Montgomery County Public Schools
UNLEASHING POTENTIAL

Accelerated and Enriched Learning in Literacy and Mathematics

Montgomery County Board of Education

May 7, 2026

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MCPS

Achieving Equitable Mathematics and Literacy Acceleration

- For the 2026–2027 school year, MCPS will implement a new model of mathematics acceleration aligned with MSDE state policy and designed to better meet the needs of all students.
- MCPS will integrate mathematics enrichment and acceleration opportunities within the new curriculum.
- MCPS will present a unified acceleration model for elementary literacy.

The superintendent recommends the Board receive this report for information.

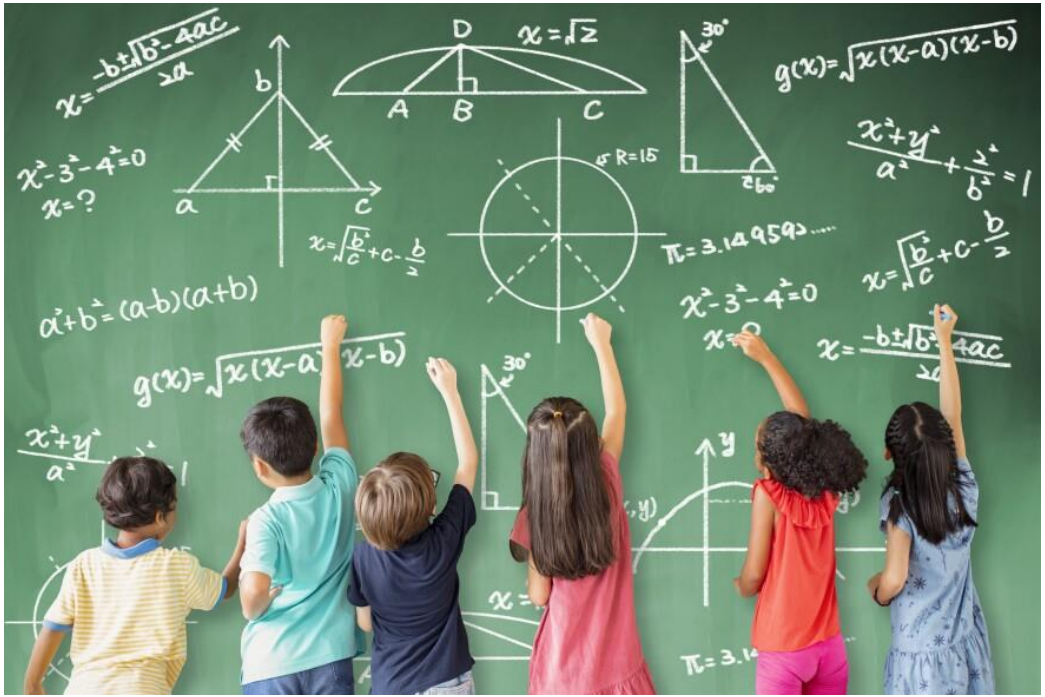
Alignment with the Strategic Plan

- **Goal 1:** All students will demonstrate high levels of academic achievement and growth.
  - **Objective 7:** MCPS will provide programmatic and discrete opportunities for all students to demonstrate innovation and enrichment to enhance learning experiences.

