



MATH DEPARTMENT VISION STATEMENT

The Mathematics Department facilitates the development of effective problem-solvers and flexible, critical thinkers. We work to construct a foundation of skills and understanding that will result in mathematically confident young women who have broader options for the future.

MATH DEPARTMENT FORECASTING PHILOSOPHY

When forecasting students for their future math classes, each math teacher forecasts their current students with three main considerations:

1. First and foremost, we consider which course will ***most appropriately challenge*** each individual student. This is a two-fold consideration that takes into account not only what will push the student to greater levels of learning, but what course will meet their needs and provide an environment where they can build confidence in their math skills.
2. The next consideration is which course ***matches an individual students' interests and goals***. We understand that our students have diverse goals for their futures, and we strive to offer all students the mathematical experiences needed to achieve those goals.
3. Finally, we always frame forecasting in the context of which math course will provide students with the ***best opportunity for success in college and beyond***.

It can be challenging to make a decision about a student's future success in a math class in March with only about 65% of coursework for the year complete. This is especially true in the pandemic. We strive to make sound judgments that both honor our forecasting criteria and the understanding that things could change by the start of the next school year.

MATHEMATICS HONORS CRITERIA FOR CURRENT STUDENTS

- Staying in an Honors Class:
 - Maintain an 80% test average or better in the course (group quizzes are not included in this average)
- Moving from a Regular Math Class to an Honors Math Class:
 - Maintain a 95%* test average in the regular class (group quizzes are not included in this average)
 - Complete summer work set by the current teacher

SUMMER MATHEMATICS OPTIONS

While St. Mary's Academy does not offer in-house summer math classes, we do honor summer courses that meet the rigor of a St. Mary's Academy math class. Summer courses may be taken at approved local high schools, community colleges, or online through an accredited program. Remedial and credit-recovery courses (including PPS summer courses) will not be approved. A student who participates in a summer course will not receive credit for their coursework on their St. Mary's transcript. If they intend to move a course ahead in math, they must come in and take an exam at St. Mary's following the completion of their summer course. Students interested in pursuing a math class over the summer should reach out to the summer math coordinator at maryclare.metscher@smapdx.org. All summer math courses must be approved by the summer math coordinator by **Friday, June 11th**.

*97% to move from Algebra to Honors Geometry



SMA 2021-2022 Mathematics Forecasting Options

Current Course	Forecasted Course	Conditions for Acceptance
<i>Algebra 1</i>	Geometry	None
	Honors Geometry	97% test average
<i>Accelerated Algebra 1</i>	Geometry	None
	Honors Geometry	95% test average
<i>Geometry</i>	Algebra 2	None
	Algebra 2 + Trig	80% test average
	Honors Algebra 2 + Trig	95% test average
<i>Honors Geometry</i>	Algebra 2 + Trig	None
	Honors Algebra 2 + Trig	80% test average
<i>Algebra 2</i>	AFS	None
	Algebra 2 + Trig	None
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Algebra 2 + Trig</i>	AFS	None
	Pre-calculus	85% test average
	Honors Pre-calculus	95% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Honors Algebra 2 + Trig</i>	Pre-calculus	None
	Honors Pre-calculus	80% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>AFS</i> <i>(Advanced Functions & Statistics)</i>	Pre-calculus	None
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Pre-calculus</i>	Calculus	None
	AP Calculus	95% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Honors Pre-calculus</i>	Calculus	None
	AP Calculus	80% test average
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>Calculus</i>	AP Calculus	None
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	
<i>AP Calculus</i>	PSU Calculus	70% or above (PSU Requirement)
	None (if Graduation Requirements Satisfied*)	

*The state of Oregon requires all students complete 3 years of math and reach Algebra 2 or its equivalent.

MATHEMATICS FORECASTING F.A.Q.

- **How do I know what math class to forecast for?**

Your current math teacher determines their recommendation for the course that you should forecast for based on your work and performance in your current class up to this point in the year. They use the math forecasting options rubric to determine which course will most appropriately challenge you and set you up for future success. They also take into consideration your work in your previous math courses that tie-in closely with your future math course (for example, a student that is doing really well in Geometry might not get forecast for Algebra2+Trig if their Algebra 1 grade showed that they need more support in algebra skills). After your math teacher completes their recommendation, that information gets shared with your TA who passes it along to you so that you can forecast in PowerSchool for the correct math course.

- **What if I don't agree with my math forecasting recommendation?**

Your first step is to talk to your current math teacher and discuss their recommendation and their reasoning behind it. If you still have concerns after talking to them, please reach out to the math department chair, Mary Clare Metscher, at maryclare.metscher@smapdx.org. If you continue to be unsatisfied with your math forecasting, please contact the Assistant Principal, Liane Rae, at liane.rae@smapdx.org.

- **What if I want to move from a regular math course to the accelerated/honors course?**

There is flexibility between courses. If you are hoping to move from the regular math course to the accelerated/honors course you must meet the grade criteria for test averages outlined in the math forecasting options rubric. If you have questions about this, please reach out to the math department chair, Mary Clare Metscher, at maryclare.metscher@smapdx.org.

- **What if I'm in an accelerated/honors course and want to move to the regular course?**

If you get your forecasting recommendation for an accelerated/honors course and you want to move to the regular course, please meet with your current math teacher to discuss their recommendation and their reasoning behind it. You should work with your current teacher to decide what would be the best course for you to forecast for, but you are able to move to a regular course with their approval.

- **Can I skip a math course by taking it over the summer?**

While St. Mary's Academy does not offer in-house summer math classes, we do honor summer courses that meet the rigor of a St. Mary's Academy math class. Summer courses may be taken at approved local high schools, community colleges, or online through an accredited program. Remedial and credit-recovery courses (including PPS summer courses) will not be approved. A student who participates in a summer course will not receive credit for their coursework on their St. Mary's transcript. If they intend to move a course ahead in math, they must come in and take an exam at St. Mary's following the completion of their summer course.

- **How can I get into AP Calculus?**

Students who are currently enrolled in Honors Pre-calculus who have an 80% test average, and students who are currently enrolled in Pre-calculus who have a 95% test average and a recommendation from their current math teacher, may forecast for AP Calculus.