



Birmingham Community Charter High School

Board Policy 33 – Math Placement

Purpose(s):

The purpose of this document is to provide incoming 9th grade students opportunity to excel in mathematics and guidelines for math placement using multiple measures

Issuer:

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Board Approved:

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Federal / State / laws, regulations, bulletins and/or memorandums:

SB 359 (CH 508) California Mathematics Placement Act

California Mathematics Framework

Attachments:

Attachment A – Accelerated Math Pathway Agreement

BACKGROUND:

The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, adopted by the California Board of Education, reflect the importance of focus, coherence and rigor (California Mathematics Framework) in mathematics instruction and learning. Common core courses in mathematics require that students have the prerequisite skills to achieve academically in successive courses. On January 1, 2016 Senate Bill 359, (California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015) took effect which requires all LEAs to establish a “fair, objective and transparent” mathematics placement policy for incoming 9th grade students.

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES:

I. High School Pathways

A. College and Career

With the adoption of UC/CSU A-G requirements as part of BCCHS’ graduation requirements, students will complete Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2. An optional fourth year of mathematics will be offered to students.

B. Acceleration & Enrichment

- a. Students will have opportunities to accelerate in mathematics by enrolling in two periods of mathematics and complete the following courses in one academic year:

- Algebra 1 & Geometry
- Geometry & Algebra 2
- Algebra 2 and Trigonometry/Math Analysis

- b. Acceleration Agreement

Students and Parents must sign the Acceleration Agreement to participate in this pathway (See Attachment A)

II. Math Placement Criteria and High School Credits

Incoming 9th grade students will be placed in appropriate math course based on multiple measures:

A. Middle School Math Course Completion

- a. Students who earned a grade of “B” or higher both semesters in 8th grade math classes will be placed in the next math course in sequence, unless students score less than Level 3A on the BCCHS Math Diagnostic Exam (MDE) (Refer to Table 1a)
- b. Students who earned a grade of “C” both semesters in 8th grade math classes will be placed in Algebra 1, unless students score at Level 4 or higher on the MDE
- c. Students who earned a grade less than a “C” in at least one semester of an 8th grade math class will be placed in an Intensive Support Math course in the Fall Term and the first semester of Algebra 1 in the Spring Term, unless students score at Level 3A or higher on the MDE
- d. Geometry in Middle School
 - Students who earned a “C” or higher both semesters AND scored at Level 5 may move on to Algebra 2 and will receive 20 high school credits for Algebra 1 and Geometry
 - Students who earned a “B” or higher both semesters AND scored at Level 4 will receive 10 high school credits for Algebra 1 only and will be required to repeat Geometry
 - Students who earned a “C” or higher both semesters AND scored at Level 3A will be required to repeat Algebra 1, will receive 10 credits for Geometry and may move on to Algebra 2 after successfully completing Algebra 1
 - Students not meeting any of the above criteria will not receive any high school credits and will be placed in Algebra 1



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B. BCCHS Math Diagnostic Exam (MDE)

During the first month of each school year, freshman students will take a diagnostic exam as another measure to assess proper placement. The following table describes the recommended placement based on student performance and marks earned in middle school math courses

Table 1a

MDE Score OR SBAC	Middle School Course + Marks	Recommended Placement
Level 5 (90% or Higher)	A, B, C Geometry	H Algebra 2 & H Trig/Math (acceleration)* OR H Algebra 2
	A, B, C Algebra 1	H Geometry & H Algebra 2 (acceleration)*
Level 4 (75% - 89%)	A, B, C Algebra 1 OR A, B, C, D, F Geometry	Geometry
	A, B, C Algebra 1 OR A, B Math 8 OR A, B, C, D, F Geometry	H Algebra 1 & H Geometry (acceleration)*
Level 3A (70% - 74%) OR SBAC Level: Exceeded	A, B, C Algebra 1 OR A, B Math 8 OR A, B, C, D, F Geometry	Algebra 1
Level 3B (65% - 69%)	A, B, C, D, F Geometry	Algebra 1
Level 3C (85% or Higher)	D, F Algebra 1	Algebra 1
Level 2 (45% - 64%)	A, B, C Algebra 1 OR A, B, C Math 8 OR A, B, C, D, F Geometry	Algebra 1
	Any course	Foundations of Algebra (Fall) & Algebra 1A (Spring)

*Acceleration Agreement Required



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Attachment A

ACCELERATED MATH PATHWAY

BCCHS has expanded its mathematics program to provide students with additional support and acceleration. The Accelerated Math Pathway at BCCHS provides students an opportunity to complete two yearlong math courses in one year.

Some accelerated options^ are shown below

Grade Level	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Option 1	H Algebra 1 & H Geometry	H Algebra 2	H Trig/Math	AP Calculus AB
Option 2	H Algebra 1 & H Geometry	H Algebra 2 & H Trig/Math	AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC
Option 3	H Geometry & H Algebra 2	H Trig/Math & AP Calculus A**	AP Calculus BC**	AP Statistics OR Calculus III*
Option 4	H Algebra 2 & H Trig/Math	AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC	AP Statistics OR Calculus III*

* Potential College Level Math Courses

** AP Calculus AB and BC are covered in 3 semesters and the combined exam for AP Calculus AB & BC is completed in one sitting

^ Option availability is based on the number of students that meet the minimum requirements

Accelerated math courses are extremely rigorous, and students must demonstrate continued success in these courses throughout the school year as a condition for continued enrollment in the Accelerated Pathway. **If a student earns less than a "B" in the semester math course(s), the student's placement may be changed.**

Requirements/Pre-requisites: Students must meet the requirements below to participate in the Accelerated Math Pathway program

- 9th Grade: Meet the minimum requirements shown in the table below. Marks of "C" will be allowed for incoming 9th grade students as long as the student scores at the appropriate level on the Diagnostic Exam

MDE/SBAC	Middle School Course + Mark	Eligibility for Accelerated Pathway
Level 5 (90% or Higher)	A, B, C Geometry	H Algebra 2 & H Trig/Math
	A, B, C – Algebra 1	H Geometry & H Algebra 2
Level 3A (70% - 74%) OR SBAC Level: Exceeded	A, B, C – Algebra 1 OR A, B, C – Math 8	H Algebra 1 & H Geometry

- 10th – 12th: Complete an honors level math class the prior year with a grade of "B" or higher OR complete college preparatory math class with a grade of "A". Students who do not meet this requirement may also enroll in the Accelerated Math Pathway with teacher recommendation.

Part 1: ACCELERATION AGREEMENT

- I have read the requirements to enroll in the Accelerated Math Pathway at BCCHS
- By signing this form I acknowledge the following:
 - I understand the purpose for acceleration and implications for my student
 - I understand my child needs to maintain a "B" or higher in this class
 - I understand if my child does not earn a "B" or higher, his/her schedule may be changed OR an action plan may be implemented
 - If my child does not make progress after implementation of an action plan, he/she will be removed from the accelerated pathway

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Parent Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Submit Completed Form to Student's Counselor

Part 2: To be completed by COUNSELOR

Yes No

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Student meets the minimum requirements to participate in the Accelerated Math Pathway

Counselor Name: _____ Counselor Signature: _____

Part 3: To be completed by MATH TEACHER (ONLY if Part 2 is NO)

Yes No

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I recommend student for the Accelerated Math Pathway

Teacher Name: _____ Current Course Enrollment: _____ Current Grade: _____

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____