Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____G._____   **Date:** __November 17, 2011__

Topic: First Review of Recommended Cut Scores for the End-of-Course Standards of Learning Tests in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II Based on the 2009 Mathematics Standards

Presenter: Mrs. Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Assessment and School Improvement

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Origin:

_____ Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

__X__ Board review required by
　　　 _____ State or federal law or regulation
　　　 __X__ Board of Education regulation
　　　 _____ Other: _____

_____ Action requested at this meeting   __X__ Action requested at future meeting: January 12, 2012

Previous Review/Action:

_____ No previous board review/action

__X__ Previous review/action
　　　 Date: October 1998
　　　 Action: Adoption of Cut Scores for the End-of-Course Standards of Learning Tests in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II

Background Information: Update for Math

In 2011-2012 new Standards of Learning (SOL) tests measuring the 2009 mathematics content standards will be administered. Because of the changes in the content measured by these tests, new passing scores must be adopted by the Virginia Board of Education. Consistent with the process used in 1998, committees of educators were convened in November 2011 to recommend to the Board of Education (BOE) minimum "cut" scores for the achievement levels of *pass/proficient* and *pass/advanced* for the Algebra I and Geometry tests and *pass/proficient* and *pass/college ready* for the Algebra II test.

Summary of Major Elements:

Information about the range of cut scores recommended by the committees for the achievement levels of *pass/proficient* and *pass/advanced* for the Algebra I and the Geometry tests and *pass/proficient* and *advanced/college path* for the Algebra II test is contained in Attachment A. It is important to note that the *pass/college ready* designation for Algebra II has been changed to *advanced/college path* in response to constituent concerns about potential misinterpretation and based on recommendations from the standard setting committee. The following definition of *advanced/college path* reflects the deliberations of the Algebra II standard setting committee.

> *A student obtaining an "advanced /college path" score on the Algebra II test should have the necessary knowledge and skills for enrollment, without remediation, in an introductory credit-*

bearing college mathematics course with Algebra II as the highest prerequisite. Students who achieve an "advanced/college path" score during their high school career are expected to take additional mathematics courses beyond Algebra II as they continue to prepare for college.

The Board is asked to review this information and to adopt "cut" scores in January for the achievement levels of *pass/proficient* and *pass/advanced* for the Algebra I and Geometry tests and *pass/proficient* and *advanced/college path* for the Algebra II test.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education accept for first review cut scores representing the achievement levels of *pass/proficient* and *pass/advanced* for the end-of-course Algebra I and Geometry Standards of Learning Tests and *pass/proficient* and *advanced/college path* for the Algebra II test as follows.

- Algebra I: 25 for proficient and 45 for advanced
- Geometry: 25 for proficient and 44 for advanced
- Algebra II: 27 for proficient and 43 for advanced/college path

Impact on Resources:
N/A

Timetable for Further Review/Action:
Final review in January 12, 2012

Summary and Background Information on Proposed Cut Scores
for the End-of- Course Mathematics Tests Based on the 2009 Standards of Learning

Test Name *	Pass/Proficient				Pass/Advanced (Advanced/College Path for Algebra II)			
	Background Information		Standard Setting Summary		Background Information			Standard Setting Summary
	Pass/Proficient Cut Score for Previous Mathematics Test**	Pass/Proficient Cut Score for New Test to Maintain Previous Level of Rigor	Round 3 Median for Proficient	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Pass/Advanced Cut Score for Previous Mathematics Test**	Pass/Advanced Cut Score for New Test to Maintain Previous Level of Rigor	Round 3 Median for Advanced	Articulation Committee Recommendation
Algebra I	27	16 (-11)	24	24	45	36 (-9)	45	45
Geometry	27	20 (-7)	20	20	41	39 (-2)	44	44
Algebra II	30	18 (-12)	27	27	45	37 (-8)	43	43

*   Tests based on the 2009 SOL have 50 items
** Test based on the 2001 Mathematics Standards of Learning