# An overview of the Korea's 2022 revised mathematics curriculum







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01 Background of the 2022 revision

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#### Before we begin, let's think about...







• China and Korea share many cultural similarities, but would the school mathematics curricula and revision processes for the two countries be similar as well? If not, why and how?

• How can we research the processes as well as the outcomes of the curriculum revision for the two countries?







### 01 Background of the 2022 revision



The curriculum revision I will introduce today is called the '2022 Revision.'
Can you guess what '2022' means here.
Is it:

- 1. the year the revision study was begun?
- 2. The year the revised curriculum was first applied?
- 3. The year the final outcome of the revision was released?



2022.01.19. ppkjm@newsis.com



### Historical background: 5 major periods of Korean education



Until the 19th century

Focused on ethics based on Confucianism and Buddhism, mainly for fostering the moral character of students.

1945 ~ 1960

After the independence and the Korean War, education played a pivotal role in national recovery and overcoming the crisis.

1960 ~ 1980

Rapid quantitative growth achieved in education to foster talents required for industrial development.

1980 ~ 1990

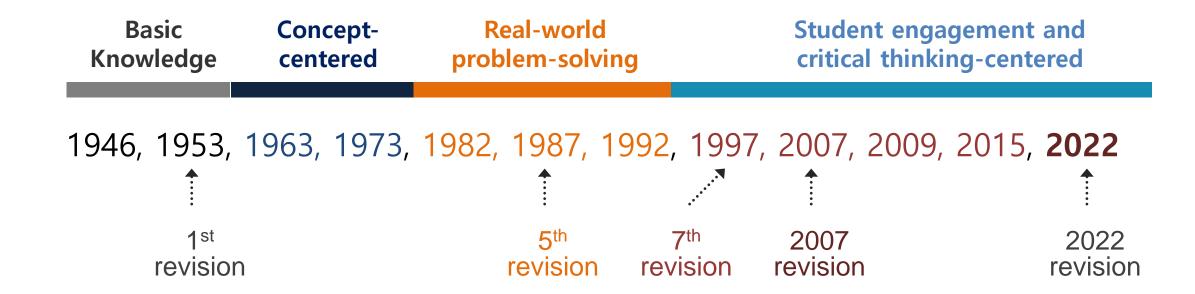
Qualitative growth completed by improving curricula and the educational environment as well as training for teachers.

1990 ~ present

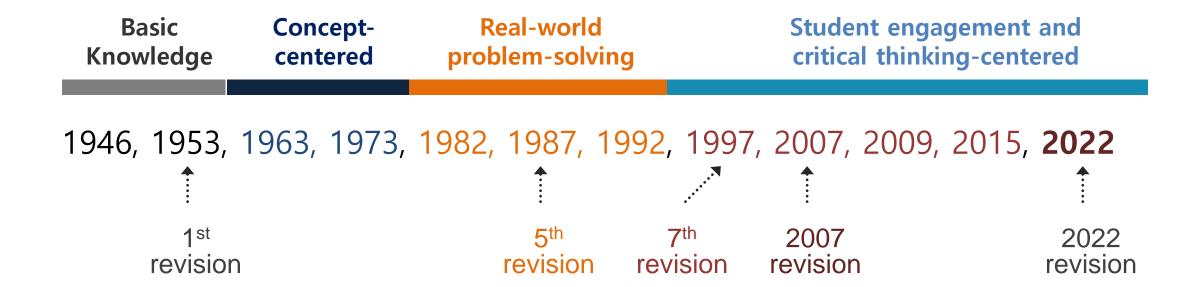
The rights of students, parents and teachers are stressed while leaning towards decentralization and autonomy of education

### Historical background: Modern mathematics education in Korea





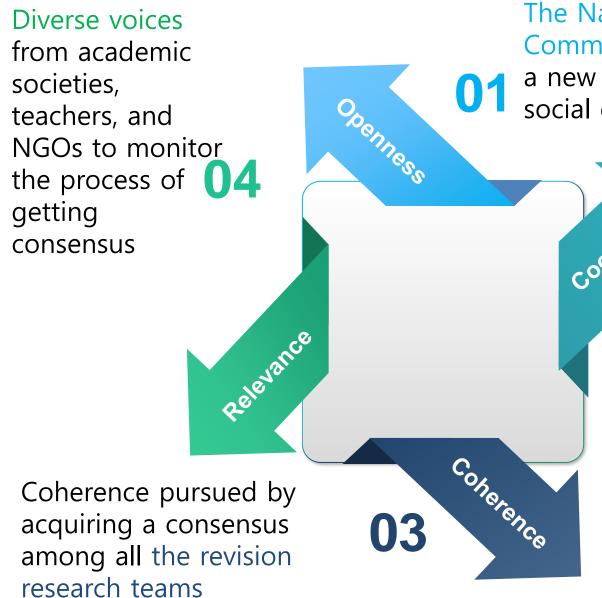
- 1. <u>1946~1953</u>: A list of topics to be covered with broad instructional recommendations was presented
- 2. <u>1963~1973</u>: A list of topics to be covered with pedagogical principles and strategies to promote conceptual understanding was presented



- 3. <u>1982~1992</u>: Real-world problem-solving was emphasized throughout the math curriculum.
- 4. <u>1997~2022</u>: Diagnostic teaching and process-oriented assessments to facilitate students' self-regulated learning and critical thinking, were highlighted in the curriculum documents.

#### The catchphrase for the 2022 revision was **Consensus-based curriculum**

(MOE, 2021b)



The National Education
Commission established
a new vision based on
social consensus

The Curriculum Revision
Promotion Committee
coordinated conflicts
between subjects to reach
an educational consensus.