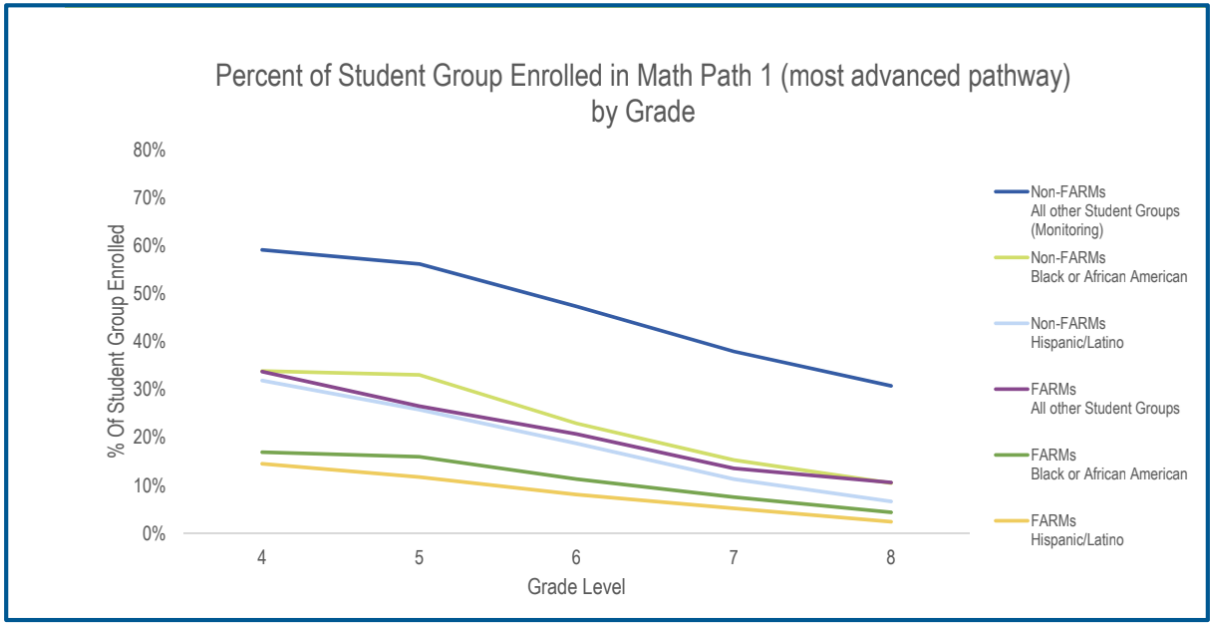
Mathematics Acceleration

What is Compacted Math?

Current State: Compacted Math
Skips Content in Grades 4-6
Tracks Students
Limited On and Off Ramps
Inequitable Identification
Grades 4 and 5
Algebra 1 in Grade 7



Expert Recommendations Over the Years



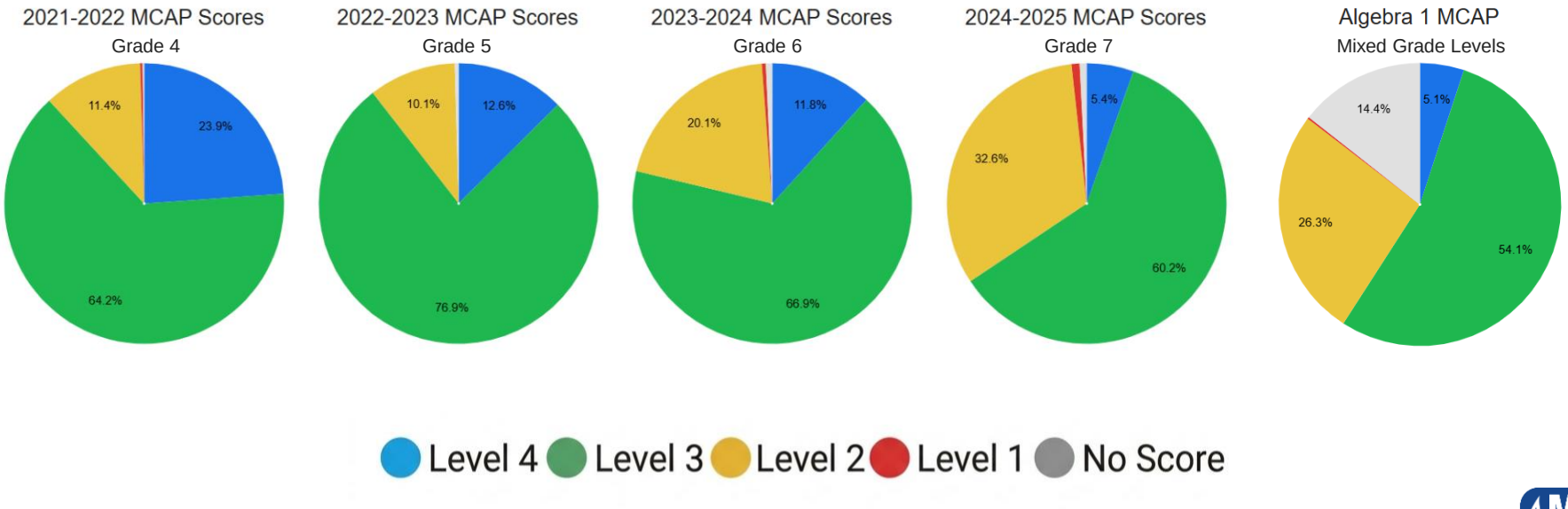
Education Resource Strategies (ERS)

Compacting… "puts access to the depth of understanding required by the standards at risk for students moving through that pathway."

