

## Blended, Telescoped, Online 4/5 Math

Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) provides a variety of mathematics courses from Kindergarten through twelfth grade. In its continuing effort to appropriately address the needs of every learner in the district, MPS has added a “telescoped” sequence to its offering.

Telescoped courses compact the curriculum. All topics in the Minnesota State Standards are included in telescoped courses. The pace of the coursework is faster in a telescoped course.

Math 4/5 is being offered in 2015-2016. There are two ways Math 4/5 is offered to students:

1. Traditional in school class, with a classroom teacher
2. Blended online with Seth Leavitt, online Math teacher for the entire district

The blended, online course will include the same content as the traditional classroom. Students will work in a small group supervised by in-school staff. But unlike a traditional class, the content delivery will be online. Activities will be both online and offline. Seth Leavitt will call on each school at least once every two weeks (though once per week is the goal). This is the “blended” part of the course. While most content will be online, in person instruction is also included. This allows a wider variety of activities to be included in the course.

Students will engage in the blended, online course during their regular math period.

A typical day for a student in the blended, online course would start with him/her logging on to the course web site. This site was created by Seth Leavitt expressly for the telescoped 4/5 Math course. A link to the day’s lesson is on the home page. Typically, a lesson will include 2-4 activities. Activities might be an interactive assignment written by Seth Leavitt, a paper assignment that students will complete and hand in, a quiz, or a web-based math activity. There will be a staff person present to help students with the technical aspects of the course but the math instruction will be delivered by Seth Leavitt. Students will be able to contact him electronically while they are working so any questions can be answered immediately.

This is a general overview of the blended, online, telescoped 4/5 math course. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Seth Leavitt.

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