

Crossing the Divide:

CRITICAL TRANSITIONS IN STUDENT MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT (GRADE 8 TO 9)

Math Myths Debunked

A green dragon with red eyes and a red mouth, breathing fire. It is holding a book labeled "GRADE 9 ACADEMIC MATH". The dragon is surrounded by a green pattern of plus signs.

Myth #1
Grade 9 course options directly correspond to difficulty levels.

An illustration of a student with brown hair, wearing a blue shirt and a backpack, looking up at a path that branches into two directions. The path is represented by two silhouettes of people walking in opposite directions.

Myth #2
University is more prestigious and offers more/better career options than college.

A white unicorn with a purple mane and tail, wearing a purple graduation cap. A banner with the word "UNIVERSITY" is draped across its body. A student with brown hair is riding the unicorn.

Myth #3
If a student has an IEP, they should automatically only take certain courses.

A student with brown hair, wearing a green shirt and a backpack, holding a book labeled "IEP". A signpost with the text "ALL COURSE PATHWAYS" and three arrows pointing right is next to a large, orange, horned monster with a purple eye.

Myth #4
Pathway selections must be identical for all Grade 9 courses.

A red, stylized wolf-like creature with large ears and a human face. It is wearing a red and white striped shirt. Labels for "APPLIED ENGLISH", "APPLIED MATH", and "APPLIED SCIENCE" are attached to its body.

Myth #5
There is little/no flexibility once streaming choices are made.

A blue, muscular bull-like creature with horns, holding a large axe. It is standing between two signs: "APPLIED MATHEMATICS" on the left and "ACADEMIC MATHEMATICS" on the right. A student is visible behind the "APPLIED MATHEMATICS" sign.

To read the full discussion: Debunking Five Common Math Myths, go to <http://mkn-rcm.ca/>