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## **New Math Course: Algebra 1 A/B**

Mt. Diablo USD is creating a new two-year course for students who have challenges of success in math or need to move at a slower pace for cognitive process and deepening the foundations of Algebra 1. The goal of the course is to help students become proficient at basic algebra skills in order to lay a strong foundation for success in higher math classes.

### **Why a two-year course?**

- High fail rate in Algebra 1 across the district
- AIMS classes are not working - no set curriculum, no student buy-in
- No option for a course below Algebra 1 at High School level

### **What content does Algebra 1 A/B cover?**

- Algebra 1 and Algebra 1 A/B cover all the same standards
- Same level of rigor
- Extra time in A/B should allow for deeper learning with Blended Learning practice and focus on foundational Algebra 1 skills.

### **How will Algebra 1 A/B support students who need more time or struggle?**

- ALEKS - online individualized program for students to close learning gaps
- Hands-On Activities - Discovery Based Lessons, Manipulatives, Group Work
- Desmos - Interactive algebra software, embedded in new Student e-textbook
- Blended Learning: Concurrent online support to for foundational skills AND Algebra 1 content that provides support with current content that will be used in class weekly AND can be access at home anytime.

### **Does Algebra 1 A/B meet Common Core State Standards? YES**

- Standards-based lessons
- Projects
- Performance Tasks
- Districtwide Common Formative Assessments
- Districtwide Common Unit assessments and Quarterly Benchmarks
- Successful completion of Algebra 1B satisfies high school graduation requirement



## How will students be placed in Algebra 1A?

- 4-part placement rubric (districtwide): iReady, MDTP, MDUSD Numeracy Test, Grade
- All 8th grader students are assessed in the 4 diagnostics; regardless of 8<sup>th</sup> grade course they are enrolled.
- Cut scores determine placement

## Will Algebra 1 A/B students still be college ready? YES

Options	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Acceleration
<b>4 year A-G</b>	Algebra 1A	Algebra 1B	Geometry	Algebra II	
<b>Acceleration 1</b>	Algebra 1A	Geometry	Algebra II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Calculus</li> <li>• Statistics</li> <li>• AP Statistics</li> </ul>	Summer: Algebra 1B
<b>Acceleration 2</b>	Algebra 1A	May vary	May vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AP Calc</li> </ul>	2 Summer Courses/ Possible Community College Course

## Will my student receive a full year of credit for A and B?

- Year 1 Algebra 1A = 10 math credits
- Year 2 Algebra 1B = 10 math credits
- 20 math credits earned; completion of Algebra 1B fulfills Algebra 1 graduation requirement.

## Is this a common course? What happens when students transfer to other school?

- Many local districts have this course offering (Acalanes, San Ramon Valley, Antioch)
- Partnering with San Ramon Valley USD who are in their 2nd year
- Course offered at all Mt. Diablo High Schools

## Need to know...

- Pacing from Algebra 1 AB to traditional Geometry may cause some challenges of adjusting back into traditional course pacing.
- Parents would need to be in partnership with schools to rebuild to traditional pace.
- Students should be familiar with pace from other subjects and need to apply this self-organization and content practice with newly developed foundational skills into new math courses.