

Questions	Answer
How can math in 3 rd , 4 th , and 5 th grade be two hours when you have to also teach science?	Science is taught 2-3 times a week during the math block. In addition, all classes visit the science lab every week for science enrichment.
Are the interim report grades based on above or on-level content?	Grading is based on the level of material being taught depending on a student's current instructional level. Extension level material does not negatively impact their grade.
What is going on in Kindergarten (all) math classes? I read the newsletter but I am still unclear about day to day instruction.	<p>Parents should review the following for up to date information about day to day classroom instruction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unit preview sent home before unit. ▪ Weekly newsletters describe what is going on in the classroom. ▪ Homework describes what is being taught. <p>Sometimes classroom work is done with manipulatives and paperwork is not available to go home.</p>
Are students skipping whole grade levels in math?	No, students were taught both on-grade level and above-grade level math contents by their previous math teachers. Students who receive 72% proficiency in the above grade level materials and/or with staff recommendations on case by case basis are placed in accelerated classes.
If my child is in the blended class, how will he/she advance into the pure above-level math classes?	The student will need to consistently show mastery of the grade level and above grade level content. The data will be reviewed by the teacher and the team. Recommendation will be made to parents and administration.

<p>How can I get feedback from my child's PM math teacher during conferences?</p>	<p>The PM teacher will provide the AM teacher with a written description of the student's progress.</p>
<p>How can I find out more about my child's progress before the end of the unit?</p>	<p>Student work and quizzes are sent home to indicate student progress. Students in the upper grades keep track of their own quiz grades to monitor their progress. Please check the student's folder and binder on a regular basis.</p>
<p>What resources are out there to help parents help their children?</p>	<p>The following are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MCPS online curriculum ▪ Glencoe & Harcourt on line resources ▪ Unit previews ▪ Student work ▪ Content maps ▪ Everyday Math on-line resources for parents
<p>What must my child do to move up to an advanced math class at their grade level?</p>	<p>A student must show 72 % mastery of on and above grade level objectives consistently on units.</p>
<p>How are we ensuring that students with IEP (Individual Educational Plan), special education, are supported in the math program? Is skipping content an issue for him/her?</p>	<p>Para-educators, resource support, small group instruction and the IEP accommodations support students with IEP needs. Students do not skip grade level math concepts. There is a review of concepts in all math classes prior to the new teaching. Students that need to be taught grade level math are placed in the blended class to receive grade level content with opportunities for enrichment.</p>
<p>Are you concerned about a student's self-confidence when he/she struggles to keep up in his/her math class?</p>	<p>Yes, we are constantly assessing students to make sure that they are being successful in math. We want children to feel good about math and not be stressed.</p>

	When parents or teachers sense an increased stress level, Ms. Averill is available for support.
Could you include basic facts into the homework?	School wide focus in mathematics is on computation. As students become more proficient, they will also increase their basic facts. Aside from the regular math homework assigned by the teacher, please access IXL math program on our school website for computation practice.
Is there any data on how students are performing at Hoover?	Hoover shares students' Quarter 1 grades with the Wayside administration. There is regular, on-going communication between the two principals in which information about how students are doing is shared at monthly administrative meetings. Any concerns about specific student performance can be addressed through the middle school guidance office.
How does the teacher provide my child enough help in a large classroom?	Students receive support in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small group instruction with teacher ▪ Pareducator support ▪ One to one support with teacher and resource (SPED, ESOL) teachers ▪ Math talk with peers
Can students use calculators in 3 rd grade math?	For certain units/concepts, students are allowed to use calculators. Students will be made aware if they are allowed to use a calculator. They will also be encouraged to use the calculator during class time when appropriate. Certain students with IEP's use calculators as an accommodation.
If my child is struggling in advanced math, when will my child be switched	Students are constantly monitored and a switch will be made when necessary.

<p>to more appropriate placement?</p>	<p>Collaboration between the parent and teacher should occur prior to any change being made. The switch will happen when it is best for the student.</p>
<p>Why is there no option for on-grade level math?</p>	<p>On grade level material is covered in the blended (combination) curriculum. There are not enough students at this time to create a full class of on-grade level students.</p>
<p>Can we get the math homework packet on Friday?</p>	<p>The homework packet follows what students are doing in class each week. If a student is completing homework over the weekend, they're doing so without the instruction needed to do so. This could result in confusion. In addition, feedback from parents indicates that completing homework over the weekend impacts family time together.</p>
<p>Is it expected for parents to teach materials for homework? At what point do teachers step up for extra help?</p>	<p>Homework should be a review of class work. Please notify teachers if there is difficulty in completing homework. When parents and students complete "packet" materials out of sequence, there is a chance that a student would not have background knowledge to complete the assignment on his/her own.</p>
<p>What will the school do to cover basic facts?</p>	<p>All classes have basic fact study in class at least once a week. Most classes have it everyday. Many teachers include basic facts in centers, anchor activities, and stations. The school wide focus on computation will also help address basic fact fluency. Also, IXL, a math program on-line has been purchased and will support both the concepts taught and build</p>