MCPS Math Audit, March 2018

Declining Proficiency

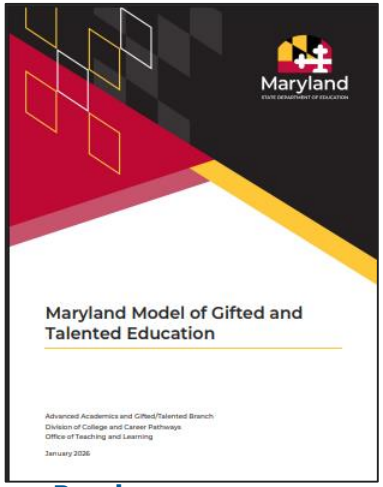
Compacted Math 4/5 Cohort from 2021–2022 show declining proficiency on MCAP from Grade 4 to Grade 7



Informed by the Experts on Gifted Education

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

JOHNS HOPKINS CENTER for TALENTED YOUTH



"It is important to differentiate grouping, which is flexible, ongoing, and responsive to changing student needs, from tracking, which is fixed and inflexible."

National Association of Gifted Children Position Statement, August 2025

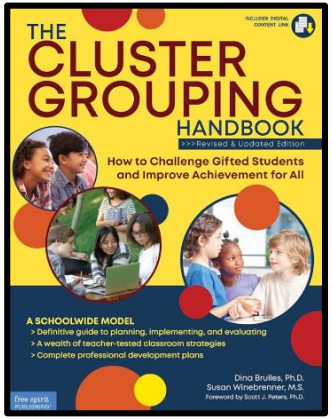
Improving Success Through Acceleration

Current State: Compacted Math	Future State: MSDE Requirements
Skips Content ✗	No skipping content ✓
Tracks Students ✗	No tracking ✓
Limits Access for Acceleration ✗	Flexible Access to Acceleration ✓
Inequitable Identification ✗	Ongoing Identification ✓
Grade 4 & 5 ✗	Grade 3, 4 & 5 ✓
Limited Communication ✗	Acceleration Plan ✓

Achieving the Future State

Cluster Grouping:

In this model, a group of identified gifted students is cohorted for instruction in a classroom for ongoing enrichment and and acceleration services.



Achieving the Future State

How acceleration happens for students:

umbers, operations, and their relationships[1].
ions necessarily includes conceptual understanding of the mathematics involved, not just getting

of 2nd an...	By the end of 3rd grade, I can...	By the end of 4th grade, I can...	By the end of 5th grade, I can...	E
mpose, d bers using s.	• Read, write, compose, decompose, and compare numbers through 10,000, using multiple representations. • Read, write, and communicate about fractions as equal parts of a whole.	• Read, write, compose, decompose, and compare numbers through 1,000,000, using multiple representations. • Read, write, and compare decimals to the hundredths place.	Read, write, compose, decompose, and compare numbers through millions and thousandths, using multiple representations.	• F c • F a n i
kly	• Recall or quickly derive	• Fluently solve	• Fluently multiply	•

How do we meet the needs of all learners?

Using ongoing data, groups will be identified throughout the year.

Class A

- Group 1
- Group 4
- Group 5

Class B

- Group 2
- Group 3
- Group 4

School Year 2026–2027 Math Articulation

What will happen to my 4th grade student taking Math 4/5 now with our current course offerings?

2026–27 Grade 5	2027–28 Grade 6	2028–29 Grade 7	2029–30 Grade 8	2030–31 Grade 9	2031–32 Grade 10	2032–33 Grade 11	2033–34 Grade 12
Math 5 w/Accel	Accel Math 6	Accel Math 7	Integrated Algebra 1	Integrated Algebra 2	Pre Calculus	A/B Calculus	Course Options for Students
Math 5 w/Accel	Grade 6 Pre-Alg	Integrated Algebra 1	Integrated Algebra 2	Pre Calculus	A/B Calculus	B/C Calculus	

School Year 2027–2028 Math Articulation

What will future articulation look like for Grade 3 students starting in school year 2027–2028 with our current course offerings?

2027–28 Grade 3	2028–29 Grade 4	2029–30 Grade 5	2030–31 Grade 6	2031–32 Grade 7	2032–33 Grade 8	2033–34 Grade 9	2034–35 Grade 10	2035–36 Grade 11	2036–37 Grade 10
Math 3	Math 4	Math 5	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	Integrated Algebra 1	Integrated Algebra 2	Pre Calculus	Calculus
Math 3	Math 4 w/Accel	Math 5 w/Accel	Accel Math 6	Accel Math 7	Integrated Algebra 1	Integrated Algebra 2	Pre Calculus	Calculus A/B	Calculus B/C
Math 3 w/Accel	Math 4 w/Accel	Math 5 w/Accel	Grade 6 Pre-Alg	Integrated Algebra 1	Integrated Algebra 2	Pre Calculus	Calculus A/B	Calculus B/C	Course Options

Student Identification and Accountability

- Data used to identify students for acceleration:
  - CogAT
  - MAP-M
  - MCAP
  - Curriculum Unit Assessments

- MCPS will report to parents quarterly how students are progressing towards the standards.

