

August 2011 POLK SECONDARY MATH UPDATE

First Four Focusing Forward

1. Polk County Mathematics Education Information and Free Resources

- 2011-12 “Welcome Back” Informational Video (16 minutes)
(\\Fs9000jmb\livemeetings\$\Math\DistrictMathWebsiteInformation – click on the *ReplayMeeting* icon)
- District Math Website (<http://www.polk-fl.net/staff/teachers/math.htm>)
- *Public Folders*, “Curriculum & Instruction K-12”, “Mathematics, 6-12”

2. Legislative Implications on Math Requirements

- **This School Year**
 - All students, in any grade, who complete Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Honors during the school year, must take the state Algebra 1 EOC Assessment.
 - First-time students in Grade 9 and middle school must score Achievement Level 3, 4, or 5 on the Algebra 1 EOC Assessment in order to be eligible for a standard high school diploma.
 - All students, in any grade, who complete Geometry or Geometry Honors during the school year, must take the state Geometry EOC Assessment. Performance on the Geometry EOC Assessment shall constitute 30%, based on Quality Points, of a student’s final grade in the course.
- **2012–2013 School Year**
 - For the cohort of students who enter grade nine in 2012–2013 or after, the math requirements for a standard high school diploma are as follows:
 - One credit in Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Honors earned by passing the Algebra 1 EOC Assessment (AL 3, 4, or 5 on Algebra 1 EOC)
 - One credit in Geometry or Geometry Honors earned by passing the Geometry EOC Assessment (AL 3, 4, or 5 on Geometry EOC)
 - One credit in Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 Honors
 - One additional mathematics credit

3. Professional Math Organizations

- Consider becoming a member of the *Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics*
 - \$25 annual membership fee
 - Quarterly newsletters
 - Website: www.fctm.net
- Consider becoming a member of the *National Council of Teachers of Mathematics*
 - Monthly publications
 - Website: www.nctm.org
 - Membership fee varies

4. Common Core Standards – [click here](#) to view

- To be assessed beginning with the 2014-15 school year
- Grades 3-8 FCAT, Algebra 1 EOC Assessment, and Geometry EOC Assessment will assess the current NGSSS in 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14.

Algebra 1 Taken at Each Grade Level in 2011-12 and Implications on Assessments

Students taking Algebra 1 in 7th Grade

1. Will have to take the 7th Grade Math FCAT in April 2012
 - There are 10 benchmarks (G.2.1, G.2.2, G.4.1, G.4.2, G.4.3, G.4.4, S.6.1, S.6.2, P.7.1, P.7.2) assessed on the 7th Grade FCAT that students may not have exposure to in the Algebra 1 curriculum
2. Will have to take the Algebra 1 EOC assessment in May 2012 – students have to score at Achievement Level 3 or higher in order to be eligible for a Standard HS diploma.
3. Will be recommended to have earned a first semester final grade of 80% or higher to remain in the course second semester.
4. Will have to decide by the end of the third nine-week grading period if they are to be transferred to MJ Math 2 Advanced.

Students taking Algebra 1 in 8th Grade

1. Will have to take the 8th Grade Math FCAT in April 2012
 - There are 7 benchmarks (G.2.1, G.2.2, G.2.3, G.2.4, S.3.1, S.3.2, G.5.1) assessed on the 8th Grade FCAT that students may not have exposure to in Algebra 1
2. Will have to take the Algebra 1 EOC assessment in May 2012 – students have to score at Achievement Level 3 or higher in order to be eligible for a Standard HS diploma.
3. Will be recommended to have earned a first semester final grade of 80% or higher to remain in the course second semester.
4. Will have to decide by the end of the third nine-week grading period if they are to be transferred to MJ Math 3 Advanced.

Students taking Algebra 1 as first time 9th graders

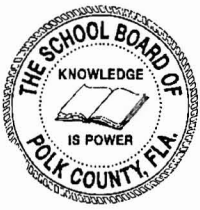
- Will have to take the Algebra 1 EOC assessment in May 2012 and score at Achievement Level 3 or Higher in order to be eligible for a Standard High School diploma.

Students taking Algebra 1 as retained 9th graders, as 10th graders, or as 11th graders

- Will have to take the Algebra 1 EOC assessment in May 2012
 - The test must constitute 30% of students' overall grade based on quality points (35% from T1, 35% from T2, and 30% from EOC assessment)

Students taking Algebra 1 in 12th Grade

- Will have to take the Algebra 1 EOC assessment in May 2012
 - The test must constitute 30% of students' overall grade based on quality points (35% from T1, 35% from T2, and 30% from EOC assessment)



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Superintendent

August 22, 2011

Dear Parents or Guardians of Students Taking Algebra 1

As part of the requirements in state law regarding state assessments, all students enrolled in Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Honors are required to take the state computer based Algebra 1 End-of-Course Assessment in May 2012.

Beginning this school year, all students who are **first-time ninth graders** will be required to score at Achievement Level 3, 4, or 5 on the Algebra 1 End-of-Course Assessment, regardless of grades earned while in the class, in order to receive credit for Algebra 1 and meet this graduation requirement. **Students who take Algebra 1 in middle school** must also score at Achievement Level 3, 4, or 5 on the Algebra 1 End-of-Course Assessment, regardless of grades earned while in the class, in order to receive high school credit for the Algebra 1 graduation requirement.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (863) 647-4807.

Sincerely,

John C. Miller III

John C. Miller III
Senior Coordinator of Secondary Mathematics Curriculum

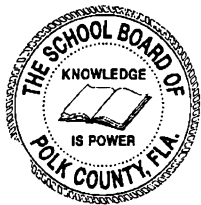
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Dear Parents or Guardians of Students Taking Geometry or Biology,

Beginning this school year, as part of the requirements in state law regarding state assessments, all students taking Geometry or Biology are expected to take the state computer based End-of-Course Assessment exam for these courses in May 2012.

As part of the End-of-Course Assessment requirement for this 2011-12 school year, the result of the exam in May 2012 will count as 30% of the overall grade for the course, based on earned letter grades.

Grades and credits for Geometry and Biology courses taken in a prior year will not be affected. For current courses however, as a result of the End-of-Course Assessment exam, your child's first semester final grade for these courses may change when the exam result is calculated with both semester grades of these courses.

The final grades reflected for Geometry and Biology will be 35% based on the letter grade earned in first semester from teacher assigned grades, 35% based on the letter grade earned in second semester from teacher assigned grades, and 30% based on the letter grade earned from the result of the End-of-Course Assessment.

The scoring scale for the End-of-Course Assessment will be determined by the state shortly after the testing window is closed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (863) 647-4807.

Sincerely,

John C. Miller III

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Senior Coordinator of Secondary Mathematics Curriculum

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