Understanding **YOUR** Math Choices in Secondary Schools

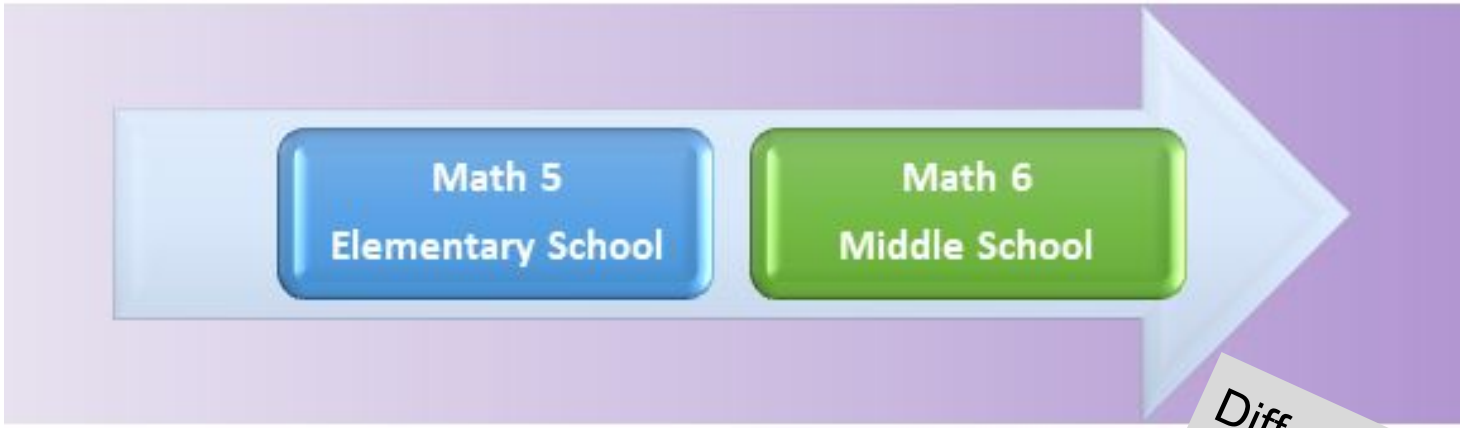
Math Placement in PAUSD's Middle and High Schools

The Secondary Flow Chart: Flexible Pathways

See Page 23, in the posted document

- Many pathways--student/parent choice
- Designed to fit the student's appropriate level for both challenge *and* success
- Choices can be made each year

