



Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is well known that students tend to lose some of their academic skill and knowledge over the summer break. This year, with the switch to e-learning in the spring, the loss is likely to be even greater. To arrest and reverse this trend, ASCS will have a guided summer math program based on IXL.

The summer math program will have two main goals. The first is to strengthen and improve student skills in areas of weakness that are substantially below their current grade level. The second will be to get a jump-start on next year's math curriculum.

Starting with the second goal, because IXL is fully aligned with the Big Ideas textbooks ASCS uses, it will be possible to assign students exercises from IXL that are directly connected to the opening chapters of the math text they will use in the coming school year. This will allow the students to hit the ground running in the Fall and allow for a smooth transition into their new math class. All students will receive these assignments through IXL with additional details in Google Classroom.

The first goal will be more individual in nature and will vary from student to student. The recently taken IXL Diagnostic, as well as other similar assessments and tests, has helped highlight both your student's strengths and weaknesses. Although it is normal for a student's abilities to vary from one math skill to another, where there is a significant gap, more than two grade levels, between the skill level and their current grade level, action needs to be taken. For example, at the start of 7th Grade, a student should have no skills below a 5th Grade level. The ASCS summer program will focus on remediating and closing these skill gaps. Individual students will receive recommended assignments through IXL with additional details in Google Classroom to accomplish this with the goal.

Tailoring these two goals to the needs of the individual students means that the minimum requirements for the summer math program will differ from student to student. There will be no hard and fast rule on the specific number of minutes or units to accomplish. However, the ultimate goal in every case will be to raise each student's overall math ability and skill level, and to prepare them for the coming school year.

Your student should be expecting to receive a detailed message in Google Classroom at the start of the summer. They will also begin to receive a list of recommended skills and topics in IXL over the next few weeks. As always if there are questions or need for further information, please feel free to email me at your convenience.

Most Sincerely,

David Shanabrook