Discussions on and on...

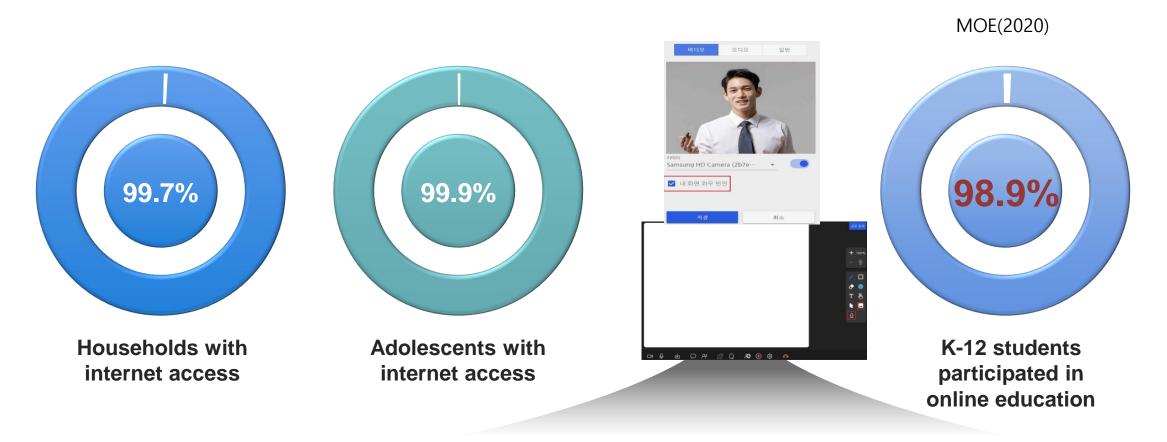
→ 4 major issues emerged

#### Issue 1: To narrow the achievement gap









- Compared to other countries, the transition to online education has been relatively successful
- Still, the achievement gap, deepened even further by the digital divide, is significant and undermines academic performance among low-income, underserved students and school districts

# Issue 2: To update content and pedagogy to fit the era of Al





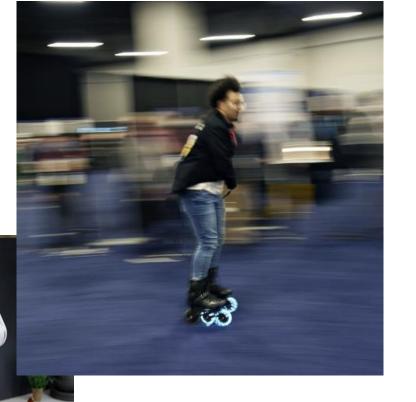






ChatGPT banned in Italy over privacy concerns

https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-65139406



Shiohira, K. (2021)

50%

of organizations

worldwide report using

some form of AI in their

operations.

https://robbreport.com https://www.thestar.com.my

#### Issue 3: To pursue equity and inclusivity







The OECD Learning Compass 2030 (https://www.oecd.org/education/2030-project)

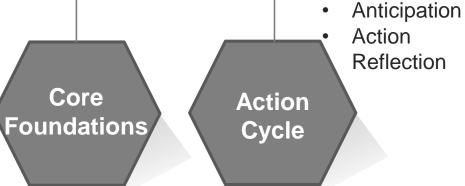


Knowledge

Skills

Attitudes

Values



#### **Transformative competencies**

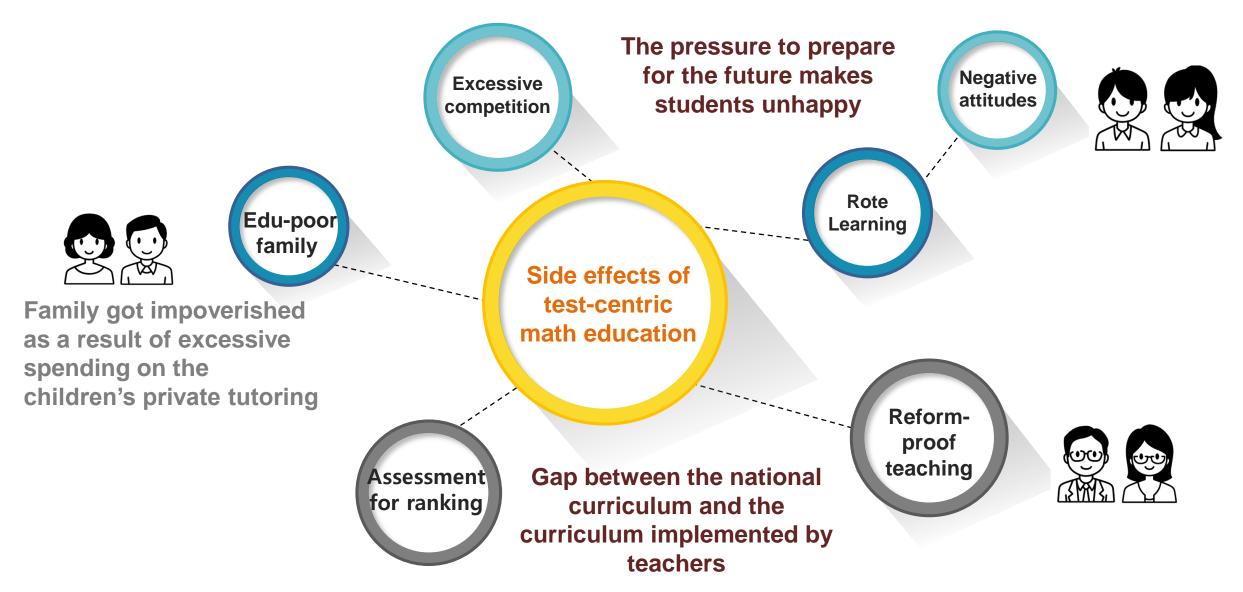
- Creating new values
- Taking responsibility
- Reconciling tensions & dilemmas

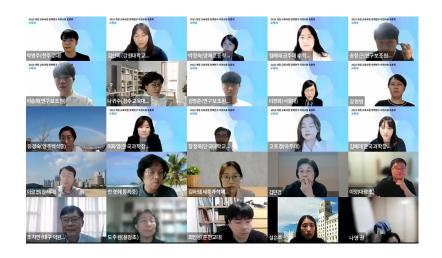
# Issue 4: To break the test-centric mathematics education











Discussions on and on...



