

2023-24 Middle School Math Placement Policy

Modernization of the SDUSD Mathematics Program

In the San Diego Unified School District all of our students should have access to high quality math instruction, rigorous content and a coherent TK-12 mathematics experience. Regardless of the math pathway, every mathematics course in SDUSD offers opportunities to develop mathematically, to problem solve given our diverse world, and to communicate reasoning that contributes positively to the communities in which we live and learn.

Middle School Mathematics Course Offerings

We currently offer rigorous math courses that are aligned to the California Common Core State Standards at all sites. Not all middle schools offer accelerated courses. The following schools currently offer Accelerated Math: Bell, Challenger, Correia, CPMA, Dana, De Portola, Farb, Grant K-8, Lewis, Mann, Marshall, Marston, Montgomery, Muirlands, Pacific Beach, Pershing, Roosevelt International, Standley, Taft, Wangenheim.

SAN DIEGO ENHANCED MATHEMATICS MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OPTIONS					
Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
Math 6	Accelerated Math 6	Math 7	Accelerated Math 7	Math 8	Integrated Mathematics 1 Advanced
Rigorous standards aligned Grade 6 mathematics	Rigorous Grade 6 and part of Grade 7 mathematics	Rigorous standards aligned Grade 7 mathematics	Part of Grade 7 and Grade 8 mathematics	Rigorous standards aligned Grade 8 mathematics: a mix of algebra, geometry, and statistics	Rigorous Grade 9 mathematics: integrating traditional high school Algebra 1 and Geometry topics

Placement Process:

1. Course options will be communicated to families about middle school pathways. Students will have the opportunity to self-select their math course.
2. Students will take the FAST Assessment during the spring semester. (iReady may be used in lieu of FAST for schools that use iReady). Grades and results of the assessment will be reviewed and analyzed for course placement.
3. Middle schools will notify parents of student math placement based on the criteria by June 30, 2023.
4. Parents/Guardians may contact the middle school if they have questions about student performance on the assessments.
5. Student math performance, as measured by grades and the FAST Assessment, along with student choice will be reviewed annually to ensure placements are appropriate and are meeting the needs of each student from year to year.

Criteria:

Two metrics and student choice will be considered *each* year at the end of the school year for grades 5-7.

Recommendation for Accelerated Mathematics: Students must meet BOTH criteria		
Metric:	FAST or i-Ready*	Current Math Course Grade
Criteria:	85th percentile or higher	Student received mostly 4's or an A or B
Given the information on grades and results of the assessment, students have the opportunity to self-select their pathway.		

*If students do not take the mathematics portion of the FAST or iReady, the Smarter Balanced Assessment in mathematics may be used. Students who score Exceed Standards should be considered for Accelerated Mathematics. The District Essential Math Indicators Assessment (DEMI) is a formative assessment and should not be used for course placement.

Flexibility Through Annual Review:

Students should not be limited in their course options based on a single decision point in grade 5. Instead student data will be reviewed annually.

Grades and Assessment Timelines:

First semester grades (2nd trimester for elementary) and spring FAST or i-Ready scores can be used to determine placement for the upcoming school year. Schools may want to consider a review of final grades and spring results for any student who is close to meeting criteria.

Questions: Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Office of Equity, Access & Opportunity, Math Program Manager, Jessica Walsh, Jwalsh3@sandi.net