Fifth-grade to Sixth-grade



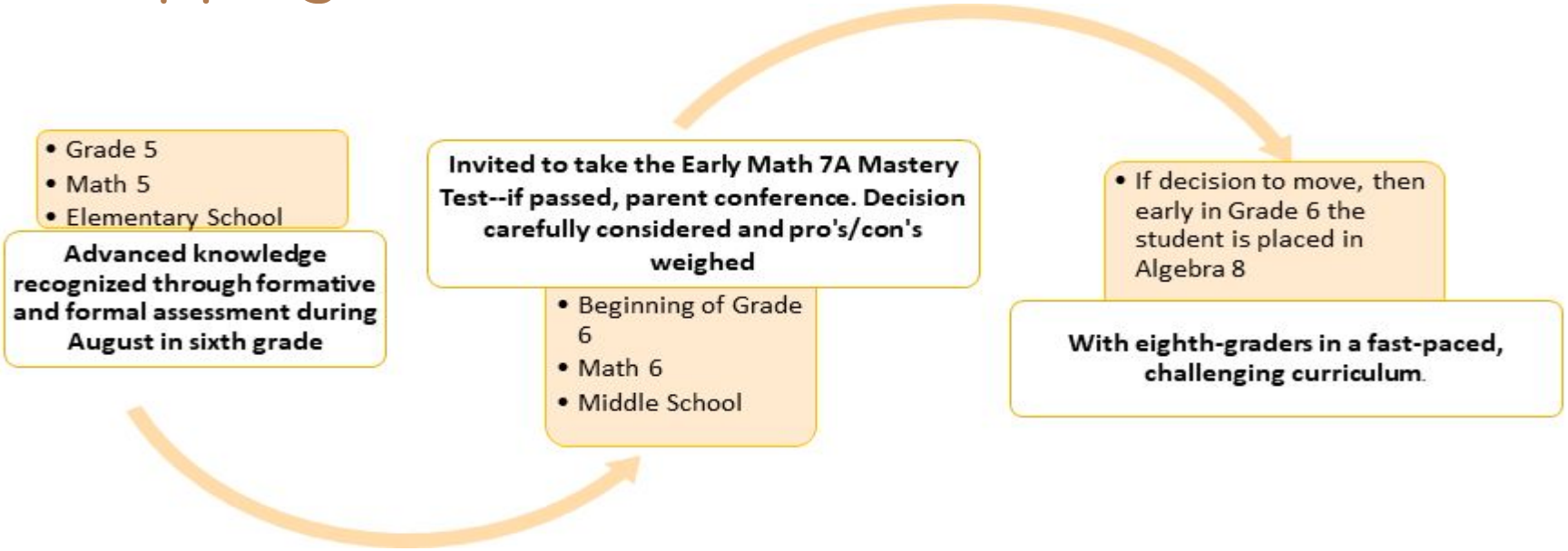
Differentiation *among* the CCSS-M6 topics:

- Support
- Maintenance
- Extensions and investigations

Differentiation is *not* working on CCSS-M7 topics.

“Skipping” Math 6?