Resolving the four issues was already complex, but since new issues were constantly being added throughout the entire process, the 2022 revision was extremely complex.

This is a good time to ask, What do we really know? How much of what we think we know is based on a firm knowledge base, how much on informed guesswork, how much is really just opinion? How much of what we plan to do reflects cultural biases, rather than established fact? (Schoenfeld, 1994, p.55)

#### Conflicts and contradictions

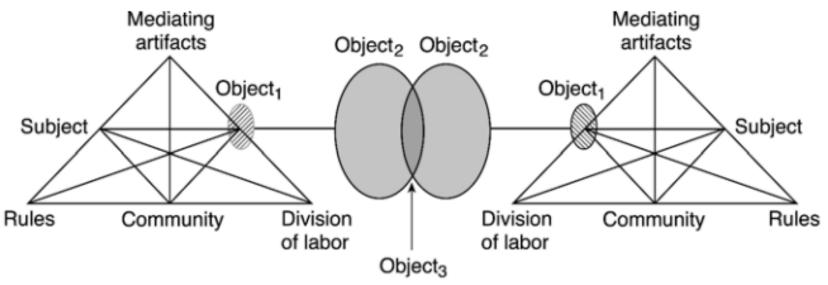






 Majority of diverse voices were criticisms or some kinds of demands to the 2015 revised math curriculum.

 Depending on which institution or community they belong to, such as teachers, students, parents, researchers, NGOs, policy makers, industry, universities, etc., the language and logic used were different. This includes different rules, strategies, division of labor, purposes, and tools in terms of the aspects, meanings, and solutions of the raised issues. Even the same term such as mathematical learning can be used with different meanings by different participants.



Two interacting activity systems as minimal model for the third generation of activity theory (Engeström, 2001, p.136)

Activities are open systems. ... contradictions generate disturbances and conflicts, but also innovative attempts to change the activity.

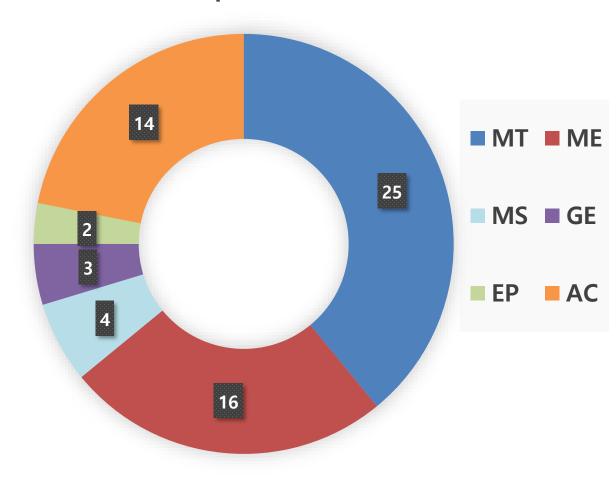
(Engeström, 2001, p.137)

→ Is it possible and relevant to analyze the contradictions in each activity system and the communicative conflicts arose between the activity systems to explore the process as well as the outcomes of the 2022 revision? Why not?

## Six activity systems interacted in the process of the 2022 revision

- Mathematics teaching(MT)
- Mathematics education(ME),
- General education(GE)
- Mathematics and statistics(MS)
- Educational policy(EP)
- Advisory committee(AC)

