



# ARDSLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Stuart Horlacher, *Principal*

Jennifer Goldenberg, *Assistant Principal*

September 10, 2024

Dear 6th Grade Families,

While our students just recently began 6<sup>th</sup> grade, we have received feedback over the years requesting communication at the beginning of the school year about our math offerings for the future.

In monitoring our own students' readiness over the years, we have developed math offerings in grades 7 and 8. The data indicates that a majority of our students will be most successful in the grade level courses aligned to the Next Generation Learning Standards which are called Math 7 in grade 7 and Math 8 in grade 8. However, some of our students, as 8th graders, are ready for the accelerated high school course which is called Algebra I.

Next year, students who are placed in Math 7 will be taking the math sequence recommended by New York State. Regardless of math placement, if a student takes four years of mathematics at the high school, they will complete topics in Calculus. The sequence for these students is as follows:

Grade 7	7th grade Math Curriculum
Grade 8	8th grade Math Curriculum
Grade 9	Algebra I
Grade 10	Geometry
Grade 11	Algebra II
Grade 12	Pre-Calculus and Statistics/AP Statistics (optional)

Students who are placed in Math 7/8 will be one year accelerated. As 7th graders, accelerated students will be required to take a second math course which will be scheduled during first period on either A or B days for two of the four quarters. Please note that we believe it is inappropriate and potentially academically harmful to accelerate students who are not developmentally ready. The sequence for these students is as follows:

Grade 7	Cover topics from the 7th grade and most of the 8th grade Math Curriculum
Grade 8	Cover the balance of the 8th grade Math Curriculum and all of Algebra I
Grade 9	Geometry
Grade 10	Algebra II
Grade 11	Pre-Calculus
Grade 12	Calculus/AP Calculus and/or Statistics/AP Statistics

In determining the most appropriate math placement for our 6th graders, we will look closely at their achievement and effort in 5th and 6th grade math. This includes consistently earning high grades and demonstrating consistent tenacity, curiosity, and effort. In early June, you will be notified of your child's math placement for next year.

Please bring any questions you may have to the Math Information meeting being held at the end of Back to School Night on Thursday, September 12.

Sincerely,

*Mr. Stuart Horlacher*  
Principal

*Ms. Linda Nappi*  
AMS Math Curriculum Leader