

MATH PATHWAYS FAQ

Does the district limit the number of students enrolled in the above-grade-level math classes?

No. The district offers all students who meet the criteria for above-grade-level math placement the opportunity to enroll in above-grade-level math classes.

Why are the criteria for the Advanced Math classes higher than the criteria for the Accelerated Math courses? Students qualifying for our Advanced Math classes are expected to complete Algebra I and Honors Geometry before they enter high school. It is therefore critical that our youngest students, who advance academically with fewer years of classroom experience, show strong evidence that they are already performing above grade level and possess the math problem solving skills, adaptive reasoning, strategic competence, conceptual understanding, procedural fluency as well as the persistence they will need to complete difficult tasks and monitor their own learning.

How does the district support the transition to the above-grade-level math learning opportunities for students during the early grades? Our elementary students are offered enrichment opportunities, not based solely on gifted identification, but rather skill mastery during math instruction.

Our gifted intervention specialist, who serves as the district's Advanced Math instructor, provides math enrichment services to 3rd grade students who are potential candidates for our Advanced Math classes. Students are screened for above-grade-level math readiness throughout the school year and are encouraged to participate in the math enrichment opportunities based on math classroom performance and NWEA MAP math assessment results.

We frequently conference with parents in person or by phone to develop a plan to improve math enrichment performance and readiness for Advance Math 4 when needed.

My child has been identified as gifted in Superior Cognitive Ability, Math and Reading. Why doesn't he qualify for the Advanced Math classes? Although our accelerated math classes qualify as gifted services, the district follows the Ohio Department of Education guidance for subject acceleration and conducts a full evaluation of above-grade-level math instruction readiness. Students must consistently perform well in the classroom and on the NWEA MAP math assessment to qualify for our accelerated math classes.

I have been informed that my 4th grader is a potential candidate for the Advanced Math 6 class next year. Why is there summer work required and considered as part of the evaluation decision?

All Advanced Math students and Advanced Math candidates are responsible for summer learning assignments designed to ensure students maintain a high level of mastery on all Ohio State Standards Grades 4 – 6 Math Standards by the end of 5th grade.

My daughter did not qualify for Accelerated Math 6 this year. Is it still possible for her to take Algebra I in 8th grade? Yes. Sixth grade students have two more end of the year opportunities to jump pathways and qualify for Algebra I in 8th grade.

My 5th grader did not qualify for an Accelerated Math class this year. What can he do to improve his candidacy for Accelerated Math 7 next year? Every student has different skills, attributes, and behaviors to work on to improve math performance. Students and parents should develop a plan to meet all expectations established for classroom performance, address the *Suggested Areas of Focus* on the MAP Math benchmark assessment, and seek out teacher feedback regarding recommended strategies for improving math performance.