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## Inquiry Year

### Waynesboro Primary

Waynesboro Primary School has been affiliated with Augusta State University as a PDS school since 1998. As a part of the PDS cycle, schools are given the opportunity to examine an issue of significance to the school and the school's on-going improvement. W.P.S. decided to combine the Inquiry Year with our SACS renewal.

Teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, and community members were given the opportunity to complete surveys about the effectiveness of instruction at W.P.S. and give comments about what needs to be improved. Overall the surveys have been very positive. In many cases, the teachers have rated some things lower than the parents and community.

At this time it appears that the teachers are most concerned about the effectiveness of math instruction at Waynesboro Primary. Teachers have been working with the present math series (Silver Burdett Ginn) since 2001. During the first year of implementation, teachers noticed that there were many areas in which the text did not meet the needs of our students. Teachers supplemented the text and have been doing so since that time.

During the summer of 2003, a team of teachers from each grade level attended a five-day workshop by the Marilyn Burns group. Summer of 2004 found other teachers from each grade level attending a Math Learning Center workshop. Both workshops gave good information and ideas to the teachers that attended, but they did not feel that either program was right for Waynesboro Primary.

At the present time a team of teachers with members from each grade level are working to see what research supports in terms of mathematics instruction and problem solving skills. Our plans for the summer of 2005 include taking a close look at the research and developing a math program that fits with what we are already doing with our literacy program and meets the needs of our students. Plans are in place to take a closer look at the new performance standards for math and hopefully come up with a usable plan for math instruction at W.P.S.

