

## **NORTH HUNTERDON-VOORHEES REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **BRIEFING PAPER – ALGEBRA 1A CP (501) AND ALGEBRA 1B CP (502)**

**CURRENT STATUS:** Students take the HMH Math Inventory in 8th grade to identify their readiness for Algebra I to assist with their 9th-grade math placement. HMH states that students with a 1030 or above are ready for Algebra I. For the class of 2021 (current sophomores), 127 students scored below 1030 ([data available in this spreadsheet](#)), meaning that they were not ready for Algebra I. However, those students still went into Algebra I CP because there is no other class for them to go into. Many of those students also took Supplemental Algebra to provide additional instruction.

When students in the class of 2021 took the Algebra I PARCC test in the spring of 2018, only 26 of the 127 students who scored below 1030 on the Math Inventory passed the test. The 101 students who did not pass the test are now in a remedial Algebra I course to prepare them to retake the Algebra I PARCC test in December or January.

Passing the Algebra I test is currently the graduation requirement for students in the class of 2021 and beyond.

**GOAL:** To give students the best possible instruction in Algebra I, which is the building block of the other high school math classes they will take, to help them pass the Algebra I PARCC test.

#### **PROPOSAL:**

- To have students who place into the lowest level for Algebra 1 (see the [placement rubric](#), which includes HMH Math Inventory score) take a two-year Algebra 1 CP class (total of 10 credits - Algebra 1A CP (5 credits) (501) and Algebra 1B CP (5 credits) (502)). The first year will begin with reviewing/teaching pre-Algebra skills, and then the class will begin the Algebra I curriculum. Students will complete the Algebra I curriculum and take the Algebra I test in the second year of the course.
- Students can take the appropriate Geometry course during their sophomore year (concurrently with the second year of Algebra I) based on teacher recommendation. If the teacher does not recommend this, then the student will take Geometry during his or her junior year (after completing the two-year Algebra I course).

#### **ADVANTAGES:**

- Students will be able to go through the Algebra I curriculum at a pace that is more conducive to learning based on their current math skill level.
- Supplemental Algebra will no longer be needed, so students will be able to have their directed study period.

#### **DISADVANTAGES:**

- It may take students four years to take the required three years of high school math (only the second year of this proposal will meet the high school math requirement).

- Will have to provide staffing for this two-year course. (However, staffing will not be needed for Supplemental Algebra, and we expect that the staff members teaching the Algebra I workshop will be reduced.)

**SPECIFIC ACTION REQUIRED:**

- Approve the two-year Algebra 1A CP (501) and Algebra 1B CP (502) courses.

**EVALUATION:** The success of this change will be measured by how successful the students are on the Algebra I PARCC test, which is the math graduation requirement.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

- Rich Broan, Sue Hammerstone, Carol Skidmore, and Lauren Watson

**DATE:** October 1, 2018