

Positive Norms to Encourage in Math Class

1) Everyone Can Learn Math to the Highest Levels

Believe in yourself! If you want to, with hard work you can reach the highest level. No such thing as a “math brain” or “math gene”

2) Mistakes Are Valuable

Mistakes grow your brain! It is good to struggle and make mistakes, this means you are learning more.

3) Questions are really Important

Always ask questions and always answer questions. Ask why does this make sense?

4) Math is about Creativity and Making Sense

Math is about visualizing patterns and creating solution paths that others can see, discuss, and critique.

5) Math is about Connections and Communicating

Math is a connected subject and a form of communication. Represent math in different forms, i.e. words, pictures, graphs, equations, and link them. Color code!

6) Depth is much more important than Speed

Top mathematicians think slowly and deeply.

7) Math Class is about Learning not Performing

Math is a growth subject. It takes time to learn and it is all about effort.