Mathematics Curriculum Study

The Algebra I and Geometry Curricula: Results from the 2005 High School Transcript Mathematics Curriculum Study analyzed high school algebra I and geometry textbooks and what is actually covered in classes around the country. This study explored the relationship between coursetaking and student achievement to answer several critical questions for today’s teachers, parents, and students.

WHAT TOPICS ARE TAUGHT IN ALGEBRA I AND GEOMETRY?

- Rigorous algebra I classes dedicated a higher percentage of the course content to advanced algebra topics.

AT LEAST 10% OF HIGH SCHOOL ALGEBRA I AND GEOMETRY CLASS CONTENT FOCUSED ON ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS TOPICS, REGARDLESS OF RIGOR.

DO MATH COURSE TITLES REFLECT WHAT’S BEING TAUGHT?

- School course titles often overstated course content and challenge.

DO STUDENTS’ COURSETAKING PATTERNS AFFECT THEIR MATH SCORES?

GRADUATES WHO TOOK RIGOROUS ALGEBRA I OR GEOMETRY COURSES SCORED HIGHER ON NAEP.