



**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OKALOOSA COUNTY
MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE & CURRICULUM
SUPPORT**

To: Parents of Alg. 1 Students

From: Ms. Guyla Hendricks
Chief Officer, Quality Assurance and Curriculum Support

Re: Course Impact

Date: Dec. 15, 2011

New legislation has resulted in a series of end-of-year exams being administered in all public schools. In the first year of implementation, the exam grade counts 30% of the second semester grade. Every year thereafter, the exam becomes a graduation requirement. As such, each student must achieve a passing score/performance level on the exam to earn credit for the course. Your child will be taking the Algebra 1 exam this year, and the exam will count as a graduation requirement. Normally, if a passing grade has been earned, your child would receive $\frac{1}{2}$ credit for the course at the conclusion of the first semester and $\frac{1}{2}$ credit for the course at the conclusion of the second semester, equaling one full credit earned for the year in that course.

The practice of earning a portion of a credit each semester will not be used for the courses in which a state end-of-year exam is administered. Therefore, your child will not receive any credit for Alg. 1 until the end-of-year exam has been administered and the results are provided to the district (i.e., the conclusion of the year). That change in practice will impact the student in two significant ways: 1) Eligibility for extra-curricular activities, based on a student's GPA at the conclusion of each semester and 2) Determining honors student designation, based on grades/credits earned at the conclusion of the first semester. In both cases, the Alg. 1 course will not be used in the calculation for those purposes.

In addition, the results of the state end-of-course exam will count 25% of the final grade. It is important that students and their parents understand the impact of this course on graduation, grades, extra-curricular eligibility, and honors student designation.

If you still have questions regarding any of the information provided in this letter, we invite you to contact the school. The principal or the guidance counselor will be glad to meet with you and provide clarification for you and your child.