#### **Number of Participants of Sub-teams**



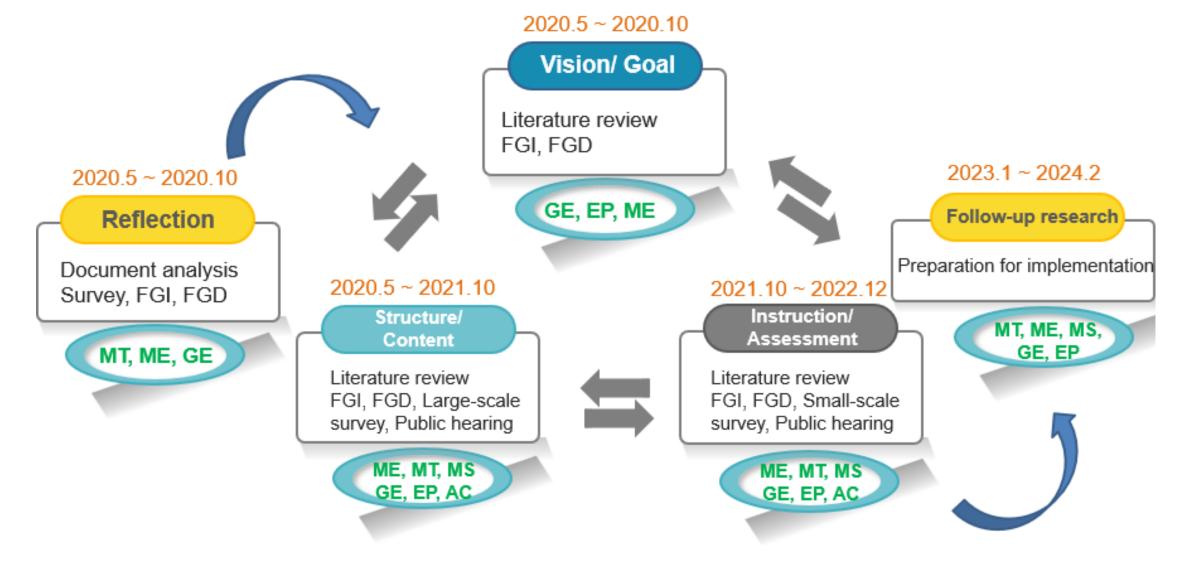
#### Roles and contributions







- MT: Reflect on and examine the current mathematics curriculum, propose what should be maintained and improved
- ME: Review international mathematics curricular revision trends, utilize findings to suggest innovative changes, communicate with and reconcile diverse stakeholders' voices
- MS: Analyze the vertical and horizontal connections in school mathematics to refine core ideas of each content stream and learning objectives
- GE: Establish a vision and goals to pursue, as well as a desired human character to cultivate, in the curriculum of each subject, and develop a common document structure for all subject curricula to follow
- AC: Scrutinize the revised version and present suggestions for improvement
- EP: Monitor the entire process of revising the curriculum



The 2022 revision refers to the curriculum that started the revision study in 2020, and completed the study to finally announce the curriculum in 2022, and it will be first implemented in elementary schools in 2024 and in high schools in 2025.

The curriculum revision I will introduce today is called the '2022 Revision.'

Can you guess what '2022' means here. Is it:

- 1. the year the revision study was begun in 2020
- 2. the year the revised curriculum will be first applied in 2024 for elementary and in 2025 for high school
- 3. the year the final outcome of the revision was released









#### 02 Major changes in the 2022 revision



# Major changes

O1 Changes to the goals and content framework

Changes to the elementary and middle school content and methods

Changes to the high school content and methods







### Major changes

O1 Changes to the goals and content framework

- How can we better present goals to support practitioners' deeper understanding of the revision perspective?
- What would be a better form of content framework to enhance epistemic quality of mathematics teaching and learning?







#### Teacher-friendly curriculum







2022 revision

2015 revision

 Directions of the revised curriculum



- Nature of mathematics
- Goals
- Content framework
  - Achievement standards
  - Explanation on achievement standards
  - Teaching and learning standards
  - Assessment standards

The significance and meaning of the main items in the document presented. It also provides directions for understanding and utilizing the curriculum document, to enable informed decision-making on mathematics teaching.

 To support teachers to interpret and implement specific achievement standard in a relevant way

#### Voices from the six activity systems







It is important not only to acquire knowledge but also to cultivate processes and attitudes towards mathematics and learning mathematics. (GE, ME perspective)

- **Nature of mathematics**
- Goals

It is impossible to implement competency standards if they cannot be clearly observed and evaluated. (MT perspective)

An increasing number of students who have not properly learned the foundational knowledge are experiencing difficulties in their tertiary **education**. (MS perspective)

 Overall, there is a consensus among all parties involved, but when it comes to specific details, there are noticeable discrepancies in their respective positions.

> 2020.5 ~ 2021.10 2020.5 ~ 2020.10 Structure/ Reflection Document analysis Survey, FGI, FGD

MT, ME, GE

Content Literature review FGI, FGD, Large-scale

> ME, MT, MS GE, EP, AC

survey, Public hearing

Lee et al. (2021) Kim et al. (2021)

#### Changes to the goals





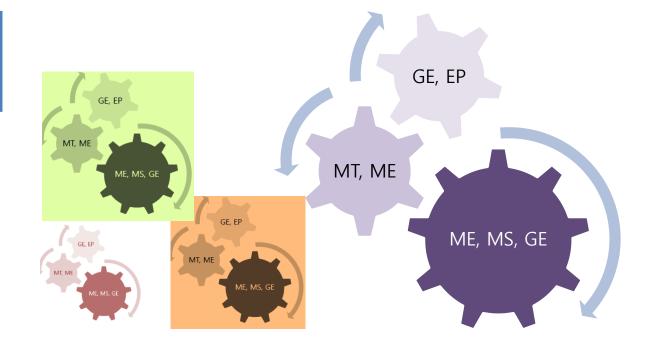




practice

convergence

 The conflicts were negotiated by replacing "creativity and convergence" for "connections"



 Nurturing the six competencies were the goals of the 2015 revised math curriculum

#### The updated goals are to ensure that all students:

- (1) actively and confidently solve various problems by understanding and utilizing mathematical knowledge. (Problem-solving)
- (2) develop interest and curiosity in mathematical facts, make conjectures and reason through justifications. (Reasoning)
- (3) communicate about mathematical thinking and strategies, and recognize the convenience of mathematical expressions. (Communication)
- (4) explore the relationships between mathematical concepts, principles, and laws, and recognize the usefulness of mathematics by applying it to real-life situations or other subjects. (Connections)
- (5) use manipulatives and digital tools appropriately to suit the purpose, collect and process data, and make reasonable decisions based on information. (Information processing)
  - → Are there any patterns you can identify among the phrases colored in red, black, and blue in the sentences above?

