/ Gregory Koneval
Gregory Koneval, President

Date: April 7, 2005

/s/ Gretchen Place
Gretchen Place, Secretary

Date: April 7, 2005