

Dear Parent,

As the Virginia Department of Education is preparing to implement annual testing in mathematics for grades 3-8 this spring, there have been some changes to the testing requirements for students in accelerated/enriched mathematics courses. In an effort to reduce the number of Standards of Learning (SOL) tests students are required to take, students enrolled in accelerated/enriched courses take only the SOL test for the grade level at which they are being instructed.

This change will impact the students enrolled in the Mathematics 7 Honors course or a high school credit course. The curriculum for the Mathematics 7 Honors course includes all of the mathematics objectives for the Standards of Learning grade 7 and 8, in preparation for Algebra I Honors in the eighth grade; therefore, these students will take a grade 8 mathematics SOL test. The students enrolled in Algebra I Honors or Geometry Honors will no longer be required to take the grade 7 or grade 8 mathematics SOL test; instead they will take only the appropriate end of course SOL test for a verified credit towards high school graduation. See below for a summary of the changes to middle school mathematics SOL testing.

Mathematics Course	Virginia SOL Test Prior to Spring 2006	Virginia SOL Test Spring 2006
Mathematics 7	None	Mathematics 7
Mathematics 7 Honors	None	Mathematics 8
Mathematics 8	Mathematics 8	Mathematics 8
Algebra I Honors (grade 7)	Algebra I	Algebra I
Algebra I Honors (grade 8)	Mathematics 8 and Algebra I	Algebra I
Geometry Honors (grade 8)	Mathematics 8 and Geometry	Geometry