    MOE (2022)

### The blue represents mathematical knowledge,

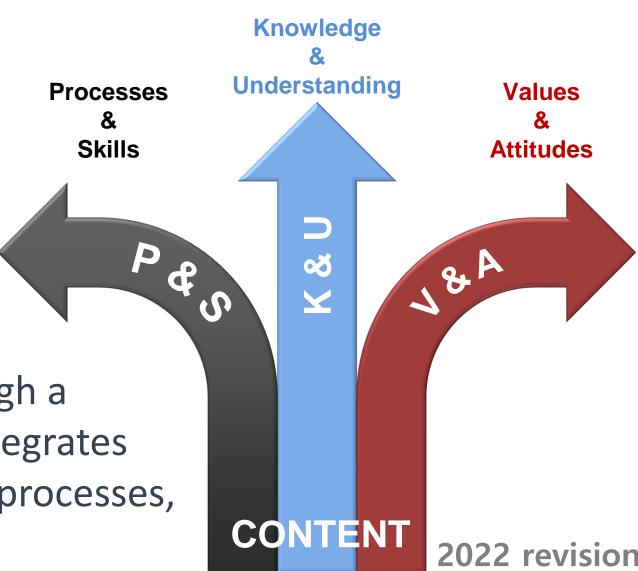
the black represents

mathematical processes,

and the red represents

values and attitudes.

#### **Reconceptualized content**



→ The goals can be achieved through a balanced learning approach that integrates the three categories of knowledge, processes, and values.

#### **Updating the content framework**







2022 revision

 Directions of the revised curriculum



- Nature of mathematics
- Goals

2015 revision

- Content framework
- Achievement standards
- Explanation on achievement standards
- Teaching and learning standards
- Assessment standards

Updated the content framework to promote a more comprehensive understanding and a balanced approach to learning.

Updated the achievement standards to enhance students' deeper understanding of mathematics and the world, fluency with mathematical processes, and positive attitudes towards mathematics and learning

Core-Ideas	Plane figures are categorized into various forms, and each plane figure has its own unique properties		
	Content elements		
	Grade 7 ~ 9		
Knowledge & Understanding	<ul> <li>Basic figures, geometric construction and congruence, properties of plane figures(Grade 7)</li> <li>Properties of triangles and quadrilaterals, similarity of figures, Pythagorean theorem(Grade 8)</li> <li>Trigonometry, properties of circles(Grade 9)</li> </ul>		
Processes & Skills	<ul> <li>Connection of points, lines, and planes in various situations</li> <li>Explaining properties of figures and the process of constructing a triangle</li> <li>Distinguishing between congruent and similar triangles</li> <li>Finding the length, area, surface area, and volume of figures</li> <li>Using concrete models or digital tools to solve problems</li> <li>Justifying the properties of figures</li> <li>Finding the ratio of similarity, values of basic trigonometric ratios</li> <li>Solving problems using trigonometric ratios</li> </ul>		
Values & Attitudes	<ul> <li>Recognizing the need for proof and the usefulness of Pythagorean theorem and trigonometry</li> <li>Interest and curiosity in Pythagorean theorem and trigonometry</li> <li>Interest and curiosity in architecture, cultural heritage, and art works that utilize properties of figures</li> <li>Adopting a systematic approach to thinking and persuading others rationally by utilizing various methods of justification</li> <li>Developing a critical thinking attitude based on mathematical evidence through justification</li> </ul>		

#### Content framework of the 2022 revision

- The framework aims to support teachers in planning and delivering high-quality mathematics lessons that incorporate not only knowledge and key activities, but also affective aspects that students may experience throughout the process of activities.
- The framework is designed as a tool for teachers' autonomous judgement and artistic choice, like a palette, rather than a restriction. MOE (2022)

Core-Ideas		
	Content elements of data and chance	
	Elementary (Grade 1~6)	Middle (Grade 7~9)
Knowledge & Understanding		
Processes & Skills		
Values & Attitudes		

**Number and operation** 

**Changes and relations** 

Figures and measurement

Data and chance

- Same content streams for elementary and middle school mathematics
- Same core-ideas for elementary and middle school mathematics
- → The integration of elementary and middle school math aims to resolve the transition problem from elementary to middle school.

#### Core(核心, 핵심)-ideas







Core-Ideas		
	Content elements of	
	Numbers and operations	
	Elementary (Grade 1~6)	Middle (Grade 7~9)
Knowledge & Understanding		
Processes & Skills		
Values & Attitudes		

- The introduction of core ideas was intended to pursue a deep understanding and teaching mathematics with high transferability.
- Three to four core-ideas presented for each content stream that connect concepts, processes, and attitudes vertically as well as horizontally.
- It is expected that teachers will design their lessons by relating the core ideas to specific content elements.

MOE (2022)

#### Four types of Core-ideas

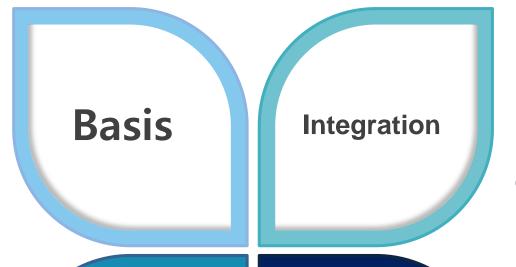






#### The underlying structure of vertical connections

Ideas that serve as the basis for various mathematical topics

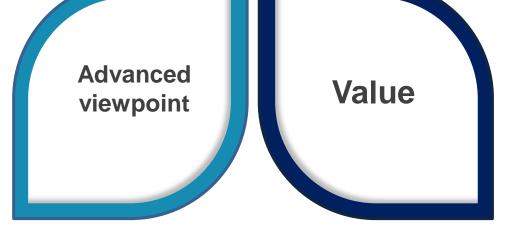


#### Means of horizontal connections

Ideas that enables integration with real-life and cross-curricular connections

### The upper structure of vertical connections

Ideas that are helpful to view various mathematical topics from a higher perspective

