

Pathways to Success 2008-2009

What Parents Need to Know

Mathematics is used to understand and interpret our world. In the global economy of the 21st century, those who can understand and apply mathematics have more opportunities to achieve success in higher education, the world of work, and life.

Maryland graduation requirements include 4 credits in mathematics, including Algebra 1, Geometry, and two additional math courses such as Algebra 2, precalculus, and/or statistics.

Parents need to monitor their children's progress in math to make sure they are taking the most challenging courses. The graphic in this brochure helps with just that. Parents can "chart a path" for their students that will get them to the level they need to achieve by the end of Grade 12. There are a few things that you should know:

- There are many different paths that students can take. Some of the possible paths are shown on the chart. Your child's teacher and counselor can help you determine the best course sequence.
- Acceleration can occur at various times throughout a student's mathematics studies. These accelerated pathways are designated on the chart with a broken red arrow. This acceleration does not mean that the student "skips" a course. For example, when the broken red arrow shows a path that takes a student from Math 2 in Grade 2 to Math 4 in Grade 3, this means that the student has mastered the content of both Math 2 and Math 3 in Grade 2 before moving into Math 4 in the next grade. A child must demonstrate proficiency in the content of a course, as determined by performance on the assessments.
- The school system's objective is to prepare all students to be successful after high school—in college, other postsecondary studies, and the world of work. This chart will help you monitor your child's math progress and keep him/her on track for the future.

For more
information,
please call your
child's school.

School Administration

Dr. Jerry D. Weast
Superintendent

Mr. Larry A. Bowers
Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Frieda K. Lacey
Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Understanding Your Child's Course Options in Mathematics

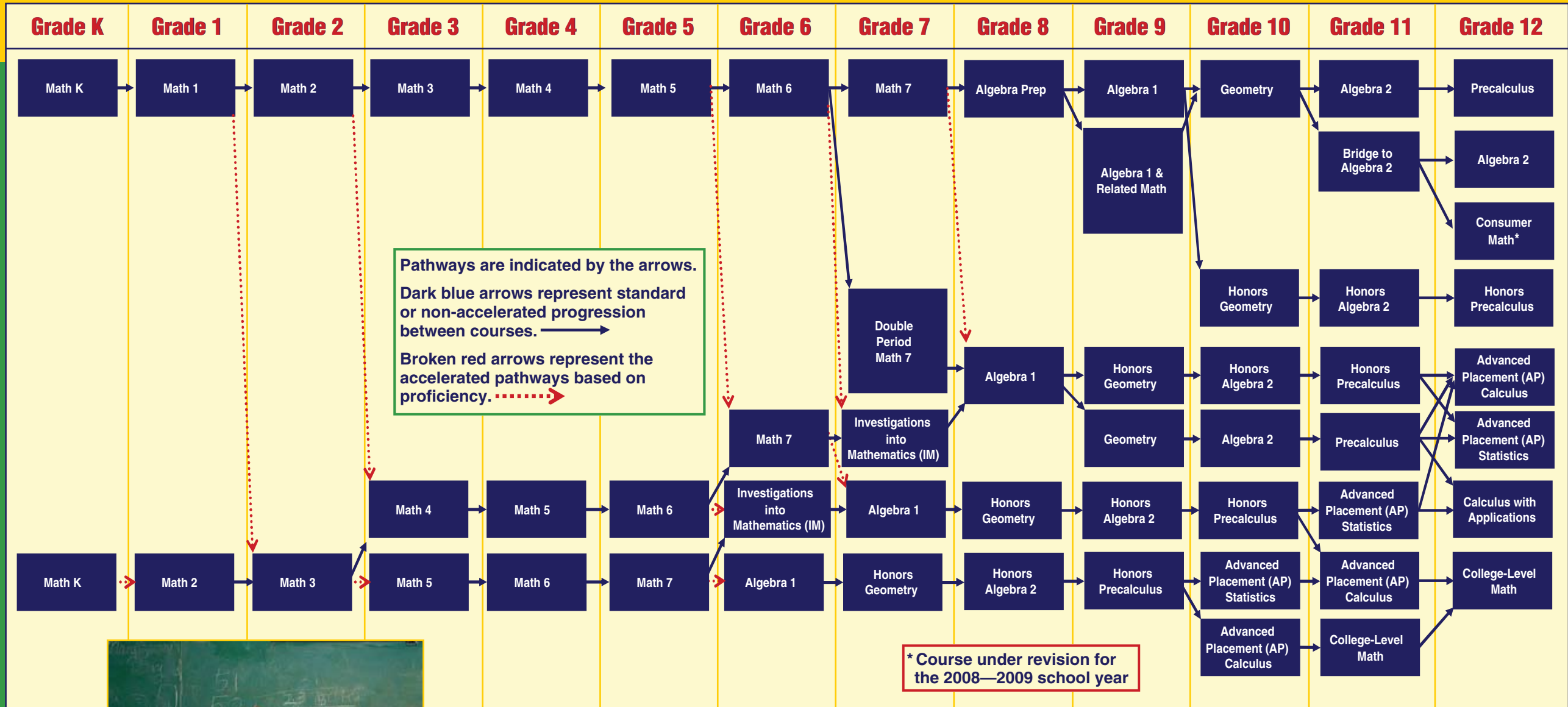


Montgomery County Public Schools

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Pathways to Success in Mathematics



This chart shows some of the many options that students have in the progression of mathematics courses from Kindergarten through Grade 12. Courses are presented in columns by grade level, starting with Kindergarten on the far left side of the chart and moving to Grade 12 on the far right.

Acceleration occurs in Kindergarten through Grade 8. Acceleration does not mean that the student “skips” a course. For example, when the broken red arrow shows a path that takes a student from Math 2 in Grade 2 to Math 4 in Grade 3, this means that the student has mastered the content of both Math 2 and Math 3 in Grade 2 before moving into Math 4 in the next grade. It is important for a student to demonstrate proficiency in the content of a course before he/she is moved to the next level. Students have the option to move from an on-level course to Honors or Advanced Placement courses at any time throughout high school.