

## **Changes to Current Prep/Prep Plus Guidelines**

### **Phase I Change (implemented for 2016-17 placement into Prep/Prep Plus):**

At this time, students are identified in both math and ELA using 2 data points- Winter and/or Spring MAP and/or the Stanford 10 from the prior testing year or fall MAP score. However the use of the Stanford 10 has been found to be inconsistent in comparison to a student's skill set in both math and reading. The committee believes that the consideration of the content specific KPrep score of distinguished better represents our students' skills sets and is a better predictor of student success in the accelerated program. This change would have resulted in 33 fewer students district wide being placed in the Prep Math program as they transitioned from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade based on last year's data. The number of ELA students would have remained fairly consistent. In addition, the committee believes that the gatekeeper of winter or spring MAP should be eliminated. These changes would be made for the identification and placement of students in Prep/Prep Plus for the 16-17 school year. (See KCSD 2016-2017 Acceleration Plans.)

### **Phase II Change (implemented for 2017-18 placement in Prep/Prep Plus):**

In conjunction with the correct identification at initial placement, it is essential that we ensure students continue to progress and make adequate growth in response to the rigor and accelerated pace of the Prep curriculum. Presently, students are grandfathered from year to year until hard cut points: 7<sup>th</sup> grade accelerated math to 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra 1 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA to 9<sup>th</sup> grade English.

As a result of the current policy, some students are continuing in an accelerated class (which addresses more standards at a quicker pace) when their data indicates that they would benefit from moving at a slower pace to ensure mastery of foundational skills. The committee believes that in order to best meet the needs of students to build a strong foundation toward college readiness, placement in Prep courses should be revisited each year. Continuation in the program would be determined by meeting any 2 of the following data points: 1. Score at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile on one MAP (Reading for ELA, Math for math), 2. KPrep distinguished score (Reading for ELA, Math for math), 3. Score at the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile or above for a second MAP score. Had this criteria been applied for the current 7<sup>th</sup> graders in Prep math, 79 fewer students district-wide would have been in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Prep (although about 35 of these would not have been initially placed in 6<sup>th</sup> grade prep using the new criteria). Of these 79 students, only 19 currently are earning A's and B's in their prep math class. Had this criteria been applied for the current 7<sup>th</sup> graders in Prep ELA, 64 fewer students district-wide would have been in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Prep.

The committee believes it is necessary to delay the implementation of this change to ensure that accurate information is communicated to all stakeholders before the start of the school year in which the data will be gathered for the following year's placement.