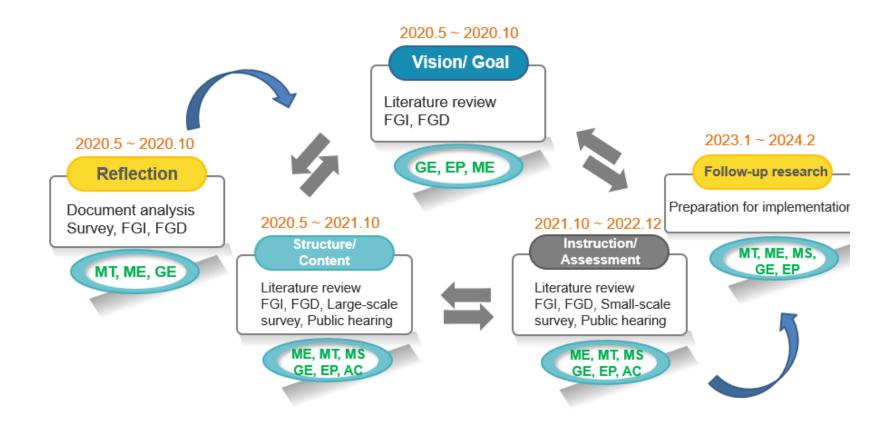


### The aesthetics and usefulness of mathematics

Ideas that relate understanding the beauty of mathematics as a pattern science and the value of mathematics within and outside the mathematical world

## The process of developing the content framework was by no means smooth.

What conflicts do you think we encountered during this time?



Core-Ideas		
	Content elements of data and chance	
	Elementary (Grade 1~6)	Middle (Grade 7~9)
Knowledge & Understanding		
Processes & Skills		
Values & Attitudes		

#### Voices from the activity systems

 Although the processes and skills, values and attitudes are all important and should be nurtured during the learning of mathematics, there is a possibility that some teachers may consider only the processes and skills, values and and attitudes presented in the content framework as important. This could lead to a distortion of the processes and skills, values and attitudes during evaluation.

(ME and MT perspective)

#### Voices from the activity systems







- If processes and skills, values and attitudes are integrated, then we should evaluate them in a reasonable way. How can we observe and evaluate students' affective achievements in relation to specific knowledge, and why is this important? (MT, ME and MS discussion)
- To teach processes and skills, and values and attitudes along with knowledge, sufficient class time is necessary. Currently, there is not enough time to teach only the required knowledge. Isn't this demanding too much? (MT, AC perspective)
- → Discussions about the burden of learning and difficulties in class continued until the final moments of the 2022 revision, but an agreement was reached based on the content framework presented earlier, taking into consideration alignment with the initially set goals and visions.

  Lee et al. (2022a,b)

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# Major changes

02

### Changes to the elementary and middle school content and methods

 How can we change the content and methods of elementary and middle school mathematics to reflect the demand for narrowing achievement gap, Al-based, equity and inclusivity-based mathematics education and move away from testcentered mathematics education?







#### Changes to the elementary school math







#### 1. Updated the content

to alleviate the learning load, to pursue in-depth learning, to facilitate statistical modeling and problem solving, to promote digital literacy, and to cultivate mathematical competencies. For example,

- Removed achievement standards (to alleviate the learning load)
- Ex) [4M02-05] Use the movement of plane shapes to create regular patterns
- added achievement standards (to pursue in-depth learning)
- Ex) [4M02-03] Use the equal sign to express that two quantities have the same magnitude.

#### Changes to the elementary school math







- Revised achievement standards (to facilitate statistical modeling and problem solving)
- Ex) [6M04-03] Pose a statistical question, collect and describe relevant data, represent it using appropriate graphs, and interpret it.

• Integrated achievement standards (to alleviate the learning load)
Ex) [6M02-01] Understand the meaning of congruence of shapes through specific manipulative activities and identify congruent shapes, and [6M02-02] Find corresponding points, sides, and angles in two congruent shapes and understand their properties have been integrated into [6M03-01] Understand congruence of shapes, explore and explain the properties of congruent shapes.

#### Changes to the elementary school math







- 2. Updated the teaching and learning methods to
- enhance self-regulated learning
- encourage tailored instruction for students
- integrate cross-curricular learning themes and connect with other subjects
- balance between online and offline teaching and learning
- strengthen career-linked mathematics education
- increase the weight of process-centered assessment
- link elementary and middle mathematics

#### Changes to the middle school math







#### 1. Updated the content

to alleviate the learning load, to pursue in-depth learning, to facilitate statistical modeling and problem solving, to promote digital literacy, and to cultivate mathematical competencies.

- Removed achievement standards
- Revised achievement standards
- Integrated achievement standards
- added achievement standards (to promote statistical modeling and digital literacy)

Ex) [9M04-08] Use digital tools to present data in box plots and compare distributions.

# Digital tools for math teaching and learning (Developed with government support)









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알지오 3D와 함배 의지오 3D와 함배 의지오 3D와 함께 의지오 3D 함께 의지오 3D 함께 의지오 5를 만들고 탐구해보세요.