	computation skills.
What is expected from parents at home? Should we work with basic facts at home? How much time should be spent on math homework?	Parents are encouraged to support your children as they complete homework. Grades 1 and 2 students should spend about 10-20 minutes on math, and grades 3, 4 and 5 should spend about 30 minutes.
How and when will you reorganize the curriculums so that the concepts are not presented out of order?	Wayside staff <u>is not</u> responsible for writing the math curriculum. The blended math curriculum aligns concepts so that students can review previously taught math materials and be taught on grade level and above grade level content.
What is the criteria for reteaching and retesting students? What grades count?	Re-teaching and retesting is aligned with MCPS Grading and Reporting policies. If students do not understand the concepts, they will be retaught and retested for mastery for that particular skill in the classroom. This can be done in multiple ways such as exit cards, quizzes, class performance, small group, etc. The grade that is primarily taught to the student will be counted and graded.
How is blended math graded? Which objectives?	Students are graded on material that has been taught, which can include: grade level or above grade level content materials.
Are paraeducators in the blended classes everyday?	Yes, 45-90 minutes for some classes.
At homework club, how many paraeducators and high school volunteers are available to help?	There are two teachers, two paraeducators and 4 student volunteers.
Are we no longer using the TN2 for placement?	TN2 is used as one piece of data for math placement, as well as previous unit test

	results, quizzes and classwork.
Are the new policies just for Wayside or all MCPS?	These are not policies. Wayside teachers follow the MCPS guidelines for math instruction. Wayside staff created the blended curriculum which is a realignment of the MCPS math curriculum to meet the needs our students.
What has caused this dramatic change in the last three years?	<p>The following have resulted in our student's increased achievement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ all day kindergarten ▪ a master schedule to allow longer instructional blocks ▪ common planning among teachers ▪ Directive from MCPS to get students college ready <p>The staff at Wayside have noted that majority of our new students entering kindergarten are prepared for the first grade program at the Kindergarten Orientation in the Spring. When instructed at the K/1 level, Kindergarten students were successfully completing the on and above grade level content with 72-100% accuracy.</p> <p>Due to this early on-set of excellent student achievement-the program has been adjusted to meet the needs of our student population.</p>
I heard students were burnt out at high school? Does research support this blended strategy?	Varied by individual students. Students' programs are individualized at the high school level. Students sign up for courses that meet their interest and needs.
What accommodations are made for students who are struggling to keep up	Students are provided with small group work, re-teaching/ retesting, and a

with the advanced math?	possible move to blended math classroom.
<p>What is Wayside doing to communicate the math pathways and the effects of math classes taken now will impact what they take in high school?</p>	<p>The following actions were/will be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Back to School night ▪ Math Night ▪ Teacher feedback ▪ Progress reports/report cards ▪ Parent Academy ▪ Parent Conferences <p>Please search the MCPS website for our Superintendent’s message about the math pathways and trajectory for college readiness.</p> <p>http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/superintendent/</p>
<p>What is the difference between on grade level, blended, and above grade level math classes?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On Grade Level-Students receive instruction on grade level math concepts with extensions in the above grade level materials when appropriate. ▪ There are students in the blended (combination) classes that are instructed on the on grade level and above grade level math concepts with extensions as needed. ▪ Above Grade Level – Students receive straight above grade level content with next grade level extensions.
<p>How can we ensure that students have the fundamentals?</p>	<p>By continuously using assessment data such as homework, class work, quizzes and tests to determine if a student’s needs are being met, and making changes to the student’s program when necessary.</p>
<p>Can you provide weekly and or monthly progress report in math?</p>	<p>Each grade level provides information to parents in a variety of ways, from learning</p>

Other schools provide weekly progress reports.	skills sheet, newsletters, website updates, grade sheets, graded work, etc.
Where is the regular progression for math at Wayside-no option for grade level math?	There is a grade level math class at each grade level in the blended (combination) class.
How much time is spent using manipulatives in math?	As appropriate, manipulatives and other concrete objects are used to support concepts being taught. The tools students use to learn concepts in class are also used in testing situation.
Why do we not have textbooks?	We are a school that uses <u>Everyday Math</u> as a resource and there are no student textbooks in this series. Teachers use other resources to support their math curriculum. There are only student reference books. The upper grades (Math A and Math B) do have textbooks.