

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

ACTION REPORT

High Quality Instructional Materials: Middle School Mathematics

March 9, 2026

Background Information

A revised middle school mathematics course sequence has been designed to meet the [MSDE Mathematics Policy](#), adopted in March 2025, particularly in the areas of acceleration in middle school mathematics and the shift from the current Algebra 1 – Geometry – Algebra 2 sequence to Integrated Algebra 1 – Integrated Algebra 2, which will begin in the 2027 – 2028 school year. The principles that guide acceleration in middle school include:

- Ensuring that content standards are not skipped or reduced during the course sequence.
- Ensuring that acceleration does not include more than one and a half years of content standards per course.
- Ensuring that a consistent data protocol that focuses on demonstration of mastery of core content is used to determine students that are ready to be accelerated in mathematics.

The revised middle school mathematics course sequence are available for [incoming grade 6 students](#), [incoming grade 7 students](#), and [incoming grade 8 students](#) are available to chart their path.

High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) are an expectation of Pillar 3 of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and have resulted in [frameworks and rubrics for defining HQIM in mathematics](#). The [MSDE Mathematics Policy](#) states the "adoption and effective implementation of HQIM supports access to daily effective mathematics instruction for all students."

Current HCPS middle school mathematics instructional materials vary across grade levels. Adoption of a new curriculum that covers 5 middle school classes would offer consistent structures, routines, and pedagogical approaches and allow for seamless transitions between courses including acceleration opportunities.

The Office of Mathematics collaborated with MSDE's HQIM Division to establish a review process that incorporated the MSDE HQIM Rubric and Ed Reports recommendations. The detailed process is outlined in the [HCPS Middle School Mathematics HQIM Review Committee summary](#). The [data from the review committee](#) was shared with Executive Council on November 4, 2025, which determined that Illustrative Mathematics V.360 was the best fit for the HCPS Middle School Mathematics Program. The General Curriculum Committee approved the adoption, purchase, and implementation of Illustrative Mathematics V.360 on November 19, 2025.

Requested Action

The Mathematics Office requests approval by the Board of Education for the adoption, purchase, and implementation of Illustrative Mathematics V.360 for students enrolled in non-credit bearing middle school mathematics courses beginning with the 2026 – 2027 school year.