



Middle School Advanced Mathematics Program

Grade 5 & 6 Accelerated Mathematics

Accelerated mathematics placement where students will complete mathematics content one grade level above current grade.

Eligibility is determined by a combination of cognitive and mathematics achievement test scores attained on an approved assessment for gifted identification.

Students must meet **both** of the following criteria to be eligible for placement:

Cognitive Score: Identified by state criteria as gifted in Superior Cognitive ability
and

Mathematics Achievement Score: 95 national percentile rank (NPR) on a state-approved, nationally-normed mathematics achievement test resulting in a gifted identification in specific academic mathematics ability

Grade 7 Pre-Algebra and Algebra

During the **sixth-grade year**, all students will have the opportunity to take the *Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test* (IAAT) to help determine Mathematics placement eligibility.

Advanced Mathematics Placement Criteria:

Students who score ≥ 174 standard score on the IAAT are eligible to enroll in Algebra I. Algebra I taken in 7th grade constitutes a two year acceleration in mathematics, where students will be learning Ohio's Learning Standards for high school Algebra I. They will progress in grade 8 to high school Honors Geometry.

Students who score ≥ 163 standard score on the IAAT are eligible to enroll in Pre-Algebra 7. Pre-Algebra 7 constitutes a one year acceleration in mathematics, where students will be learning Ohio's Learning Standards for eighth grade mathematics. They will progress in grade 8 to Algebra I.

Students who score between 160–162 standard score on the IAAT will automatically be eligible to participate in a second alternate administration of the IAAT for assist in determining acceleration eligibility. Additionally, parents may request students below this score be included in the alternate administration of the IAAT.

Additional criteria may be applied for students who score between 160–162 standard score on the second administration of the IAAT, or who appeal placement decisions in writing to the principal. These criteria may include:

- Documented mastery on district and state mathematics and ability assessments
- Superior performance in the mathematics classroom
- Input from current math teacher regarding mathematical thinking processes, ownership of learning, engagement, perseverance, and collaborative, critical and creative thinking and problem solving.

Advanced Math Transition period

Advanced Mathematics courses are considered an accelerated placement. Students in the first year of accelerated placement will receive a Written Acceleration Plan (WAP). Students on WAPs are given the opportunity to opt out of the placement before the start of the second semester **in the first year of acceleration** if it is determined the accelerated placement is not appropriate for the student. At the start of the second semester, the placement is considered permanent and the student will continue on the accelerated mathematics pathway.

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"We Inspire and Empower Learners"



Middle School Advanced Mathematics Program

Grade 8 Algebra and Honors Geometry

During the **seventh-grade year**, eligible students will have the opportunity to take the *Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test* (IAAT) to help determine Mathematics placement eligibility for Grade 8 Algebra. Students who successfully completed high school credited Algebra I in 7th grade are eligible to enroll in Honors Geometry.

Advanced Mathematics Placement Criteria:

Students who score ≥ 163 standard score on the IAAT are eligible to enroll in Algebra I. Algebra I taken in 8th grade constitutes a one year acceleration in mathematics, where students will be learning Ohio's Learning Standards for high school Algebra I. They will progress in grade 9 to Honors Geometry.

Students who score between 160–162 standard score on the IAAT will automatically be eligible to participate in a second alternate administration of the IAAT for assist in determining acceleration eligibility. Additionally, parents may request students below this score be included in the alternate administration of the IAAT.

Additional criteria may be applied for students who score between 160–162 standard score on the second administration of the IAAT, or who appeal placement decisions in writing to the principal. These criteria may include:

- Documented mastery on district and state mathematics assessments
- Superior performance in the mathematics classroom
- Input from current math teacher regarding mathematical thinking processes, ownership of learning, engagement, perseverance, and collaborative, critical and creative thinking and problem solving.

Continued enrollment in Algebra 7 is contingent upon the student maintaining an "A" or "B" class GPA and teacher approval. Continued enrollment in all other Advanced Mathematics classes will be contingent upon the student maintaining an "A", "B", or "C" class GPA and teacher approval. Students who do not consistently meet this requirement may be withdrawn from the Advanced Mathematics class and enrolled in the preceding level or traditional grade-level mathematics class.

Algebra 7, Algebra 8 and Honors Geometry 8 are high school-level courses; therefore, grades earned in these courses will be reflected on the student's high school transcript and will count toward the student's final high school GPA. Once entered on a student's high school transcript, these courses and grades cannot be removed. By taking an accelerated math class, students are given the opportunity to opt out of Algebra before the second semester begins. Students may also be withdrawn from the class if GPA requirements are not met. If a student opts out or is withdrawn from Algebra before the start of the second semester, grades earned in the first semester will not count as part of their high school GPA. Course grades for students enrolled in Algebra 7, Algebra 8 and Honors Geometry 8 at the beginning of the second semester will count as part of their high school GPA. Please note Honors Geometry 8 is weighted on a 4.5 scale when calculating the high school GPA and weighted on a 4.0 scale when calculating the middle school GPA.

What should I do if I feel my student is struggling in the advanced math course, or, I feel they are not developing a strong enough math foundation to ensure success in future math courses?

The decision to enroll your student in advanced mathematics courses is an important decision which should be weighed carefully. It is our goal to provide a challenging mathematics curriculum to meet the needs of each student. If your student is newly enrolled in the Advanced Mathematics program, we recognize there may be a transition period as your student adjusts to the new rigors of the course. As such, if you feel your student is struggling in the new placement or you feel they are not developing a strong enough foundation to ensure success in future mathematics courses, please contact your student's teacher. In some cases, students may be withdrawn from the advanced mathematics and placed in a more appropriate mathematics course before the end of the first semester **in the first year of the accelerated placement.** If a student opts out or is withdrawn from Algebra before the start of the second semester, grades earned in the first semester will not count as part of their high school GPA.

NOTE: Students are required to take at least four high school mathematics courses; however, the District expectation is that students who successfully complete the Middle School Advanced Mathematics Program take at least 3 additional years of Advanced Mathematics course offerings (e.g., Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry, Honors Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Statistics) in high school.