

BLOOMINGTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MATH CURRICULUM UPDATE

March 11, 2009



DISTRICT 87 BOARD GOAL

“All students will acquire the mathematical skills and concepts at each grade level, as evaluated using District assessments, to ensure their successful completion of algebra and geometry by the end of tenth grade.”

BACKGROUND

- Significant upgrades to the BJHS math curriculum were made in 2006.
- Outcomes of these upgrades include:
 - Increased student achievement
 - Greater access to higher level math courses
 - Increased differentiation of the curriculum to meet student strengths and needs
 - Significant number of students completing Algebra I by the end of 8th grade

BACKGROUND

- Students begin 6th grade in one of three math courses that are tailored for their strengths and needs.
- They progress through different middle school courses depending on their performance in each course.
- Students who demonstrate readiness for more advanced math courses may begin Algebra I in 7th grade or 8th grade.
- Curriculum focuses on meeting the needs of ALL students and preparing ALL students for higher level math courses.

PROPOSAL

- Upgrade the curriculum materials (i.e. books and online resources) for four courses
 - Pre-Algebra Part 1
 - Pre-Algebra Part 2
 - Advanced Pre-Algebra
 - Advanced Topics

CURRICULUM MATERIALS

⦿ New books and materials

- Prentice Hall Mathematics - Course 2
- Glencoe Impact Mathematics - Course 2
- Glencoe Math Matters - Course 1

⦿ Benefits

- Increased focus on the learning standards for each grade level and course
- Improved lessons and activities on key concepts and problem solving
- Increased support for differentiated instruction
- Increased technological and online support

PROPOSAL

- Replace Algebra I Part 1 with a new course
 - “Algebra I Part 1” in 8th grade leads to “Algebra I Part 2” in 9th grade.
 - Slower curriculum (one year course stretched over two years)
 - Lack of challenge to meet student strengths and needs
 - New course - “Concepts of Algebra”
 - Challenging curriculum designed for 8th grade students
 - Focus on strengthening the concepts needed for success in Algebra and beyond
 - Increased focus on problem solving and algebraic thinking
 - Students will be prepared to successfully complete Algebra I in 9th grade and move to high level and, possibly, honors math courses in high school.
 - “Concepts of Algebra” would be offered beginning in 2009-2010.

BJHS Math Curricula Flow Chart

6th

7th

8th

Pre-Algebra



Algebra I



Honors
Geometry

Advanced
Math



Advanced
Topics



Algebra I

6th Grade
Core Math



Pre-Algebra



**Algebra I
Part I**
Concepts of Algebra



Pre-Algebra
Part I



Pre-Algebra
Part II

Courses outlined in green will receive new materials.

NEXT STEPS

- ◉ If approved, we will purchase curriculum materials through Illinois Textbook Loan and curriculum funds.
- ◉ Teachers will implement new materials and new course in 2009-10.
- ◉ We will continue to review the math curriculum to ensure that all students are able to succeed in high level math curricula.