



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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November 18, 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Beginning Fall 2023, the Georgia Department of Education will retire the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Mathematics and will implement Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards. The new standards are designed to help learners achieve a balance among concepts, skills, and problem solving, while providing clear expectations for curriculum, instruction, assessment, and student work. The standards stress rigorous concept development and real-world applications while maintaining a strong emphasis on computational and procedural skills. At all grades, the standards encourage students to reason mathematically, to evaluate mathematical arguments both formally and informally, to use the language of mathematics to communicate ideas and information precisely, and to make connections among mathematical topics and to other disciplines.

One change at the state level is the model for acceleration. The current model of 1.5-year courses (Math 6/7A and Math 7B/8) has been replaced with a blended course option at the 8th grade level. This change supports instruction on standards tested that year on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment and blends courses that more closely support each other on the development of mathematical ideas. The change in sequencing is detailed below:

Grade	Fulton County GSE (current)	Georgia’s K-12 Mathematics Standards (Fall 2023)	Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment
6	Math 6 Enhanced (6/7A)	Math 6	Grade 6
7	Math 7 Enhanced (7B/8)	Math 7	Grade 7
8	Algebra 1	Blended Grade 8 and Algebra: Concepts and Connections	Grade 8 AND Algebra I End-of-Course

As you can see, the new course sequence aligns with state assessment expectations and should ensure our students perform at the highest level.

Consequently, the Math 7B/8 course that would currently complete the one-year acceleration for current 6th graders will not exist next year. The recommendation for students currently enrolled in Math 6/7A (Math 6 Enhanced) is Math 7 Enhanced, with the option for Blended Grade 8 and Algebra: Concepts and Connections or just Algebra: Concepts and Connections for students who demonstrate mastery of essential Algebra prerequisites in 8th grade. This pathway requires no additional coursework and students will still access Algebra in grade 8 either way. Further, we have redesigned our Math 7 Enhanced

curriculum to support the new standards alignment, and students moving from Math 6 Enhanced to Math 7 Enhanced will still engage with above grade level content in the most critical areas of number sense now extending to all rational numbers and laying the foundation for the concept of a function.

We also recognize that a small portion of our students may want to complete the acceleration sequence prior to Fall 2023 to begin the new standards with 8th grade content or above, leading to double-year acceleration opportunities. This will require outside coursework. Fulton has several options for families wanting to explore this opportunity:

1. Students enroll in Math 7.2 through Fulton Virtual School in Spring 2023. This is a teacher-led course with full instruction at a cost of \$225.
2. Students enroll in Math 7.2 through Fulton Virtual School in Summer 2023. This is a teacher-led course with full instruction at a cost of \$225.
3. Students enroll in an asynchronous Math 7.2 digital course through Fulton County Schools in Spring 2023. This is a self-study course at no cost.
4. Students enroll in an asynchronous Math 7.2 digital course through Fulton County Schools in Summer 2023. This is a self-study course at no cost.

Please see the attached pathway documents to determine course placement options for next year and pathways going forward. Again, no additional coursework is needed to continue the trajectory your student is currently on.

After the informational meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, your students' teachers will email a link with a form for you to select the option you want for your students.

Rest assured your student will receive any additional instruction needed to transition to the new standards. Next year's instruction will include specific transition content at each grade level to ensure the seamless continuance of strong mathematics instruction to create a solid foundation.

Please visit our website to view the videos from the GaDOE about Georgia's K-12 Math Standards, and Fulton's Mathematics Department detailing our local implementation plans and math pathway guidance.

<https://www.fultonschools.org/Page/26474>.

Sincerely,

Kelly Parker, Principal
Taylor Road Middle School

