

# **The O’Farrell Charter Schools**

## **Board Policy**

**#6003**

### **Mathematics Placement**

#### **Policy:**

The O’Farrell Charter Schools Board of Directors (“Board”) recognizes that student achievement in mathematics is critical for preparing students for college and career, especially in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. A student’s ninth-grade mathematics placement, in particular, is crucial to ensuring future educational success. The Board affirms that a fair, objective, and transparent mathematics placement policy that limits the use of subjective criteria in placement decisions will result in appropriate mathematics course placements for students.

**Math Progression:** The following is a description of potential placements in ninth grade based on course completion:

- Students who complete 8th Grade Math are placed in Integrated Math I.
- Students who complete Integrated Math I are placed in Integrated Math II.
- Students who complete Integrated Math II are placed in Integrated Math III.

#### **Placement:**

Mathematics course placement for ninth grade shall systematically take into consideration multiple objective academic measures that may include, but are not limited to: final grades, statewide assessments, interim and summative assessments, completed courses, and classroom assignments. The school may also consider recommendations from teachers who have personal knowledge of the student’s academic ability.

If a ninth-grade student disagrees with a mathematics course placement, a student (or the parent/guardian on the student’s behalf) shall have seven (7) days after receipt of the placement to provide a written appeal. Students shall submit appeals to the school Principal via email or by mail to: 6130 Skyline Drive, San Diego, CA 92114. The school may require the student to take an assessment as part of the appeal. The school Principal or designee shall take into consideration the objective measures described above and issue a decision on the appeal. This decision is final.

#### **School Evaluation:**

School staff will provide at least one (1) placement checkpoint for ninth-grade mathematics course placements within the first month of the school year to ensure accurate placement and permit reevaluation of individual student progress. The school will monitor student progress toward state-adopted content standards to help ensure proper placement. If the school determines a student’s placement in a course is inappropriate, the school will seek to place the student in the appropriate mathematics course.

Annually, school staff shall review student data related to placement and advancement in the mathematics courses offered at the school to ensure that students who are qualified to progress in mathematics courses based on their performance on objective academic measures are not held back in a disproportionate manner on the basis of their race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background. School staff shall annually report the results of this examination to the Board.

Board Approval Date: June 13, 2016

Revised on: January 11, 2021