Dear Third Grade Families,

We are about to begin our 4th Module in Mathematics. In this letter, we will share a grade-specific overview of the year as well as information about our current module.

**Summary of the Year**

Our Third Grade students will be engaged in mathematics that will focus on:

(1) Developing understanding of multiplication and division and strategies for multiplication and division within 100;

(2) Developing understanding of fractions, especially unit fractions (fractions with numerator 1);

(3) Developing understanding of the structure of rectangular arrays and of area;

(4) Describing and analyzing two-dimensional shapes.

The learning goal for each student is to *achieve mastery by the end of the school year*. Along the way teachers and students will celebrate what the students can do now and identify what the students need to work on next.

**A Story of Units**

The yearly curriculum is broken into modules, or units, whose sequence is as follows:

Module 1: Properties of Multiplication and Division and Solving Problems with Units of 2 – 5 and 10

Module 2: Place Value and Problem Solving with Units of Measure

Module 3: Multiplication and Division with Units of 0, 1, 6–9, and Multiples of 10

**Module 4: Multiplication and Area**

Module 5: Fractions as Numbers on the Number Line

Module 6: Collecting and Displaying Data

Module 7: Geometry and Measurement Word Problems

Our curriculum will also address fluency with multiplying and dividing within 100 and adding and subtracting within 1000.

As your child begins a new module, you will receive information explaining the learning targets that are being addressed.

**Module 4: Overview**

By Module 4, students are ready to investigate area. They measure the area of a shape by finding the total number of same-size units of area, e.g. tiles, required to cover the shape without gaps or overlaps. When that shape is a rectangle with whole number side lengths, it is easy to partition the rectangle into squares with equal areas.

If at any time throughout Module 4 you have questions or concerns regarding your child’s progress, please feel free to contact his or her teacher.

Sincerely,

MUFSD 3rd Grade Teachers

**Module 4: Objectives**

The following objectives will be addressed in Module 4; however, many are ongoing and will reappear in future modules.

* Define a unit square.
* Define area as the measure of space with a plane figure and explain why area is measured in square units.
* Measure the area of a shape or flat surface by covering it with unit squares—with no gaps or overlaps—and counting the number of unit squares used.
* Use tiles to find the area of rectangles.
* Explain the relationship between tiling and multiplying side lengths to find the area of rectangles.
* Multiply adjacent side lengths of rectangles to solve word problems.
* Use area models to explain the distributive property.
* Decompose an irregular figure into non-overlapping rectangles.
* Explain area as additive and use this understanding to solve word problems.