

Marin County Office of Education Mathematics Placement Protocol

We must provide all students with the access and support necessary to succeed in rigorous math courses so that all options are available to them upon graduation from high school. Schools within the Marin County Office of Education will use the following protocol to place students in the appropriate math course at the start of each year:

Timing of Initial Placement

During the first ten days of the school year, or within the first ten days a student is enrolled, students shall be evaluated to determine the most appropriate math course placement. Based upon the evaluation, students will be placed in the appropriate math course within the first three weeks of school or within the first three weeks a student is enrolled. Any student that is found to be misplaced will be promptly placed in the appropriate course.

Measures for Evaluation

Previous Math Grades: No student will repeat a math course which he/she has successfully completed. However, if a student received a “D” in a course and plans to attend college, the course may be repeated to earn a higher grade to afford the student eligibility to enroll in a public university.

Evidence-Based Measures: To accurately reflect what students know and are able to do, schools will use a variety of assessments to determine the best placement of students. Possible assessments could include: Smarter Balanced Assessments, Measures of Academic Progress Assessments, District and school developed assessments, or internal formative assessment data. All assessments will be aligned to state-adopted content standards for math. If students demonstrate mastery of course requirements prior to the end of the school year, they may enroll in the next appropriate math course so that they may accelerate their learning.

Teacher Recommendations: To minimize subjectivity in math course placement decisions, teacher recommendations will be limited to advancing students to higher levels of math courses. If teachers wish to recommend a student to a higher math course, the recommendation must be accompanied by evidence such as classroom assignments or assessments that demonstrate the student's' readiness for the next course.

Appeals

If a student or parent disagrees with the math course placement, they may appeal the decision to the Superintendent or designee within ten days of the initial placement. The Superintendent or designee will determine whether or not to overrule the placement decision within 10 days of receipt of the appeal.

Approved by the Marin County Board of Education on August 14, 2018