

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

April 30, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Thomas W. Taylor, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Math Curriculum Approval

☐ Information ☒ Action

Superintendent Recommendation

The superintendent recommends that the Board of Education receive approve the selection of Pre-K– Integrated Algebra 2 curriculum for the 2026–2027 school year.

Background

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is committed to ensuring that all students achieve at the highest levels and are prepared to succeed in postsecondary study, career, and community. Research demonstrates that high quality instructional materials may improve student learning even more than other well-known interventions. This reinforces the urgency of ensuring that instructional materials and curricula are of the highest quality and aligned with grade-level standards as a key strategy for closing learning gaps.

This commitment is reflected in the MCPS Strategic Plan, particularly under Goal 1: All students will demonstrate high levels of academic achievement and growth and Goal 2: Ensure meaningful postsecondary outcomes for all students. As part of this strategic vision, MCPS recommends adopting Amplify Desmos Mathematics following the expiration of the current contracts with Great Minds Eureka Math and Imagine Learning Illustrative Math at the end of the 2025–2026 school year. This decision stems from a rigorous and competitive procurement process that included input from teachers, administrators, caregivers, and community members, and alignment with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) High-Quality Instructional Materials rubric.

Montgomery County Public Schools has implemented the Great Minds Eureka Math in elementary schools and Imagine Learning Illustrative Math in middle schools and high school Algebra I since 2019. The contract extensions with both companies expire at the end of the 2025–2026 school year.

As required by policy, with the contracts ending, MCPS published a request for proposals (RFP) for curricula spanning PreK through Integrated Algebra 2, to be implemented beginning in the 2026–2027 school year. In collaboration with the Department of Procurement, the Department of Curriculum Development conducted a rigorous and competitive evaluation process as outlined. The goal of this selection process was to identify curricular and instructional materials for Grades PreK–Integrated Algebra 2 that would best meet the needs of MCPS students, staff, and families

January 2026	MCPS RFP published, including: ● A comprehensive scope of services clearly describing our diverse student population and their needs, and our unique programs ● Alignment with the newly adopted MSDE math policy ● Overview of technical requirements to include integration and data management ● Expectations for professional learning
February 2026	● Prospective vendors submitted proposals by February 5, 2026 ● The PreK–12 Mathematics team reviewed all proposals ● A cross-office team reviewed the proposals to ensure all areas of the scope of services were addressed sufficiently ● Vendor proposals were narrowed to 8 products that responded sufficiently to the requirements in the RFP
March 2026	● Vendors set up samples of their materials at CESC and provided digital access to be reviewed by the expanded stakeholder group participation ● Stakeholder groups invited to review the products included: ○ School administrators, teacher leaders, teachers, and support staff ○ Central office administrators and instructional specialists ○ Parents ○ Students ○ MCEA ○ MCCPTA ○ NAACP ○ Black and Brown Coalition ○ PODER ○ Pride Alliance ○ APASAAG ○ Identity, Inc.

Elementary/Secondary Math Curriculum Final Selection

MCPS staff recommends adopting the Amplify Desmos Mathematics curriculum, which comes after careful consideration and a rigorous and competitive evaluation process.

Rationale:

