

## Glencoe Curriculum Portfolio Activities—Unit 4



### Math 2

#### Solve a problem involving ratios.

Write a letter to your local school board concerning the teacher-to-student ratio at the high school in your school district.

Your district high school has an enrollment of 2,000 students. The teacher-to-student ratio is 1 to 40. At the high school in a neighboring district, the enrollment is 1,720. The teacher-to-student ratio at that school is 1 to 33.

Write a business letter to the members of your school board. Describe how this larger teacher-to-student ratio affects the students and the school climate at your high school. Argue that the teacher-to-student ratio at your high school needs to be reduced to match the ratio at the neighboring school.

Compute the number of teachers at each high school, and include this information in your letter. Compute and tell in your letter the number of new teachers that would be needed at your high school to reduce the teacher-to-student ratio to 1 to 33. Finally, include an approximate cost of adding these additional teachers. Assume, for the purposes of your letter, that the cost of each additional teacher is \$50,000.

To review methods for computing ratios and for multiplying, refer to *Glencoe Mathematics: Applications and Connections, Course 1*.

Key your letter into a word processor. Spell-check, edit, and proofread your letter. Be sure to format your business letter correctly and include a return address.

Resource:

*Glencoe Mathematics: Applications and Connections, Course 1*, pp. 312-315

Topics: Ratios; Multiplying whole numbers