

January 31, 2012

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child is currently enrolled in a course that meets the geometry graduation requirement. Beginning this school year, as part of legislative requirements that went into effect last year, all students taking these courses are required to take the state geometry end-of-course (EOC) assessment.

All students taking geometry or an equivalent course this year, regardless of their current grade level, are required to take the new geometry end-of-course test. For this first year of its administration, the results of the test will not determine whether the student passes or fails the course. Students will continue to receive a 1st semester grade and a 2nd semester grade from their geometry teacher and will earn a half a credit in geometry for each semester they pass, regardless of their geometry EOC score.

However, for students who are in 9th grade for the first time this year, the new law also requires that the geometry test count as 30% of their “final course grade.” This course grade will appear in a column on the student’s final report card as a yearly average. The course grade will be calculated with 35% of the grade based on the first semester grade, 35% based on the second semester grade, and 30% based on the geometry end-of-course exam score. The geometry end-of-course exam score will not count toward either semester grade, only toward the yearly average.

Teachers in Brevard have been working to prepare their students for this new exam. They have been using a variety of district and state educational materials and guides to ensure that students have been taught the content being tested. You can learn more about the geometry end-of-course test on the Fact Sheet at this link: <http://fcats.fldoe.org/eoc/pdf/12geocfs.pdf>.

Schools will be giving the geometry EOC exam in late April. For most students, it will be administered as a computer-based test. Students will have the opportunity to practice using the testing tools on the computer at school before testing begins. Students may practice using the computer testing tools at any computer with internet access by following the “How to install ePATS” instructions at this link: www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT.

We are confident that Brevard’s students will perform well on this new geometry exam, just as they perform well on all state mathematics tests. Our teachers have been well-prepared to teach students what they need to be successful. We appreciate your support as the state makes the transition to this new kind of testing.

Sincerely,



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