

# Hopkins Hill makes math fun

## Second grade presents to school committee

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COVENTRY—The school committee chairwoman praised the presentation given last week to the school committee by the second grade at Hopkins Hill Elementary School.

The school committee has been holding their first meeting each month at a different school throughout the district, allowing them to tour the school and also interact with students, teachers and administrators.

This month their first meeting was held at Hopkins Hill Elementary School on Johnson Boulevard.

Patenaude said the second grade actually had a little mini-classroom set up for the members of the school committee and the public to see what they do.

“They went through what they would do in math class,” Patenaude said.

All three second grade teachers were there, according to Patenaude.

They demonstrated how the students work individually on goals that are set and also how the students work as teams.

The class has a unique system of rotating through different tables and problems to solve.

The teachers are also able to move from table to table to work with the students.

They do it all while using “fun supplies” too, Patenaude

said, that have been purchased for the school.

For example they use what is called an ELMO, a type of projector where they can actually show three-dimensional objects to their students up on the smart board or projection screen, she said.

A student can also place a piece of paper he or she has written on under the projector and it appears on the big screen for everyone to see how that student solved the problem, Patenaude explained.

Rather than just showing numbers, they can do counting with coins and have the coins up on the screen for the students to see.

Patenaude said it was three-dimensional and “not just

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## School presentation enjoyed by school committee

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number facts.”

“It is so much different than a blackboard,” she said.

Patenaude said it was a really wonderful example of what can be done and the “kids really seemed

engaged and excited to do math.”

Math, Patenaude said, is where Coventry tends to trail behind so they have been really looking at the curriculum to see how they can get those scores up.

“It was very fun to watch,”

Patenaude said, “and to see the kids’ excitement.”

The school committee meets again this coming Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. for their business meeting. It will be held at the school administration offices, 1675 Flat River Rd.