



## FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS FOREST LAKE, MN 55025

October 6, 2011

### AGENDA ITEM: 10.5

### TOPIC: DELETE SECONDARY MATH COURSE – INTEGRATED II

**BACKGROUND:** The Math Curriculum Review Team has worked to align K-12 mathematics instruction in Forest Lake Area Schools for the past twelve years. That work has involved the study of the MN Academic Standards for Mathematics, redesign of K-12 mathematics course offerings, implementation of differentiated instructional practices K-12, and professional development for all teachers of mathematics.

**PROCESS:** During the 2007-2008 school year, the Mathematics Curriculum Review Committee worked to dissect and understand the new Minnesota Academic Standards for Mathematics. With the back mapping work that the Committee did to implement the new standards in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, a new set of textbooks have been implemented in grades 6 through 8. The students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade are working in the McDougal Littell Middle Level Course 1. Students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are working in McDougal Littell Middle Level Course 2, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are involved with an Algebra 8 course that uses materials from the Holt Algebra series.

The Math Review Committee proposed and received approval for all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to enroll in Math 7, beginning in the fall of 2009. The School Board also accepted the Committee's recommendation to have all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students enroll in Algebra 8, beginning the fall of 2010. Both of these actions led to the discontinued use of MathScape curriculum materials. Those materials were an integrated middle level approach to mathematical content. Students presently experience the same mathematical content as prescribed by the Academic Standards as classroom teachers differentiate for student readiness and learning style within that mathematical content.

In the past, 9<sup>th</sup> grade students had a choice between Integrated I, an integrated course that uses the Core Plus Curriculum, and Algebra I, a traditional mathematics course. The two courses were offered to accommodate differences in learning style, not mathematical content. The Math Committee proposed and received approval for all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to enroll in Algebra 9 for the 2010-11 school year. Teachers are now providing the differentiation for

readiness and learning style in a similar manner to that provided in grades 7 and 8. Integrated I was deleted as a 9<sup>th</sup> grade choice for the 2011-12 school year as all students were to be placed in Algebra 9. The math course sequence at the junior high school setting is now Math 7, Algebra 8 and Algebra 9.

The last group of students who completed Integrated I are now in Integrated II. The Mathematics Curriculum Review Committee is recommending the deletion of Integrated II for the 2012-2013 school year. This change would be implemented at Southwest Junior High, Century Junior High, Forest Lake Area High School, and the Area Learning Center.

**RECOMMENDATION:** First reading of the proposal to delete Integrated II from the mathematics offerings in Forest Lake Area Schools.