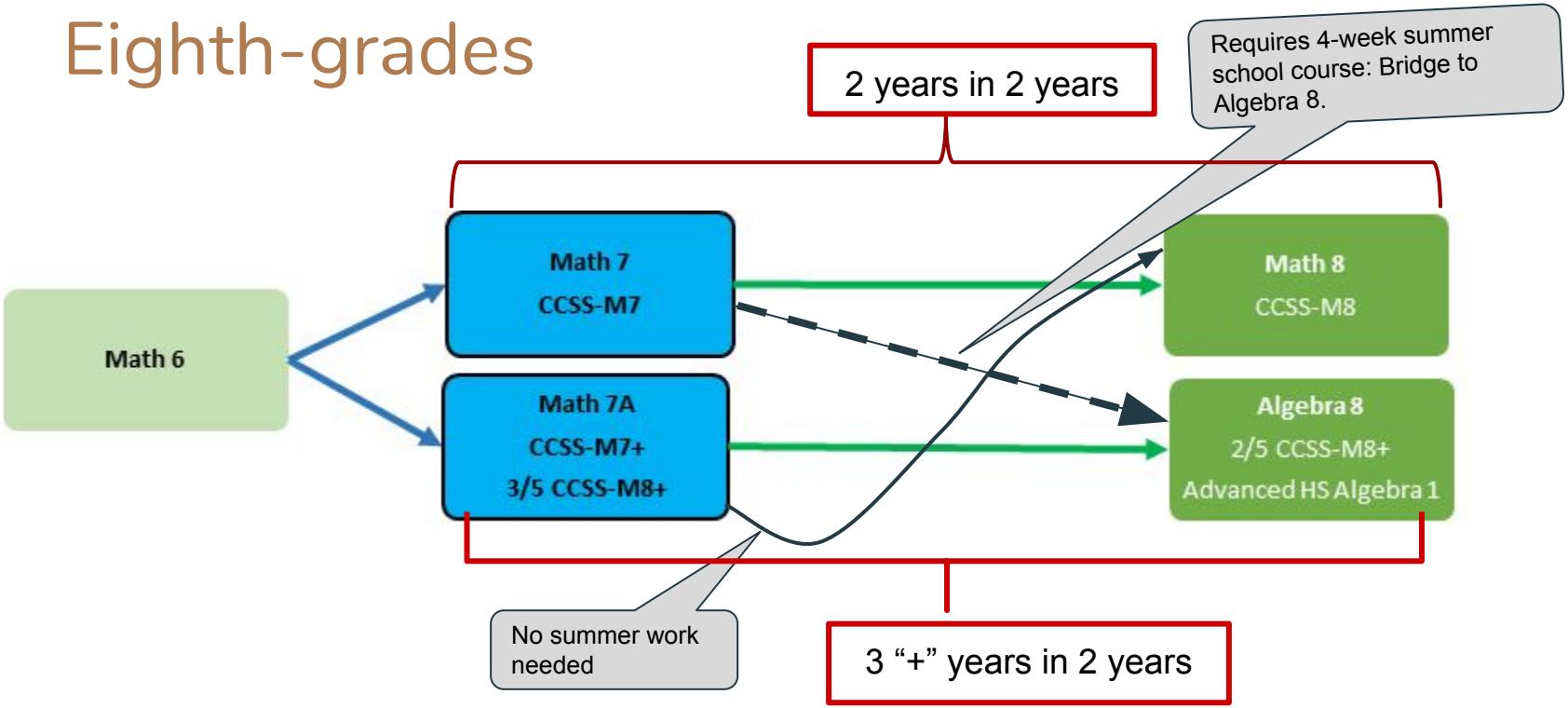
See pages 6-8 of the posted document



Considerations to Take Into Account for Acceleration Beyond One Year

6th Grade: Algebra 8	7th Grade: High School Geometry H	8th Grade: Algebra 2/Trigonometry H
With 8th graders; missing flexible clustering; higher academic expectations; Out of Team	Out of Team	Gives up two 8th grade periods for math; out of Team

Moving from Sixth-grade to Seventh- and Eighth-grades



Your child's sixth-grade teacher helps you choose seventh-grade math by giving you DATA:

see page 12 of the posted document

Revision for 2018-19: **SIX** Criteria

- Two in the area of Classroom Test results
- Two in Comprehensive Test Part 1 (Mechanics) results
- Two in Comprehensive Test Part 2 (Applications) results

“Skip” Math 7A??

- The idea of skipping math course is not a sound one. Students must show that they know the material. Math is foundational--and each level builds on the last.
- **If** a student has ***all*** six of the Xs in the Math 7A column in the Criteria Table, **and..**
- **If** a student has been studying CCSS-M7 and CCSS-M8 on their own during the school year,
- **Then,** the student might take the **May** Math 7A Mastery Test.
- If the student passes the test with an 85% or better, the student is invited to take Algebra 8 as a seventh-grader.

Moving from Seventh-grade to Eighth-grade

pages 13-16 in the posted document

- Test Scores: *First time* scores are the best predictors (*first time scores* indicate comfort for the pace of the curriculum)
- Student interest is vital
  - Okay to “stretch” your student, if your student will follow through with the effort and the work
  - Outside activities must be taken into account
- Math 7 choices: Math 8 or (with summer school) Alg 8
- Math 7A choices: Alg 8 or Math 8

“Skip” Algebra 8?? **pages 15-16 on the posted document**

- Algebra is **FUNDAMENTAL** to the rest of the math courses...
- Should only be considered if the Math 7A student has learned Algebra and Math 8 independently (could be done over the summer)
- Student should really enjoy math

The August Algebra 8 Mastery test is in August--contact your student’s Math teacher about your student’s interest in taking this test. --if the test is passed (85% or more, the student moves into HS Geo H at the MS sites (at the middle schools as long as enrollment allows).

