COURSE CREDIT

The following grading guidelines will apply:

1. A course must be considered completed and credit awarded if the student demonstrates proficiency in the subject matter, regardless of the time the student received instruction in the course or grade level at which the proficiency is gained.

   a. For a secondary student who enters the semester late, grades will be calculated through averaging of the remaining grades in the semester. For example, second and third six-week grades will be averaged to provide a basis for a first six-week grade.

   b. A secondary student who shows proficiency above a 70 percent rate in the final six weeks of a semester will be given the same grade for the first and second six weeks for grading purposes only.

   c. The student's grades will be recorded on the student's permanent record and averaged into the student's overall grade point average (GPA).

   d. A student who enters an elementary grade after the beginning of the semester will be graded at the discretion of the classroom teacher based on mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and will earn grades according to the level of mastery.

ALGEBRA I IN GRADE 8

2. The campus administration, mathematics department, and counselors will design the method to identify students for grade 8 Algebra 1. The criteria may include but not be limited to: TAKS scale score, Quartile score (when available), teacher recommendation, and past performance in mathematics classes.

STAAR AND ALGEBRA 1 TESTING

   a. Students must take grade 8 mathematics concurrently with the Algebra 1 course at the middle school to ensure mastery of the grade 8 TEKS. Grade 8 mathematics TEKS account for roughly 50 percent of the grade 9 and grade 10 grade TAKS examinations.

ALGEBRA 1 CREDIT

   b. If a student's schedule does not allow for the student to take grade 8 mathematics concurrently, the student may challenge a District-selected grade 8 mathematics exam. If the student demonstrates mastery by passing the grade 8 exam with a scale score of 2200 or above, the student will not have to take grade 8 mathematics concurrently with Algebra 1.

c. Grade 8 students enrolled in Algebra 1 will take the grade 8 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) for mathematics and will also be required to take the Algebra 1 STAAR/end-of-course (EOC) exam upon completion of the course.

d. At the end of the year, students in Algebra 1 must take the STAAR EOC Algebra 1 exam; no exceptions will be granted. Fifteen percent of a student's final grade will be based on the STAAR/EOC scores.

e. Passing the class by completing the teacher's coursework will not earn credit for Algebra 1. A student must pass the class and the STAAR EOC Algebra 1 exam to receive credit for Algebra 1. If a student does not pass the EOC exam, he or she must take Algebra 1 again as a freshman in high school.

(Example: A student averages a 92 for the 1st semester and a 94 for the 2nd semester in grade 8 Algebra 1. The student takes the state Algebra test and scores 50 percent, failing the state exam. The student does not receive credit for Algebra 1 and must take the course again in high school.)

The campus must inform the parents and the students of the Algebra 1 requirements in writing and by holding a parent information meeting.