

1 AN ACT relating to advanced mathematics coursework.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. No later than November 1, 2026, the Kentucky Department of
4 Education shall submit a study report to the Legislative Research Commission for referral
5 to the Interim Joint Committee on Education on middle school mathematics and
6 advanced mathematics coursework opportunities. At a minimum, the report shall address:

7 (1) Existing local policies and procedures governing student assignment to
8 advanced mathematics coursework in general and advanced middle school mathematics
9 coursework specifically;

10 (2) The current availability of advanced mathematics coursework in Kentucky
11 public middle schools, identifying the following for public middle schools that offer
12 advanced mathematics coursework:

13 (a) Eligibility criteria for students to be identified for participation in the
14 advanced mathematics coursework;

15 (b) Methods for how students are being identified for participation in the
16 advanced mathematics coursework;

17 (c) For each school district, the number and percentage of students participating
18 in advanced mathematics coursework opportunities by grade level;

19 (d) For each school district, the number and percentage of students who complete
20 advanced middle school mathematics coursework and enroll in Algebra I by grade 8;

21 (e) The defined sequence of advanced mathematics coursework offered in grades
22 6 to 8 and the means of delivering those offerings to students, including whether the
23 course is:

24 1. Offered virtually, in person, or both;

25 2. Offered exclusively to middle school students or in a combined setting with
26 middle and high school students; and

27 3. Taught by a teacher whose primary course load is middle school students or

1 taught by a teacher whose primary course load is high school students;

2 (f) Whether any advanced mathematics coursework previously offered is no
3 longer available to students and the reason for no longer offering that coursework;

4 (g) How the school districts are providing appropriate staffing to support offering
5 access to advanced mathematics coursework; and

6 (h) Barriers the school districts encountered in providing advanced mathematics
7 coursework opportunities, and strategies for overcoming these barriers;

8 (3) A list of each middle school that does not offer advanced mathematics
9 coursework to students that identifies:

10 (a) The accelerated learning opportunities to which middle school students in
11 each identified school are offered access;

12 (b) The specific staffing and facility needs for each identified school to transition
13 to offering access to advanced mathematics coursework;

14 (c) Any scheduling constraints reported by each identified school as a barrier to
15 offering access to advanced mathematics coursework;

16 (d) Other barriers identified by school districts to offering middle school students
17 enrolled in each identified school access to advanced mathematics coursework; and

18 (e) If the middle school historically offered advanced mathematics coursework,
19 the specific reasons the school no longer offers that coursework;

20 (4) The recent rates of participation in advanced mathematics courses of middle
21 school students, identifying the number and percentage of students in each school
22 district's current grade 9, grade 10, grade 11, and grade 12 cohorts that successfully
23 completed designated advanced coursework in middle school;

24 (5) Best-practice strategies for ensuring that students are academically prepared
25 for advanced middle school mathematics coursework, including identification of
26 advanced coursework opportunities or other academic enrichment opportunities that best
27 prepare students for Algebra I coursework by grade 8;

1 (6) Analysis of school district capacity and needs to implement a policy providing
2 all public school students in Kentucky with access to Algebra I coursework by grade 8,
3 including but not limited to:

4 (a) The availability of qualified teachers and staff to support implementation of
5 the policy across each region of the Commonwealth;

6 (b) The scheduling constraints reported by each district;

7 (c) Course selection availability in each district and projected enrollment caps;
8 and

9 (d) Facility, technology, and distance-learning capacity of each district;

10 (7) An analysis of any curriculum gaps between advanced mathematics
11 coursework and grade-level mathematics standards for the courses in which the student
12 would otherwise be enrolled and strategies to ensure that advanced mathematics students
13 master those grade-level standards; and

14 (8) Legislative recommendations to promote and encourage advanced
15 mathematics coursework for middle school students, including but not limited to
16 recommended strategies for:

17 (a) Automatic enrollment in advanced middle school mathematics coursework;

18 (b) Identifying middle school students to participate in advance mathematics
19 coursework; and

20 (c) Small, medium, and large school districts to implement advanced
21 mathematics coursework.

22 ➔Section 2. Notwithstanding KRS 156.070(6), the Kentucky Department of
23 Education is hereby authorized to collect data and reports from Kentucky public schools
24 and school districts relevant to inform the study report required by Section (1) of this Act.