Job-Embedded Math Professional Learning

Professional learning will be provided by math leaders, Cross Function Team instructional specialists, and Amplify coaches:

- Cluster group instruction
- Studying the standards
- Use of curricular resources to plan for enrichment and acceleration

Timeline for Implementation

School Year	Implementation
2025–2026	Professional learning to create clusters Office hours and trainings for principals and math leaders Math CFT support the transition and prepare teachers for this shift in both curriculum and implementation
2026–2027	Summer professional learning Accelerated grade 5 completion Cluster grouping for rising grades 4
2027–2028	Cluster grouping for rising Grade 3 Transition to new Integrated Algebra 1 curriculum
2028–2029	Rollout of new Integrated Algebra 2 curriculum

Family Communication and School Support

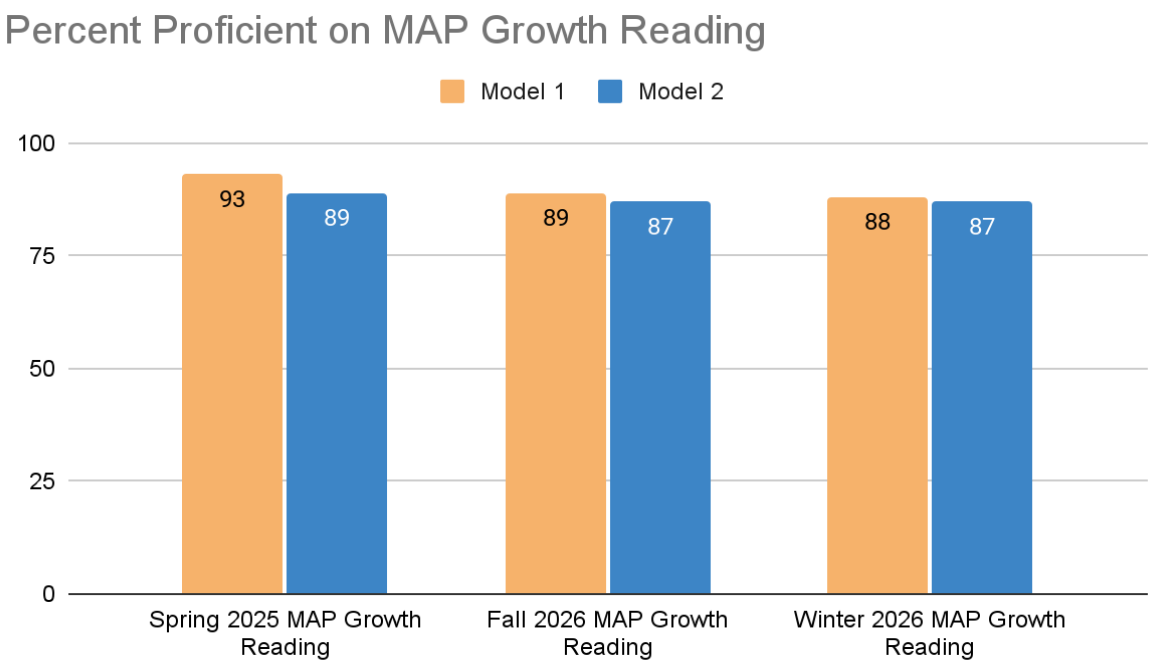
- In coordination with the Division of Family and Community Engagement, community meetings and other outreach will introduce Amplify Desmos Math.
- Amplify Desmos Caregiver Hub offers tools and guidance to support student learning at home.

Literacy Enrichment

Elementary Literacy Enrichment Models (Grades 4 and 5)

Model 1	Model 2
• Enrichment Overlays • Homogenous class • Adjusted pacing	• Enrichment Overlays • Cluster grouping • Literacy enrichment flag noted on report card
Implementation Numbers	
Grade 4 – 26	Grade 4 – 99
Grade 5 – 15	Grade 5 – 71
41 Model 1 Classes	**171** Model 2 Classes

Elementary Literacy Data



This data shows that there is not a significant difference in student performance between Model 1 and Model 2.

Elementary Literacy Data

Disaggregated Data from Fall to Winter shows:

Subgroup	Model 1	Model 2
Special Education	-4%	+4%
Black/African American	-2%	No change
Hispanic/Latino	-4%	+1%
Two or more races	-3%	+2%
Emergent Multilingual Learners	-11%	+1%

New in 2026-2027 for Literacy Enrichment

- No significant difference in Model 1 and Model 2 and research supports Model 2, therefore, we are selecting Model 2 with cluster grouping.
- Grade 3 enrichment overlays to be used within the English Language Arts block.
- Grades 6-8 enrichment resources available for each CKLA unit.

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