Inquiry-based (All school level)

Statistics-focused (All school level)



원고 재미있는 통계 (CT) 이지통계 - 중학교용 **통그라미** 실용통계교육

설문조사

이용방법 안내

이용방법 안내 생 설문지 작성

Al-based (Grade 1 & 2 Math)

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#### Changes to the middle school math







#### 2. Updated the teaching and learning methods to

- enhance self-regulated learning
- encourage tailored instruction for students
- integrate cross-curricular learning themes and connect with other subjects
- balance between online and offline teaching and learning
- increase the weight of process-centered assessment
- link elementary and middle mathematics
- strengthen career-linked mathematics education

#### Changes to the middle school math







- Ways of strengthening career-linked mathematics education
  - Design and implement a statistical project by setting inquiry questions that match the interests, concerns, and career goals of students during the free-learning semester.
  - \* 'Free-learning semester system' refers to a program where middle school students can take a semester off from their regular coursework to pursue independent study, internships, or other activities related to their personal interests or career goals. The aim of the program is to provide students with an opportunity to explore their passions and develop practical skills that can help them make more informed decisions about their future career paths.
  - Support students by providing guidance on high school mathematics curriculum and related career paths, to help them prepare for their future more concretely.

#### Changes to the high school math







 High school math subjects were restructured to comply with the credit system that will be adopted starting from 2025.

- X The purpose of introducing the high school credit system is as follows:
- to stimulate students' learning motivation and interests through personalized education
- to cultivate the ability of students who will live in a rapidly changing future society to explore their own career paths and learn independently
- to maximize the abilities of each individual student with diverse skills and aptitudes, rather than vertically ranking students with different learning speeds and goals (MOE, 2021a)

#### Revised structure of high school math courses







#### Common

Grade 10

Grade 11~12

#### **Elective**

<Common Math 1, 2> (<Basic Math 1, 2>)

<Algebra> < Probability and Statistics> <Mathematics for **Economics>** <Practical Statistics>



<Algebra> <Calculus I > <Calculus Ⅱ> <Geometry>

#### General

<Algebra> <Calculus I > < Probability and Statistics>

#### Career-related

<Calculus  $\Pi$ >, <Geometry>, <Mathematics for Economics>, and Culture>, <Mathematics for Artificial Intelligence>,

<Mathematics for Workplace>

<Specialized Mathematics>, <Discrete Mathematics>, <Advanced Geometry>, <Advanced Algebra>,

<Advanced Calculus>

Convergence

< Mathematics < Practical Statistics>,

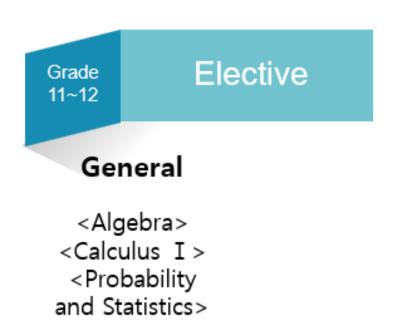
< Mathematical Investigation>

#### Conflicts between the activity systems









There is a high possibility that only three general elective subjects will be reflected in the university entrance exam, so to cultivate manpower in STEM fields, students only study mathematics in the amount that is just enough, which is clearly insufficient. Therefore, there is a need to increase the number of general elective subjects or to reflect some of the career elective subjects in the university entrance exam. (MS, ME, MT, & AC perspective)

It is necessary to alleviate the burden of learning. However, allowing students to take only some of the three general elective subjects is not sufficient to establish the foundation for future learning. Since there are advantages and disadvantages depending on which subjects are chosen, it is not appropriate to leave the choice to students. (MT, ME, MS, & AC perspective)

#### Conflicts between the activity systems







#### Career-related

```
<Calculus II >, <Geometry>,
<Mathematics for Economics>,
<Mathematics for Artificial
Intelligence>,
<Mathematics for Workplace>
<Specialized Mathematics>,
<Discrete Mathematics>,
<Advanced Geometry>,
```

<Advanced Algebra>,

<Advanced Calculus>

To meet the demands of students, many subjects need to be opened, but it becomes difficult to run high-quality classes when there are too many subjects to handle. (MT & ME perspective)

Letting students choose important math courses is a contradiction. If students are allowed to choose, there is a higher probability that they will choose courses that are more interesting to them rather than the fundamental ones. (MS & ME perspective)

#### Conflicts between the activity systems







<Mathematics and culture> will stimulate the interest in mathematics for underachieving students, but it may not be helpful for university entrance exams or career exploration. How should teachers respond when parents and students have conflicting opinions regarding subject selection? (MT perspective)

#### Convergence

<Mathematics and Culture>, <Practical Statistics>, <Mathematical Investigation>

All of the convergence elective subjects consist of enjoyable content that can be learned through self-directed student learning. If properly operated, it is an excellent opportunity to foster a positive attitude towards mathematics. (Ge & ME perspective)

#### Changes to the high school math







#### 1. Updated the content

to alleviate the learning load, to pursue in-depth learning, to facilitate statistical modeling and problem solving, to promote digital literacy, and to cultivate mathematical competencies.

- Removed achievement standards
- Revised achievement standards
- Integrated achievement standards
- added achievement standards (to cultivate mathematical competency)

#### **Case 1: Matrix**







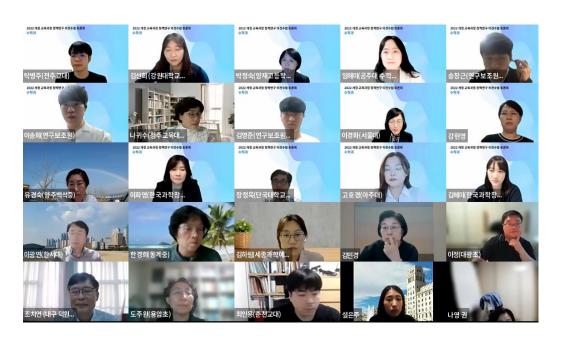


- Important concept to learn for the next generation
- Essential tool in mathematical modeling



- Adding learning content is inappropriate
- Matrix should only be taught in the elective subject





