

## Norco College and JFK Middle College High School Math Alignment Project

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In 2006, Norco College (NC) and JFK Middle College High School (JFK) established an agreement to align Algebra 2 at JFK with Math 35. Math 35 serves as a prerequisite for several college-level math courses at NC. The agreement establishes that students who earn a grade of A or B in Algebra 2 at JFK could enroll in a college-level math class that has Math 35 as a prerequisite without having to take the RCCD placement test.

Data was provided for 69 students who were part of the project and had successfully completed Algebra 2 at JFK between Fall 2007 and Fall 2010. Students records for these students were matched with the college MIS data and the first attempt at a math course was identified. Of these students, 47 (68%) enrolled in a math course. Table 1 shows the list of courses which was the first math course into which the students enrolled as well as success rate.

Course	Not Successful	Successful	Total	% Successful
MAT-10	1		1	0%
MAT-11	5	8	13	62%
MAT-12	1	2	3	67%
MAT-25		1	1	100%
MAT-36	2	16	18	89%
MAT-4		2	2	100%
<b>MAT-35</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>50%</b>
MAT-52		2	2	100%
MAT-90A		1	1	100%
Grand Total	12	35	47	74%

The table shows that the overall success rate of these students in their first math course at NC was 74%. What is interesting is that 6 students enrolled in the same course when they started at NC (Math 35) and 3 students enrolled in a lower course. This seems unusual given that these students passed the Algebra 2 course with an A or B. (Math 35 is in bold in the table above to indicate the courses next in the sequence after Math 35.)

Of the students who took a higher level course, 29 out of 38 students (76%) passed the course. This pass rate is well above the average placement rate of students who test into college-level math through the RCCD placement test. For comparison purposes, the percentage of students who placed into college-level math in the 6 months prior to Fall 2010 and who enrolled at NC was 5.3%.