Vision for the Classroom

- The mathematics classroom is a positive and collaborative environment where each and every student feels valued as an individual and has a sense of belonging. The classroom culture reflects warm and respectful relationships among students and between students and teachers.

- Every classroom represents an inclusive mixture of students who have freedom to safely express emerging mathematical ideas through exploration and student-led discussions. Each and every student knows that making mistakes is a valued part of the learning process.

- Motivated by curiosity, each and every student creates mathematical understandings by engaging with other students in a variety of ways. Students’ ideas form the basis for conversation and the community decides together about what makes sense, and what is right or wrong.

- Teachers organize the learning environment and provide structured opportunities for productive student interaction and exploration of student thinking. Teachers promote the idea that each and every student has mathematical strengths and worthwhile mathematical ideas.

- Curriculum provides talk-worthy tasks that are accessible, challenging, and meaningful to students’ lives. Curriculum provides connections to student experiences, to other disciplines, and between mathematical concepts.

- The assessment process supports student learning by providing feedback to increase content comprehension, developing metacognition, and informing students about their level of understanding.

Written in the 2016-17 school year by a group of mathematics teachers in the Escondido Union High School District. All five high schools in the district were represented in this writing group.