



HB23-1231 Math In Pre-kindergarten Through Twelfth Grade

- *Sponsors: Rep. Barbara McLachlan (D), Rep. Rose Pugliese (R); Sen. Janice Marchman (D), Sen. Paul Lundeen (R)*
 - *Effective Date: The governor signed the bill into law, and took effect on May 15, 2023.*
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Overview

The bill encompasses various changes aimed at improving math education in Colorado. School district boards of education and institute charter schools *are strongly encouraged* to adopt procedures for schools to provide support to students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade and students' families to improve mathematics outcomes. Here is a summary of the key provisions:

Educator Training: The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) will provide free, optional math education training for K-12 educators using a train-the-trainer model. The training will focus on interventions and strategies to enhance student proficiency and support those who are below grade level or struggling in mathematics.

Technical Assistance and Strategies: CDE will maintain a list of evidence-based curricula and assessments for math and offer interventions to improve math achievement, including remote options for parents. The bill also requires local education providers (LEPs) to develop strategies to assist students below grade level in math and set targets for improving math achievement. LEPs are encouraged to adopt procedures, such as intervention strategies and additional resources for parents, to support students in math education.

Grant Program: The Colorado Academic Accelerator Grant Program will be established to create community learning centers that offer free academic enrichment and support in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) subjects. Eligible grantees include LEPs, community-based organizations, Indian tribes, or public/private entities. The CDE will administer the program, with funding of \$25 million for FY 2023-24, and utilize a third-party evaluator to assess its impact.

Ninth Grade Success Program: The prioritization criteria for the Ninth Grade Success Grant Program will be amended to include applicants with consistently low ranking performance or those proposing math-focused intervention strategies. An appropriation of \$1.6 million from the General Fund will be allocated for the program in FY 2023-24.

Early Childhood Education: Early numeracy will be included in the continuing professional development requirements for licensed preschool teachers. The Department of Early Childhood will also add early numeracy to its resource bank of preschool curricula.

These provisions aim to enhance math education through educator training, targeted support, grant programs, and an emphasis on early childhood numeracy. The bill's funding allocations and evaluation requirements ensure accountability and assessment of the program's impact on student achievement.

School Impact

The school district's responsibilities have expanded to include offering extra training for educators, involving stakeholders in the development of math curricula and assessment lists, and making modifications to school and district improvement plans. Local Education Providers (LEPs) that establish community learning centers can receive grant assistance from the Department of Education (CDE) to implement supplementary math interventions and support for students. This increase in workload aims to enhance educational opportunities and outcomes in mathematics.