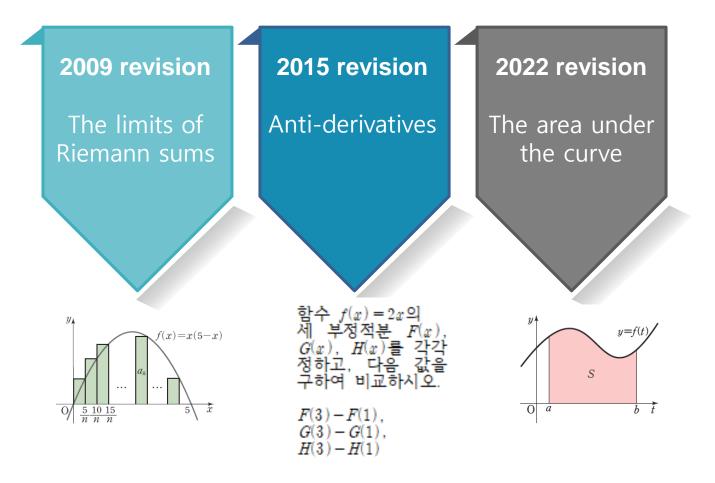




- Taehoon Kim 아무리 중론에서 좋은 말을 다 적어 봉으면 뭐합니까? 어자피 각돈에서는 수학 공부의 분령과 난이도가 전혀 줄어들지 않을텐데요.
- 합의 전기에 가능해 등에서 중돌이용 수도 있는데 고기에 점통이 돌아가는 내용이 옛날처럼 케일리에 되어 경토이 돌아가는 내용이 옛날처럼 케일리에 되는 경기를 가는 경기를 가는 지금 아직스 어린 방청사를 이용한 내용인 돌아가는지 등 아직스 개된게 없으니깐 사고속을 조장한다까지는 말을 못 할 게 같다는 정적이에요.
- 할 거 있다는 성주이에요.

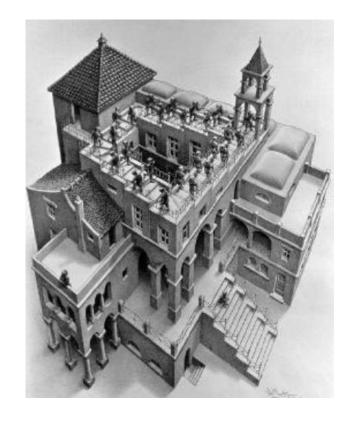
  ② Mina 전단에 대한 문제 시급하다고 생각합니다. 30 년만에 중12 수학 동부 등관이 하고 아이 학교 기업 고사 시점 문제 문에보다. 정착적이었습니다. 성을 이해하며 느꼈던 기름은 갖다 배비고 오루지 본째들이 기계가 되어만의 사건설에 물수 있는 시 됨이었습니다. 왜 그런 시점문제로 배출의 외치를 무너되는지 가입어 이런 하다.
- MJDY 아직 고1에 행렬이 왜 들어가는지는 발표하 지 않으셨습니다 ■ RhRh 요축하면 아이가 수확을 암기과목이라고 하 겠습니까!
- 문병모사람의 이런 중요한 토론이 있었다는 것을 장에 들어서 알았습니다. 학교 수업이 있는 데 현장 에서 참여할 수 있도록 최대한 했어야 한다고 생각 합니다.
- 합니다. 교등은 역항을 활항한다는 원론적인 목적으로 분을 때 통계에 대한 제구조화는 일관성과 인점성 고리고 표권면에서도 다스 공항상으로 생각합니다. 하지만 행물은 단순히 알도르의 시대의 인공자는, 확대이의 등이 음성하고 불요하다는 이용로 행물을 그게 이루 가하시는것은 소소의 확성과 전공을 취임 조지로 확 이 성적되지 않습니다.

#### **Case 2: Definite integral**



Balance between alleviating the learning load and pursuing in-depth learning What do we really know about students' learning?

Squid game(Netflix)



Ascending and Descending (M.C. Escher, 1960)



#### Changes to the high school math







2. Updated the teaching and learning methods to

- enhance self-regulated learning
- encourage tailored instruction for students
- integrate cross-curricular learning themes and connect with other subjects
- balance between online and offline teaching and learning
- strengthen career-linked mathematics education
- increase the weight of process-centered assessment















• It is expected that the achievement gap issue will be partially resolved through improvements in achievement and assessment standards, the teaching and learning environment, teaching and learning strategies, and assessment.

• The updated learning content, elective courses, career-linked education, and digital literacy education will create more equitable and inclusive opportunities for students who will live in the age of artificial intelligence.







 The problem of test-centered mathematics education is chronic, so it is difficult to expect it to be solved immediately.
 In the 2022 revision, we have specified that process-oriented assessment will be used as feedback for diagnostic teaching, rather than as a ranking system. This change may alleviate the negative effects of test-driven mathematics education.







- We believe that the revised document is a valuable compromise that has been reached after countless clashes of perspectives from various stakeholders, including not only a group of curriculum experts but also teachers, researchers in other fields, policymakers, students, parents, NGOs, and others.
- Given the diversity of the participants in the revision process, the interpretation of the 2022 revision should be conducted with care and creativity while considering the mixture of thoughts, demands, language, logic, and evidence.







 It is uncertain whether the consensus-based approach we have tried to depend on has worked really well as a strategy for revising the math curriculum. However, we are sure that it has been a way to break the fixed image of the math curriculum that many of us have held and to move away from a "transparency illusion" (Chevallard, 1992) about the math curriculum and the process of revising it.

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# Thank you for your attention









## Q & A







