District Planning Tool

Guiding Student Decision-Making about Math Courses and Pathways

(this PDF is linked from website Section 3—supporting student decision-making)

When planning how to provide guidance to students about their mathematics course choices, some questions to consider include the following:

Communication of Information about Choices

- How are you making students aware of their mathematics class options? What intentional or unintentional messages might students be receiving about the value or implications of different courses?
- Who are all the people who provide guidance to students about these choices?
- How are you providing consistency to students across the adults who may be providing them guidance and recognizing that different students will connect with different adults?
- How will you communicate the choices with parents and with students?

How will you support students in making decisions when their plans change or they need to change mathematics courses or pathways?

- How will you support students to consider the mathematics they need for their current aspirations while also recognizing that in high school, their plans and interests may still change?
- What will happen if a student needs to change what mathematics course, or what sequence of courses they are taking?

What choices will you offer students and how will you communicate those options?

- Are there ways to combine with other districts in the state to offer more choices for students, and how will you inform students about those choices?
- What do you know about the admissions policies of the post-secondary institutions that your students plan to attend and how will you communicate that with students?