



Paxon Hollow Middle School Mathematics Department Course Placement Criteria

Marple Newtown School District uses Math in Focus as the primary instructional resource for teaching mathematics in grades K-8. Math in Focus is an authentic Singapore math curriculum that centers on problem-solving as the foundation of mathematical learning. Concepts are introduced through a concrete-pictorial-abstract progression, fostering a comprehensive understanding. The program emphasizes real-world and hands-on learning experiences to teach both the "how" and "why" behind mathematical principles. Math in Focus provides differentiated instruction to meet the needs of individual learners, utilizing hands-on learning and visual models. These visual tools, including bar models, help students develop mental models and understand mathematical situations, which are essential for becoming successful problem solvers.

Incoming 6th Graders

All students moving from Grade 5 into Enriched Math 6 must meet all criteria listed below:

- Maintain a 93% overall grade average*
- Advanced score on the PSSA*
- IXL score of 650 points or more
- Submit assignments on time and consistently meet the standards established by the teacher at the start of the school year.

Incoming 7th Graders

All students moving from Enriched Math 6 to Enriched Math 7 must meet all of the following criteria:

- Maintain a 90% overall grade average*
- Advanced score on the PSSA*
- IXL score of 750 points or more
- Submit assignments on time and consistently meet the standards established by the teacher at the start of the school year.

All students moving from Math 6 into Enriched Math 7 must meet all of the following requirements:

- Maintain a 93% overall grade average*
- Advanced score on the PSSA*
- IXL score of 750 points or more
- Submit assignments on time and consistently meet the standards established by the teacher at the start of the school year.

Incoming 8th Graders

All students moving from Enriched Math 7 to Algebra I must meet all of the following criteria:

- Maintain an 85% overall grade average
- Advanced score on the PSSA*
- IXL score of 800 points or more
- Submit assignments on time and consistently meet the standards established by the teacher at the start of the school year.

All students moving from Math 7 into Algebra I must meet all of the following requirements:

- Maintain a 95% overall grade average
- Advanced score on the PSSA*
- IXL score of 800 points or more
- Submit assignments on time and consistently meet the standards established by the teacher at the start of the school year.
- An Algebra placement test may need to be considered in circumstances where additional data are needed to make the best recommendation for student success.

Important Considerations When Accelerating to Algebra 1

Students transitioning from Math 7 to Algebra I will not cover the following topics from the Math 8 curriculum:

- The Real Number System
- Exponent Properties
- Properties of Scientific Notation
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Geometric Transformations

**Grade averages should be based on end of unit Math in Focus assessments*

**If a student does not take the PSSA, he or she would still be expected to meet all other criteria listed above.*