September 29, 2016

Dear Parent(s),

New state legislation, SB 359, articulates that districts shall develop transparent & consistent high school math placement for all entering high school students. We have developed a 5-point diagnostic system to determine student placement in 9th grade math classes. Based on the grade and test scores that your child received from the 5-point diagnostic, it has been determined that s/he is not currently ready to proceed in a traditional Algebra 1 course as a 9th grade student. Your student has been recommended to be assigned into the 2 year Algebra AB course for 9th grade.

Algebra AB targets the specific math challenges that our students are facing by using innovative teaching strategies and adaptive software personalized to your student’s academic needs. Students who complete this course will receive up 10 high school math credits in year 1 Algebra 1A, 10 high school math credits in year 2 Algebra 1B and completion of the Algebra 1 credit towards graduation.

Within the first two weeks of the course, students will be provided a second opportunity to demonstrate foundational content mastery with the option of being reprogrammed in to the traditional 1 year Algebra 1 course. It should be noted that the traditional course does not include the personalized adaptive software, but should continue the innovative teaching strategies.

Successful completion of either course, continues to provide students opportunities into advancement mathematics. Please visit our district website (www.mdusd.org) for additional background information, resources and to learn about the resources, pathways and options in mathematics.

Sincerely,

Joseph G. Alvarez
Principal
College Park High School