Placement In Mathematics Courses

The Governing Board believes that a sound educational program must include the study of subjects that prepare students for admission to higher education and/or fulfilling careers. District students shall be provided an opportunity to complete a sequence of mathematics courses recommended for admission into the University of California and California State University systems.

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)  
(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)  
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)  
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

The Superintendent or designee shall work with district teachers, counselors, administrators and the representatives of feeder schools to develop a well-articulated sequence of mathematics courses and consistent protocols for placing students entering Grade 9 in mathematics courses offered at district high schools.

Such placement protocols shall systematically take into consideration multiple objective academic measures that may include, statewide mathematics assessments, state interim and summative assessments, placement tests that are aligned to state-adopted content standards in mathematics; classroom assignment and grades; and report cards. (Education Code 51224.7)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)  
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)  
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)  
(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

District staff shall implement the placement protocols uniformly and without regard to students' socioeconomic background or any characteristic specified in BP 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities, including, but not limited to, race, sex, gender, nationality, and ethnicity.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)  
(cf. 0415 - Equity)  
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)

The placement protocols shall provide for at least one reevaluation within the first month of the school year to ensure that students are appropriately placed in mathematics courses and shall specify the criteria the district will use to make this determination. Any student found to be misplaced shall be promptly placed in the appropriate mathematics course.

This policy and the district's mathematics placement protocols shall be posted on the district's web site.  
(Education Code 51224.7)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

If a student or parent/guardian questions the student's placement, he/she may appeal the decision to the Superintendent or designee. The decision of the Superintendent or designee shall be final.

Annually, the Superintendent or designee shall review student data related to placement and advancement in the mathematics courses offered at district high schools to ensure that students who are qualified to progress in mathematics courses based on their performance on objective academic measures are not held back in a disproportionate manner on the basis of their race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background. The Superintendent or designee shall also consider appropriate recommendations for removing any identified barriers
to students’ access to mathematics courses.

cf. 0500 - Accountability)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination
48070.5 Promotion and retention; required policy
51220 Areas of study, grades 7-12
51224.5 Completion of Algebra I or Mathematics I
51224.7 California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015
51225.3 High school graduation requirements
51284 Financial literacy
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan
60605 State-adopted content and performance standards in core curricular areas
60605.8 Common Core standards
60640-60649 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Math Misplacement, Governance Brief, September 2015
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2013
California Common Core State Standards: Mathematics, January 2013
COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS INITIATIVE PUBLICATIONS
Appendix A: Designing High School Mathematics Courses Based on the Common Core State Standards
LAWYERS’ COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA (LCCR)
Held Back - Addressing Misplacement of 9th Grade Students in Bay Area School Math Classes, 2013
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov
Common Core State Standards Initiative: http://www.corestandards.org/math
Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (LCCR): http://www.lccr.com
University of California, Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Project: http://mdtp.ucsd.edu