- **Alignment with State Standards:** Amplify Desmos Mathematics is aligned closely with the Maryland College and Career Ready standards, ensuring that the curriculum meets the academic expectations set forth by the MSDE. In addition, they are working to realign with the changes to MSDE standards.
- **Independent Evaluations:** Amplify Desmos Mathematics has received all-green ratings from EdReports, met all quality benchmarks, and earned a perfect score in all three gateways on the Instructional Materials Quality Alignment™ Review conducted by Student Achievement Partners.
- **Research-Based Approach:** Amplify Desmos Math is grounded in research-based practices and pedagogy, incorporating evidence-based strategies for mathematics instruction. The curriculum's design reflects the latest research on how students best develop numerical reasoning, procedural fluency, conceptual understanding, problem-solving strategies, and a positive math identity. The curriculum includes resources that support the teaching and learning of students who need support, rigorous grade-level instruction, and enrichment and acceleration.
- **Comprehensive Assessment and Reporting:** Amplify Desmos Mathematics offers a comprehensive suite of tools and assessments to monitor student progress and report student learning. Teachers are provided with targeted, actionable insights based on a variety of diagnostic, formative, and summative data. Teachers will have access to Mini-Lessons, fluency and lesson practice, Math Adventures games, and embedded lesson extensions to help students reach grade-level learning. Additional practice is provided for both school and home when students demonstrate the need.
- **Differentiated Instruction for Multilingual Learners and Students Receiving Special Education Services:** Amplify Desmos Mathematics integrates explicit instruction and resources to support the teaching and learning of multilingual learners and students receiving special education services. The curriculum includes resources and support for language acquisition, such as math language routines, as well as prompts and ideas to ensure delivery in line with Universal Design for Learning. Learning activities are designed to ensure multiple entry points, establishing the expectation that every student can engage in learning. The MCPS Accessibility team has reviewed the curriculum options and is prepared to collaborate with the curriculum team to ensure student-facing materials meet all accessibility requirements.

Implementation Plan

To support effective implementation, the Division of Teaching and Learning will pursue vendor-provided professional learning and coaching services aligned with the approved curriculum. In collaboration with the selected vendor, the following is the plan for curriculum implementation and professional learning:

Spring 2026	Summer 2026	School Year 2026–2027	School Year 2027–Beyond
Curriculum Pre-Launch	Curriculum Launch	Guided Implementation	Sustained Implementation
• Introduction of materials and professional learning for central services, teacher leaders, and school administrators begins	• Required Tier I Professional Learning for administrators, content specialists, and teachers (General Education, Math, ELD, and Special Education) – 6 hours	• Ongoing support to school professional learning communities • Continued coaching and professional learning to content specialists and elementary math leaders • Classroom visits to monitor implementation and practice	• Continued coaching and support to schools • Follow-up professional learning • Program evaluation

Estimated Costs

To effectively implement Amplify Desmos Mathematics, funding will be required for instructional materials and professional learning. The following are cost estimates:

Item	Year 1 Approximate Cost	Year 2 Approximate Cost	Year 3 Approximate Cost
Implementation Support and Professional Learning	\$2,499,000	\$2,499,000	\$2,499,000
Teacher and Student Printed and Digital Resources	\$6,967,682.87	\$6,967,682.87	\$6,967,682.87

As a point of comparison, the previous costs for Eureka Math and Illustrative Math implementation were:

Vendor	Years 1-6
Eureka Math	\$5,000,000 per year
Illustrative Math	\$1,500,000 per year
Total	\$6,500,000 per year

The following resolution is provided for your approval:

WHEREAS, Board of Education Policy IFA, *Curriculum*, requires review of curriculum content areas on five-year cycles; and

WHEREAS, A competitive curriculum selection process was developed with the Department of Procurement to incorporate extensive input and feedback from Montgomery County Public Schools stakeholders to evaluate published curricula in response to the Request for Proposals using the Maryland State Department of Education High-Quality Instructional Materials rubric; and

WHEREAS, The curriculum selection process identified specific PreK through Integrated Algebra 2 mathematics curricular and instructional materials that would best meet the needs of Montgomery County Public Schools students and staff; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools staff recommends the adoption of Amplify Desmos Mathematics for PreK through Integrated Algebra 2; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Board of Education determines that, due to the requirements associated with the procurement laws and processes that include public review, adherence to the full one-month review period is waived; and

WHEREAS, A comprehensive rollout of the new curricular and instructional materials has been designed so that each school has an introduction to the materials in spring, intensive professional learning in summer, and full implementation in fall; and

WHEREAS, All students in Montgomery County Public Schools will receive high-quality instruction with new materials aligned to the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the adoption of Amplify Desmos Mathematics for PreK through Integrated Algebra 2; and be it further

Resolved, That the president of the Board of Education and the superintendent of schools be authorized to negotiate and execute agreements, in an amount not to exceed \$29 million in the first three years, for the purchase of required instructional materials and professional learning services in support of Amplify Desmos Mathematics implementation; and be it further;

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to execute all other documents and grant any approvals necessary for this transaction.

TWT:PAP:NTH:swm