



Minnesota Statute 120B.15 indicates that a school district must adopt procedures for the academic acceleration of gifted and talented students. These procedures must include how the district will:

- Assess a student's readiness and motivation for acceleration
- Match the level, complexity, and pace of the curriculum to a student to achieve the best type of academic acceleration for that student

### **Single Subject Acceleration**

Single subject acceleration is defined as the delivery of curriculum by either physically moving a student into a higher grade level classroom within the same district, or having him/her work with higher grade level curriculum either independently or in his/her own age-based classroom.

### **Elementary Single Subject Acceleration**

No subject acceleration in math is available in the current elementary program, teachers will meet student needs through differentiation.

A Gifted and Talented teacher at each site provides support to students in grades three and four during the literacy portion of the classroom schedule. During that time students will receive instruction at their academic level through guided reading.

### **Middle School Single Subject Acceleration**

Subject acceleration is available in math in the middle school and is an educational accommodation designed for exceptional math students. Subject acceleration requires an ongoing and committed partnership between the school district and the family. The subject acceleration procedures for math are designed to guide the process in determining if a student is a good candidate for this accommodation. To aid in the decision making process, more information about math pathways can be found through these resources: [Middle School Courses](#) and [Math Pathways](#).

Subject acceleration is not available in any other content area. A Gifted and Talented teacher at each site provides support to students in grades 5 - 8 during Language Arts and will consult with social studies and science teachers to differentiate instruction.

Families need to apply for single subject acceleration by the **last day of school** in order to be considered for the fall of the upcoming school year. Criteria for acceleration are listed below.

### **General criteria for students**

1. Student must demonstrate high achievement in math by scoring at or above 95th percentile on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and achieve “exceeds” on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA).
2. An end of the year assessment may be given and a score of 80% or above will need to be achieved demonstrating mastery of district materials at least one year ahead of current placement.
3. The student’s current teacher and previous teacher in the subject area will be consulted about student achievement and work ethic.
4. The student should exhibit all or most of the following traits: social and emotional maturity, strong independent study skills, motivation and persistence, and an intense interest in the subject area.
5. The student must show a desire to subject accelerate.

### **General Process**

1. Students who meet the criteria in the first step under general criteria should complete the single subject acceleration application so that a time can be scheduled to take the end of the year assessment at least one year ahead of current placement. The [application](#) should be submitted to the building principal.
2. Parents will be contacted by the Gifted and Talented Coordinator to arrange a time for the assessment.
3. Results of the assessment will be shared within 1 week of completing the assessment.
4. The Gifted and Talented Coordinator, building principal, counselor and teacher of subject the student is requesting to accelerate in, will determine if appropriate, permission for single subject acceleration will be granted.
5. If it is determined that the request is not appropriate, recommendations will be developed for the current level and the teacher will monitor student progress.

### **Process for students going in grade 4 going into grade 5**

1. Students that meet the criteria in first step under general criteria, will be given the end of year assessment that assesses grade 5 standards during the school day in mid-May.
2. Results of the assessment will be shared by Memorial day.
3. Students meeting the criteria of 80% or more on the end of year assessment that want to enroll in Accelerate Middle School Math 1 should complete the [Acceleration form](#).

Note: Students who do not meet the entrance criteria for accelerated math in grade five will have other opportunities for acceleration throughout their middle and high school career in School District 197.

## Procedures

1. The recommendation of the subject acceleration will occur at a natural transition time and be on a nine week (quarter) trial basis with the current teacher monitoring student progress. To be considered for the start of the year, requests should be made by the last day of school of the previous year.
2. Students **must maintain a 70% quarterly average** on all unit assessments in order to remain in the accelerated course.
3. Scheduling issues and transportation needs must be considered. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent.
4. Acceleration plans will be re-evaluated annually.

## Students New to District

1. Complete appropriate testing, testing needed will be based on tests taken in previous school.
2. Submit a recommendation form from previous school

*Adopted: June 1, 2016*

*Revised: February 2018*

*Revised: May 2018*