

Memorandum

To: Mr. Casey Morrisroe, Chair of the Board of Trustees
Ms. Jennifer Brumley, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees
Trustee Tambara Pickford
Trustee Lisa May
Trustee Rebecca Smith
Dr. Steve Cook, Superintendent

From: Katie Graupman, Curriculum Director

Date: April 15, 2020

Re: Secondary Math Academy Proposal

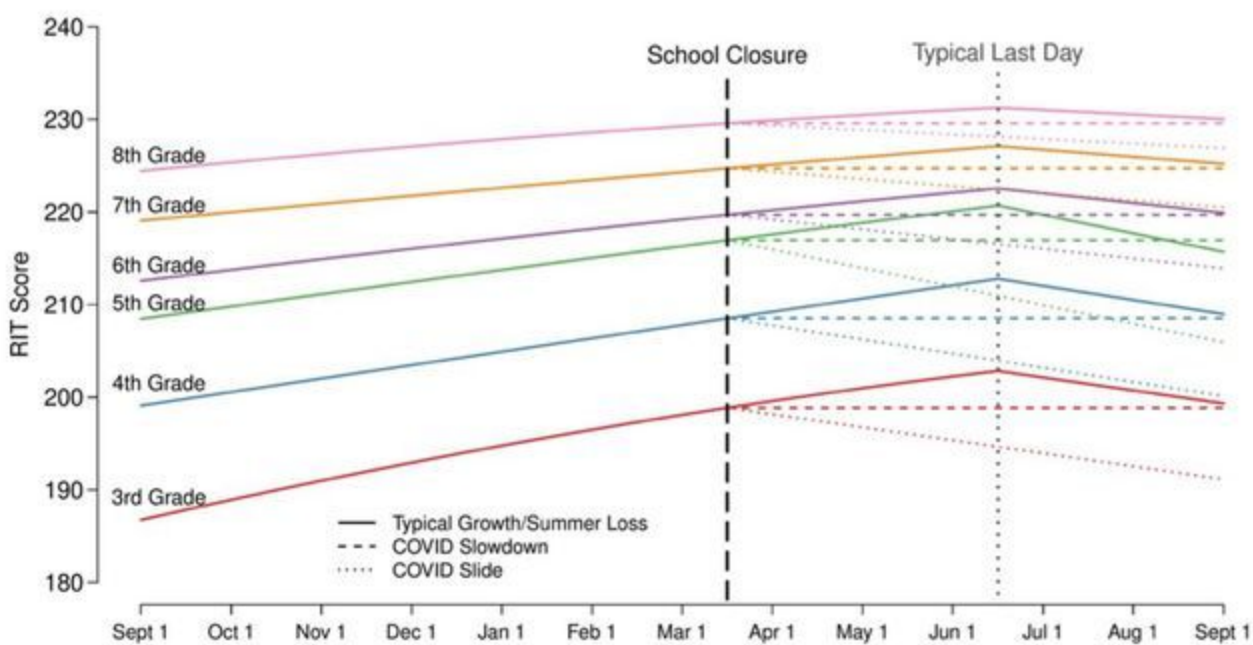
When schools closed due to the pandemic on March 13, 2020, the Secondary Math Academy had met for six of its potential ten meeting days. The March, April, May and optional May meeting dates had not yet occurred. The following chart illustrates the curriculum pieces that had been completed, the pieces that were in progress and in varying degrees of completion, and the pieces that had not yet started:

Finished	In Progress	Not Yet Started
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Standards alignment and SpiralingObjectives writing and revision from standards.Revision of objectives writing to reflect content, context and cognitive type.Scope and SequencingEnduring UnderstandingEssential QuestionsYear-at-a-Glance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pre-requisite skillsEnrichment and remediation by unitFormative assessment (unit and module-level assessments).Portrait of a Graduate alignment.Resource alignment by unit and module.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Academic vocabularySummative, End-of-Course AssessmentsMission statement, program purpose and goals, program characteristics.Pre-assessmentFormal internal review

Between March 16 and today, the focus for our energy in curricular teams has been to define, craft and launch first at-home and then remote learning for the district’s students. While teachers were given the green light to continue their work for the Secondary Math Academy, they varied in their capacities to continue this work while also making the abrupt shift to remote learning.

In addition to the incomplete status of our curricular work, we know there will likely be significant impact to student learning due to the pandemic despite our best efforts to mitigate this through remote learning. The following graph from [NWEA Research](#) and reported on in *Education Week* shows projected impacts of the soft closures to student learning in mathematics grades K-8:

Figure 1. Mathematics forecast



The good news is that we have secondary mathematics curriculum teams already formed who are now incredibly familiar with the District's math curricula, both as authors and deliverers of the curricula. They are uniquely poised to respond to this challenge. Based on our current needs as well as the status of our Secondary Math Academy curriculum writing, I propose the following:

- The two teams working with Integrated Math 3 and H Integrated Math 3 would finish these curricula since we currently have no written curricula for these courses, and students who have taken Integrated Math 2 and H Integrated Math 2 will need these courses to continue their mathematics. Finishing writing these courses is imperative, and I would work to support those two teams individually.
- We would hit a hard pause on writing all other mathematics curricula. Instead of finishing up the curricula we've been working on, teachers in the Secondary Math Academy would begin work on compacting our curricula for next year given our current challenges. Compacting the curricula would involve looking back at what our students lost during this ["Covid Slide"](#), thinking through what is most essential, and making plans to get our students caught up beginning in the fall of 2020. While this is important for all content areas, it is particularly important in math due to the sequential nature of the learning. Our goal would be to share our revised curriculum plans with teachers this summer. We would likely meet virtually (or perhaps in person, depending on when restrictions are lifted) to do this work.
- During school year 2020-2021, we would finish the curricula teachers have begun crafting through the Secondary Math Academy while also looking at possible new resources to integrate.
- A separate team would also be working to address the needs for K-5 ELA and mathematics curricula.

While I am very disappointed not to be able to deliver the curricular products I promised at the beginning of school year 2019-2020, I believe this proposal is the best path forward for our students given our current needs and constraints. I am asking the Board's approval of this proposal to move forward.