



## **One-Half of State's Elementary Schools to Start New School Year with Innovative Custom Math Curriculum**

### **Next-Generation *enVisionMATH* Integrates Conceptual Skills and Problem-Solving with Interactive Learning**

AUSTIN, TX – August 21, 2008. As students head back to school next week, more than half of the state's elementary schools will be teaching math with a new, innovative curriculum customized to Texas education standards and aimed at improving math skills and preparing students for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.

More than 400 school districts across Texas, including Austin, Houston, Fort Worth, Brownsville and San Antonio, have chosen the *Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley enVisionMATH Texas* program, custom designed for the state by the education company Pearson. This first-of-its-kind elementary math curriculum integrates a comprehensive foundation in math conceptual development and problem-solving skills with visual animation and next-generation technologies to give students the mathematical grounding they need for future success. The program was created to conform directly to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and is also aligned to the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Focal Points.

Four years in the making, *enVisionMATH* was developed by Pearson's elementary school publishers at Scott Foresman with research experts and the nation's top math authorities in collaboration with classroom teachers. Three Texas educators are part of the Pearson author team: Dr. Juanita "Nita" Copley, Professor in Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, University of Houston; Dr. Jane F. Schielack, Associate Dean for Assessment and preK-12 Education, Texas A&M University; and Dinah Chancellor, Math Specialist for Venus ISD and Southlake ISD. Key authors of the program include Dr. Randall Charles, Professor Emeritus, Department of Mathematics, San Jose State University, and past Vice President of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics; and Dr. Francis "Skip" Fennell, immediate past president of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, a member of the President's National Mathematics Advisory Panel, and Professor of Education, McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland.

Pearson's vice president for Texas Raymond Ward said, "*Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley enVisionMATH Texas's* strong, visual learning design includes a Visual Learning Bridge in each lesson, with step-by-step visuals that bridge the gap between the interactive learning activity and guided practice." He noted that the program is published in both English and Spanish, and that the visual examples in an animated format are especially helpful for English learners. He added, "Ongoing diagnosis and intervention, daily data-driven differentiated instruction, and regular assessment through Pearson's *SuccessTracker* ensure that *enVisionMATH Texas* gives every student the opportunity to succeed."



With both a full digital path and print textbook available, teachers will have the flexibility to use the digital or print stand-alone versions of *enVisionMATH Texas* or a blended combination. Additional resources include online digital texts with enhancements, online tests and exercises through Pearson's *SuccessNet*, daily TEKS review, and the Texas interactive homework workbook, plus professional development for teachers.

Program author Dr. Nita Copley from the University of Houston said, “*enVisionMATH* is centered on problem-based, interactive learning and conceptual understanding. What does that mean? Students with conceptual understanding know more than isolated facts and methods; they are able to learn new ideas by connecting to the ideas they already know. They learn concepts by interacting with problems; this interaction occurs daily and is specific to the concept being taught. Conceptual understanding and problem-based interactive learning are essential if we are to give our children the tools they need to be successful in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.”

To see a video and demonstration of *Scott Foresman enVisionMATH Texas* and the school districts that have selected *enVisionMATH* as their elementary math curriculum, go to [www.envisionmathtexas.com](http://www.envisionmathtexas.com)

**About Pearson in Texas:**

Pearson (NYSE:PSO), the world's leading education publisher, has been providing education materials to Texas schools as far back as the 1800s. You may know us individually as Scott Foresman, Prentice Hall, Longman, SuccessMaker, NovaNet, PowerSchool, Educational Measurement, Educational Assessment, SuccessNet, Learning Teams, and so many more - names in the world of education that are recognized and respected across the State and the globe. In fact, most teachers in Texas have learned their profession by studying with Pearson's Merrill or Allyn & Bacon textbooks, and many have benefited from our professional development programs. We provide education and testing materials from birth through professional learning as well as the school systems that maintain student information data for thousands of schools. Our business offices are located in Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio, but our 2,000 Pearson people are living and working in every school district across the State. Whether in reading, language arts, science, math, social studies, music, English as a second language, foreign languages, or AP courses, hundreds of thousands of Texas's preK through college students are learning with our Pearson products every day. For more information, go to [www.pearsonschool.com](http://www.pearsonschool.com). In addition to Education, Pearson's other major businesses include The Financial Times Group and The Penguin Group, [www.pearson.com](http://www.pearson.com).

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