

GMS+ Math Scope and Sequence Information

The information provided below is for parents and students to become familiar with the typical progression of math courses from 6th grade through 12th grade.

Although our goal at Grisham Middle School is to provide students with the most challenging curriculum in math, it should be noted that the acceleration of math is provided *for those students who are developmentally ready*. For many students, math is a very difficult course in which to accelerate. For example, the second semester of 6th grade accelerated math and the full year of Algebra I seem to be particularly challenging times for some students. There is a waiver available for accelerated math.

All parents/guardians are encouraged to become familiar with the math courses available at Grisham Middle School and Westwood High School. The following table represents a typical continuum of math classes for Grisham Middle School and Westwood High School.

6 th grade	7 th grade	8 th grade	9 th grade	10 th grade	11 th grade	12 th grade
Regular - 6 th	Regular - 7 th	Regular - 8 th	DB Algebra I	DB Geometry	Mathematical Models	Algebra II
			DB Algebra I	Geometry	Mathematical Models	Algebra II
			DB Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus
			Algebra I	DB Geometry	Mathematical Models	Algebra II
			Algebra I	Geometry	Mathematical Models	Algebra II
Accel 6 th	Accel 7 th	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	AP Calculus AB and/or AP Statistics
	Accel 7 th	Enhanced 8 th	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus and/or AP Statistics
	*TAG 7 th	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	AP Calculus AB and/or AP Statistics
	*TAG 7 th	Algebra I	Pre-AP Geometry	Pre-AP Algebra II	Pre-AP/IB Precalculus	AP/IB Calculus BC and/or AP Statistics
	*TAG 7 th	*TAG Algebra I	*TAG Geometry	*TAG Algebra II	**IB/*TAG Precalculus	**IB/*TAG Calculus BC and/or AP Statistics
*TAG 6 th	*TAG 7 th	Algebra I	Pre-AP Geometry	Pre-AP Algebra II	Pre-AP/**IB Precalculus	AP/**IB Calculus BC and/or AP Statistics
	TAG 7 th	*TAG Algebra I	*TAG Geometry	*TAG Algebra II	**IB/*TAG Precalculus	**IB/*TAG Calculus BC and/or AP Statistics
	*TAG Algebra I	*TAG Geometry	*TAG Algebra II	**IB/*TAG Precalculus	**IB/*TAG Calculus BC and/or AP Statistics	AP Statistics

* To register for a TAG class at any point in the continuum requires that a student meet the entry qualifications of the TAG program.

** To register for an IB class in the continuum requires that a student meet the entry qualifications of the IB program.

Beginning with the freshman class of 2007-2008, four years of high school math and science are required for graduation. Successful completion of Algebra I in the middle school will count as one of the four years of math required under the Recommended Plan. However, under the Distinguished Achievement Plan, students must take a math course each year they are in grades 9 to 12 and the fourth math credit must be a course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite.

Most colleges and universities **expect** students to be taking math through their senior year of high school. Therefore, college-bound students who qualify and choose to take Algebra I in middle school should plan to take advantage of additional math courses available their senior year of high school. If a math class is not taken in the senior year, colleges want to know why not.

Information for parents/guardians to consider:

- **Concurrent and Dual Enrollment** (Early Start)—Students must apply to the university on their own, they must pay their own tuition and provide their own transportation, and there is no guarantee that students will be able to coordinate a university class with the high school schedule. Classes may be available through the University of Texas Distance Education Center or at Austin Community College.
- **High school classes**—Students who move rapidly through the math curricula will be in high school courses with older and, perhaps, more mature students. The highest level calculus class offered in high school is AP Calculus BC. If a student takes this calculus class before their senior year, they cannot take the next calculus class in the sequence until their freshman year in college.
- **Rapid pace**—*Many* people have expressed concerns about the rapid pace of the accelerated math program and have expressed concerns about the emotional and developmental appropriateness of students in the program. Their concerns are very valid. However, for the *exceptionally* talented student who is highly motivated in math, research is available in support of acceleration.
- **Tutoring**—If consistent tutoring is necessary to keep these students in an accelerated course, the placement into the program may need to be reconsidered.

International Baccalaureate Program at Westwood High School

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum designed to meet the challenge of college-bound and highly motivated students. Successful completion of course work and examinations at the junior/senior level may earn students credit at colleges and universities around the world. The majority of IB courses can be taught concurrently with the already established Advanced Placement Program.

Further information concerning the course of study is available from Westwood High School at 464-4000. Please consult your middle school or high school course catalog for additional information.

People to know at Westwood High School:

Becky Donald—Principal—464-4000

John Kaatz—Math Department Chairperson—464-4173

Marv Schmitt---Transition Counselor---464-4008

Kathy Fleming---IB Coordinator---464-4087