



East Pennsboro Area School District Considers New Elementary Reading Materials

East Pennsboro Area School District is dedicated to ensuring that its students have access to the best possible educational materials. To this end, the District is currently conducting a curriculum renewal process. This process was designed to improve the educational experience of the District's students, teachers, and administrators. As part of the process, the District analyzed the latest available K-5 elementary reading programs and developed a set of criteria to determine which program would best serve our elementary students. During the 2018-19 school year, elementary school teachers have piloted two of the most promising programs and provided feedback to District leadership.

The elementary reading program that meets all of the District criteria is *Benchmark Workshop*, copyright 2020 by [Benchmark Education Company](#). The program includes not only classroom instructional materials, but also professional development and access to an online platform that features e-libraries, message boards, reading logs, student groups, student assessment tools, and a help desk.

The District has determined that *Benchmark Workshop* is well aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards in English and language arts, reading, speaking, writing, and listening. The program is research-based, uses 21st Century technology, and reflects elementary education best practices. *Benchmark Workshop* focuses on phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary and includes high-interest fiction and nonfiction texts.

Sample *Benchmark Workshop* materials are on display in the East Pennsboro Area School District Administration Center at 890 Valley Street, Enola, until April 30, 2019.

District leadership will seek School Board approval at the April 4, 2019, meeting.

If approval is granted, the District will adopt *Benchmark Workshop* as the primary elementary reading materials in April 2019.



Brian Moore, Interim Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, and Traci Uhrich, K-12 Reading Coach, are proud to present sample *Benchmark Workshop* materials.