Moving from Eighth- to Ninth-grade

From *Math 8* (page 18)

- **Paly**: Alg 1A (B+ or above on *first* result of classroom tests) **or** Alg 1 (below B+ on *first* results of classroom tests)
- **Gunn**: Alg 1A

From *Algebra 8* (page 19)

- Geometry H (A's on *first* result of classroom tests)
- Geometry A (B- to A- on *first* result of classroom tests)
- Repeat Algebra by taking Algebra 1A (below B- on *first* result of classroom test) OR take summer school "*Bridge to Geometry A"* and earn a B- or better on the summer school classroom tests

From 8th graders in *HS Geometry H* (top of page 20)

to their 9th grade course

- Algebra 2/Trig H (A - or better on first result of classroom tests)
- Repeat Geo H in 9th grade--is the *best* choice to create a strong transcript in order to matriculate to the university of their *choice*. (Not many students take this path, however.)
    - Students may continue in the Honors courses, or might transfer to the *Advanced* courses at some point in high school.

Common Pathways

page 22 of the posted document

Sixth grade starts at the left. (See the list across the top for the grades of 6 through 12)

The most challenging course work is across the top, Honors lane in 9-12.

The middle double-set are a Year-ahead in the Advanced lane, and the Advanced lane in 9-12.

The set across the foundation of the table is the Grade-level lane in 9-12.

These courses are CSU/UC recognized courses as well as the other math courses. (At the HSs, this lane is also known as *College Prep Lane.*)

PAUSD Math Placement is a ***choice*** placement.

As students grow and mature, physically and emotionally, the students also grow *ACADEMICALLY*.

The PAUSD Math system is “Laned” system, not a “Tracked” system--so students and their parents/guardians should know how to move from one course to another, as well as from one lane to another.

To Manage Lane Changes:

- Move to more challenging courses by doing summer work when needed or personal preparation on the topics and pacing.
- Move to less challenging courses by *course choice* for the beginning of the year, or at the end of the first semester.
- Students may also consider moving lanes during the first quarter of the course--talk to the student’s math instructor.

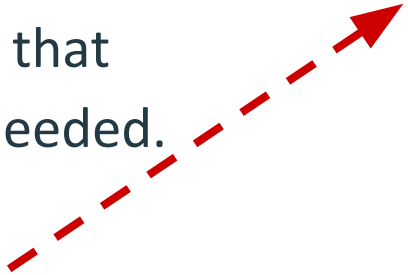
Flexible Pathways

page 23 of the posted document

Same organization as the “Common Pathways” table--but the flexibility is shown with arrows. Allows students and parents/guardians to *fit* the coursework to the student.

Changing direction (changing lanes) is indicated by the *dotted* arrows.

Red Arrows indicate that SUMMER WORK is needed.



Green Arrows indicate that little or no content work is needed. (Pacing work might be useful.)

Sample Pathways to Calculus

page 24 of the posted document

We continue to create pathways to AP Calculus --

Note that Graduation Requirements and CSU/UC Entrance Requirements for math stop at **Algebra 2**.

The majority of PAUSD students complete Algebra 2 by their Junior Year (11th Grade).

More than 80% of seniors at both high schools are in a math course--most commonly

- Pre-Calculus
- IAC (Introduction to Analysis and Calculus)
- AP Statistics
- Calculus (Paly only)
- AP Calculus AB or BC

Other Pages in the packet

Useful information

- Math Electives, page 25: notice AP Stats
- Computer Science Offerings, page 26: Useful for *every* student
- FAQs: pages 27-41, for example,
  - *My student is “right on schedule” for math--what does a “right on schedule” pathway look like?*
  - *My student really struggles in math and has earned Cs or less in middle school courses. What does struggling student pathways look like, assuming the student earns at least a C in each high school course?*
  - *My student is advanced in mathematics, that is, my student is a year or more in advance of “right on schedule.” What do advanced student pathways look like?*

The posted document is found at https://www.pausd.org/curriculum/secondary-math-placement. It is a detailed document and will put you *inside* PAUSD's secondary math system.

Contact your student's math teacher or the Math IL at your student's site for more information.