

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Deputy Superintendent, Instruction

DISTRIBUTION: Secondary Schools

SUBJECT: BULLETIN NO. M-126
HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS
COURSE OFFERINGS TO BE
INSTITUTED IN THE 2001-2002
SCHOOL YEAR

DATE: May 29, 2001

DIVISION: Educational Services

APPROVED: SYLVIA G. ROUSSEAU, Assistant Superintendent

ROUTING

Local District Superintendents
Local District Directors of
Instruction
Principals
Assistant Principals, SCS
School Counselors
Chapter Chairs

For further information call Bob Archer, Jim Dunlap, or Sara Munshin, Mathematics Specialists, at (213) 625-6420.

I. INTRODUCTION

On May 8, 2001, the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District approved a five-year mathematics plan that is aligned with newly adopted state mathematics standards and changes in state and District graduation requirements.

Success in mathematics is critical for all students, not only those who will have careers that demand advanced mathematical preparation, but all citizens who will be living in the twenty-first century.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify newly approved mathematics course offerings to be instituted in the 2001-2002 academic year in all senior high schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

This bulletin also identifies the Algebra 1 course offerings for ninth graders and describes the criteria for placing ninth graders in these courses. The only courses authorized for ninth grade students who have not already successfully completed Algebra 1 are the following:

Algebra 1AB (two-semester course) # 310301/310302

Algebra 1 is designed to give students experiences to learn to reason symbolically. The key content involves understanding, writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations, including systems of two linear equations in two unknowns. Algebra 1 meets the UC/CSU admission requirement C.

Algebra 1A1/1A2/1B1/1B2 (four-semester course) #310311/310312/310313/310314

The four-semester Algebra 1 course is designed for students who have demonstrated the need for more preparation to meet the mathematics content standards. Students who take the first two semesters of the four-semester Algebra 1 course in grade 9 will be expected to complete the final two semesters of Algebra 1 in grade 10 and take Geometry or Advanced Applied Mathematics in grade 11.

III. DISTRICT POLICY

The placement criteria are designed to ensure maximum opportunity for students to meet or exceed the algebra standards.

A. Entering Ninth Graders in the 2001-2002 Academic Year

The criteria for placing entering ninth grade students in the two-semester Algebra 1 course are:

- Earning a grade of “A” or “B” in Mathematics 8 class in the previous semester; or
- Earning a grade of “C” in Mathematics 8 class in the previous semester and placing in the 2nd, 3rd or 4th quartile on last year’s mathematics portion of the Stanford 9.

Entering ninth grade students who do not meet the criteria described above shall be placed in the four-semester Algebra 1 course.

Parents and school site-personnel, including the administrator, counselor, and math department chairperson, under the guidelines determined by the Local District Superintendent, will determine the placement of any student who does not fit the descriptors stated above.

B. Ninth Graders in the 2000-2001 Academic Year

Students who have not already successfully completed Algebra 1 or its equivalent in the 2000-2001 academic year have the option to take the two- or four-semester Algebra 1 course based on criteria decided upon by school site personnel, including the administrator, counselor, and math department chairperson, under the guidelines determined by the Local District Superintendent.

C. Tenth Graders in the 2000-2001 Academic Year

All students in grade ten during the 2000-2001 academic year who have not already successfully completed Algebra 1 will take the two-semester Algebra 1 class to meet the senior high school graduation requirement.

Upon successful completion of Algebra 1, those students will be eligible to take Geometry the following year to meet the second year of college preparatory mathematics graduation requirement. Schools may enroll students in the alternative Advanced Applied Mathematics course based upon the decision of the parent, counselor, mathematics department chairperson, and the site administrator under the guidelines set by the Local District Superintendent. This

course is designed for students whose past performance in mathematics places them in jeopardy of not meeting the high school graduation mathematics requirement if they take Geometry.

D. Integrated Mathematics Phase-Out

The chart below describes the process for phasing out the senior high school Integrated Mathematics courses. This phase-out is to be reflected in the master schedule until the process is completed in the school year 2002-2003. Schools offering any Integrated Mathematics course during the 2000-2001 school year should follow the phase-out process outlined in the chart below:

2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Integrated Mathematics 1AB (Last time offered)	Integrated Mathematics 2AB (Last time offered)	Integrated Mathematics 3AB (Last time offered)
Integrated Mathematics 2AB (Last time offered)	Integrated Mathematics 3AB (Last time offered)	Mathematics requirement complete. Students may take other college preparation mathematics elective courses that follow Algebra 2AB
Integrated Mathematics 3AB (Last time offered)	Mathematics requirement complete. Students may take other college preparation mathematics elective courses that follow Algebra 2AB	Mathematics requirement complete. Students may take other college preparation mathematics elective courses that follow Algebra 2AB

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy is to be implemented beginning with the fall semester of 2001. Algebra has now become the entry-level course for senior high school students and the only option for students who have not already completed Algebra 1 successfully. Ninth grade students are to be placed in either of the Algebra 1 courses listed above. No other courses for ninth graders satisfy the District's pathway for meeting the Algebra graduation requirement. All other ninth grade mathematics courses are to be removed from the master schedule immediately.

Local District Superintendents will request copies of their schools' master schedules after the fall 2001 semester begins.

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