

# Middle School Advancement Guidelines

Pingry presents a strong and robust math program. The curriculum is advanced and challenging. Students in our program not only gain understanding of the concepts but acquire important skills of implementing the material in various settings under different circumstances, such as science, art, and history classes. The grade of A in our program is an indication of mastery of the current material but is not necessarily an indication of a student's ability to advance beyond the next level in our program. We do not deny the possibility that there are some students that exhibit ability to do summer work to advance (skip) through a course and start the next year steps ahead in their math curriculum. These instances are rare and expect the student to meet strict requirements for advancement. We are also aware that taking a 6-week summer class instead of a full-year course may create gaps in students' knowledge that they would need to cover on their own. This is not an optimal situation for learning new material.

**No student may do any work on their own for the purpose of advancement**, such as going ahead with the next year's curriculum or working with a tutor on next year's material. If any student chooses to do such work without department permission, **no testing or advancement opportunity will be offered.**

Students may seek permission from their current teacher **at the end of the second trimester** to start working ahead in their curriculum during the **third trimester**. **No additional work for the purpose of advancement can be done during the first two trimesters.**

## Requirements for advancement:

All students must **secure their teacher's recommendation** and **present their summer plans** to the MS Math Placement Coordinator Ms. Donna Thau ([dthau@pingry.org](mailto:dthau@pingry.org)) or Math Department Chair Dr. Alexandra Lasevich ([alasevich@pingry.org](mailto:alasevich@pingry.org)) **no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

### Advancement through Math 1 (6<sup>th</sup> grade math course)

- **Earning a qualifying score on the Math Placement Test which is administered in June. Students do not need permission to take this exam.** Students need to register with MS Math Placement Coordinator Ms. Donna Thau ([dthau@pingry.org](mailto:dthau@pingry.org)) or Math Department Chair Dr. Alexandra Lasevich ([alasevich@pingry.org](mailto:alasevich@pingry.org)) **no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

### Advancement through Math 2 (7<sup>th</sup> grade (Form I) math course)

**Math 2 course is considered essential in the Pingry math program. Attempting to advance through this course is strongly discouraged.**

- A grade of A+ in **every trimester** of the Math 1 course

- Recommendation of the math department, which is based on the student's developmental stage, ability to study independently, love of learning mathematics, active class participation, comfort with the class material, ease of adjustment to fast-paced courses, and fulfilling every extra enrichment opportunity offered in their current class.
- Department Chair approval
- **Earning a qualifying score on the Math Placement Test which is administered by August 1st every year.** Students need to register with MS Math Placement Coordinator Ms. Donna Thau ([dthau@pingry.org](mailto:dthau@pingry.org)) or Math Department Chair Dr. Alexandra Lasevich ([alasevich@pingry.org](mailto:alasevich@pingry.org)) **no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

#### Advancement through Math 3Y (8<sup>th</sup> grade (Form II) math course)

- A **year-end** grade of A+ in the Math 2 course
- Recommendation of the math department, which is based on the student's developmental stage, ability to study independently, love of learning mathematics, active class participation, comfort with the class material, ease of adjustment to fast-paced courses, and fulfilling every extra enrichment opportunity offered in their current class.
- **Earning a B or better in a Pingry Summer Program's Algebra course or earning a qualifying score on the Math Placement Test which is administered by August 1st every year.** Students who chose to take the test instead of the summer course need to register with MS Math Placement Coordinator Ms. Donna Thau ([dthau@pingry.org](mailto:dthau@pingry.org)) or Math Department Chair Dr. Alexandra Lasevich ([alasevich@pingry.org](mailto:alasevich@pingry.org)) **no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

#### Advancement through Geometry Honors (8<sup>th</sup> grade (Form II) math course)

**Geometry course is considered essential in the Pingry math program. Attempting to advance through this course is strongly discouraged.**

- A grade of A+ in **every trimester** of the Math 3Y course
- Recommendation of the math department, which is based on the student's developmental stage, ability to study independently, love of learning mathematics, active class participation, comfort with the class material, ease of adjustment to fast-paced courses, and fulfilling every extra enrichment opportunity offered in their current class.
- Department Chair approval
- **Earning a B or better in the Pingry Summer Program's Geometry course or earning a qualifying score on the Math Placement test which is administered by August 1<sup>st</sup> every year.** Students who chose to take the test instead of the summer course need to register with MS Math Placement Coordinator Ms. Donna Thau ([dthau@pingry.org](mailto:dthau@pingry.org)) or Math Department Chair Dr. Alexandra Lasevich ([alasevich@pingry.org](mailto:alasevich@pingry.org)) **no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

#### Double Advancement (Advancing for the second time)

**We strongly discourage advancing through our program twice.** Such advancement may cause not only developmental and social issues, but it places students in classes that are not

designed for their age group. Additionally, such advancements will cause disruption to the student's schedule, and limit students' access to their instructor.

- A grade of A+ in **every trimester** of the current math course
- Recommendation of the math department, which is based on the student's developmental stage, ability to study independently, love of learning mathematics, active class participation, comfort with the class material, ease of adjustment to fast-paced courses, and fulfilling every extra enrichment opportunity offered in their current class.
- Recommendation of the student's current advisor which is based on overall student performance, maturity level, independence, etc.
- Department Chair approval
- **Earning a B or better in the Pingry Summer Program's math course or earning a qualifying score on Math Placement Test which is administered by August 1<sup>st</sup> every year.** Students who chose to take the test instead of the summer course need to register with MS Math Placement Coordinator Ms. Donna Thau ([dthau@pingry.org](mailto:dthau@pingry.org)) or Math Department Chair Dr. Alexandra Lasevich ([alasevich@pingry.org](mailto:alasevich@pingry.org)) **no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.**