

Setting Accelerated Math Goals With Students

Setting goals in Accelerated Math motivates students to do their best and take responsibility for their own learning. Please follow these steps when setting goals with students:

1. Think about appropriate goals for each student. Goals are typically set for a marking period, although teachers can set goals for shorter periods of time.

When setting goals, consider the skills and personalities of individual students. Is this a student who seeks challenge or one who needs to experience success? To build students' confidence, it's important to set goals at an attainable level.

2. Meet with individual students and formally set goals with them. Setting goals with students encourages them to take ownership of the goals. Use the Accelerated Math Goal-Setting Chart as a guide and record goals on the Student Math Plan. Set goals for objectives mastered, average percent correct on practices and tests, and any other math work for which students are accountable.

3. Once goals are set, select a marking period and enter goals in the Accelerated Math program. The software automatically tracks student progress toward goals if the goal information is entered in the software. (Please note: The Accelerated Math administrator must define the school's marking periods before teachers can enter goals in the software.) On the Teams & Goals page, enter marking period goals for objective mastery and test percent correct.

4. Monitor student progress toward goals using the Diagnostic Report and the Goal History Report. Goal data entered on the Teams & Goals page is reported on the Goal History Report. For each marking period (past and current), this report shows each student's objective-mastery and percent-correct goal, number of objectives actually mastered, actual percent correct on regular tests, and the percent of each goal that was met. The average percent on practice is also shown.

The Diagnostic Report shows students' objectives mastery and average percent correct information. It also shows which students are "at risk" in Accelerated Math. Students can keep track of their own progress on the Accelerated Math Student Goal Chart by updating it weekly or after each test. Students can use the form to chart their objective mastery progress.

Confer regularly with students and adjust goals as necessary to maintain motivation. Adjust goals if a student (a) is lagging and becoming discouraged or (b) is easily exceeding goals and becoming bored.

5. At the end of each marking period, meet with each student to assess progress toward goals and set goals for the next marking period.