

## BOARD BRIEF

Date: October 20,2023

**BOARD INFORMATION:**   X  

**MEETING PREPARATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** Carmen Sanders, Executive Director of Instructional Support  
Julia Neufer, STEM Coordinator and Elementary Math Instructional Specialist  
Suzanne Futrell, Secondary Math Instructional Specialist

**THROUGH:** Dr. Pierrette Finney, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer  
Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Michelle Rief, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** Virginia Department of Education 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning

### **ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Goal 1: Systemic Alignment

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

### **SY 2023-2024 PRIORITY AREA:**

Academic Achievement

Tier 1 Instruction: Alignment, Rigor, Engagement

### **FY 2024 BUDGET PRIORITY:**

Textbooks

### **SUMMARY:**

The 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning were approved by the Virginia Board of Education on August 31, 2023. The foundation of the new standards are rooted in the Virginia Math Process Goals. The 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning represent "best in class" standards and comprise the mathematics content that teachers in Virginia are expected to teach and students are expected to learn. The 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning will be fully implemented during the 2024-2025 school year.

### **DETAILS:**

Typically, the adoption of new standards includes a planning year to adjust resources and a crosswalk year to train educators before full implementation and assessment of the standards. The acceleration of the standards implementation timeline by VDOE reduces the amount of time school divisions have to adjust curriculum, select resources, and provide professional development for a successful implementation of the 2023 Math SOLs.

There are several notable changes from the most recent set of standards. These include the following:

## BOARD BRIEF

1. Emphasis on the mastery of basic facts focused on building automaticity.
2. Vertical and horizontal coherence to include appropriate academic language and connections across the grade levels and courses.
3. Mastery of Skills, Understanding of Concepts, and Application of Both through the five mathematical process goals.
4. Data Cycles are included in Grades kindergarten through Algebra II. The data cycle requires students to formulate questions that require the collection or acquisition of data, followed by organizing and representing data and concluding by analyzing and communicating the results.
5. Math concepts were added, deleted, and moved from grade levels and courses. Some courses such as Algebra 1 had significant changes to the course content.

### **BACKGROUND:**

On August 31, 2023 the 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning (SOL) were approved by the Virginia Board of Education. The implementation timeline was moved up a year and full implementation of the standards will now be during the 2024-2025 school year instead of the originally proposed 2025-2026 school year. The 2023 Math SOLs will be assessed in the spring of 2025 for all SOL tested courses. The mathematics standards foster the application of the five mathematical process goals including reasoning, communication, problem solving, connections, and representation, and set students up to recognize and see mathematics in real-world applications.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the updated 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning.

### **IMPACT:**

The newly approved more rigorous standards, coupled with a shortened timeline for implementation, reduces the amount of time available to adjust curriculum, select resources, and provide professional development for a successful implementation of the 2023 Math SOLs and may impact SOL scores.

### **REFERENCES:**

N/A

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A

### **CONTACT:**

Julia Neufer, [julia.neufer@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:julia.neufer@acps.k12.va.us)

Suzanne Futrell, [amy.futrell@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:amy.futrell@acps.k12.va.us)