

# CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**MIDDLE**



**SCHOOL**

## PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2020-2021

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## Middle School Program Overview

The goal of the Middle School Program is to develop academic skills, build content knowledge, and expand learning experiences into new areas of study. At each grade level, support structures are in place to help students transition from the elementary school and prepare them for the high school.

The middle school schedule operates on an 8-period daily schedule with double periods for English/Language Arts and Mathematics. The middle school program includes two 89-minute periods for English/Language Arts and Mathematics, two 43-minute periods for Social Studies and Science, and two 43-minute periods for Expo courses. The Expo courses follow an A/B day rotation, and the core courses meet daily.

All middle school students are required to take the following core and Expo courses, unless modified in a student's individualized education plan:

### Required Core Courses

<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
English Language Arts (ELA)	English Language Arts (ELA)	English Language Arts (ELA)
Math	Math	Math
Science	Science	Science
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies

### Required Expo Courses

<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
Art	Family and Consumer Science	Personal Finance & Career Exploration
Physical Education/Health	Physical Education/Health	
Music		
Sixth Grade Seminar		

## **Academic Courses**

Academic courses are designed around a set of subject-specific standards. Academic courses include content and skill-based goals and objectives appropriate for each grade level.

## **Advanced/Honors Courses**

Advanced-level and honors-level courses are designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace, with increased independence, and in greater depth. These courses are more challenging than academic courses and may include additional content. Students in advanced-level and honors-level courses are recommended by their teachers through multiple criteria that include proficiency on a variety of curriculum-based assessments and performance in class.

## **Advanced Thinking Enrichment (Gifted Courses)**

Students with gifted individualized education plans (GIEPs) may select to participate in a gifted Exploratory course. The Advanced Thinking Enrichment courses are designed to support students with GIEPs by enhancing critical thinking skills and analytical reasoning abilities. They are also designed to extend beyond the academic curriculum to enrich content learning in reading, English, science, and social studies, as well as broadening interdisciplinary areas of interest. Supports for students with GIEPs exist in all courses through the selection and completion of independent goals. The Advanced Thinking Enrichment classes in each grade level allow students to be in a cohort. The Advanced Thinking Enrichment classes are for students that meet that criteria. A description of those classes is below.

## **Advanced Thinking Enrichment 6, 7, & 8**

The Advanced Thinking Enrichment course focuses on critical thinking skills in the content areas of reading, science, and social studies. During the reading unit, students will read a variety of challenging texts that support interdisciplinary connections with an emphasis on divergent thinking, self-directed inquiry, literary and expository text analysis, and reasoning. During the science and social studies units, students will use extended thinking and reasoning skills while exploring core curriculum concepts more in depth. As a culminating unit, the students will create a final product that encompasses the specified thematic content covered throughout the course of each year. Along with this work, students will also pursue individual topics of interest through independent goal completion.

## **English Language Development (ELD)**

Students who are eligible for English Language Development (ELD) courses are those who have limited English proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Student eligibility is determined by assessments of English proficiency administered by the ELD teacher. Students enrolled in ELD courses will take these courses in place of reading, language arts, or English, depending on each student's individual language needs. Teacher recommendation and placement is required.

## **Middle School Skills for Success (MSSFS)**

Middle School Skills for Success provides direct instruction in the areas of study skills and organization, explicit skill instruction related to IEP goals, and social skills instruction. This course is for students who receive Learning Support or Emotional Support services, but generally who are not scheduled in both Supportive Reading and Supportive Math for academic reasons. Students' IEP teams must pre-determine the student qualifies for this instruction in at least two of the three focus categories based on outlined criteria. The instruction is provided by a special education teacher three times in six days in place of one Expo class. Every attempt is made to schedule opposite Physical Education or another Expo that meets every other day.

## **Reading Support Courses**

Reading support courses are designed to provide focused reading instruction in comprehension. Students will learn how to apply reading strategies and build vocabulary knowledge and reading stamina while utilizing a variety of high interest texts.

## **Supportive Courses**

Supportive courses are designed for students who have individualized education plans (IEPs). In these courses, students may receive modified curriculum materials and specialized instruction to meet their individual learning goals and needs.

# **Core Course Descriptions**

## **Grade 6**

### **English Language Arts 6**

In English Language Arts 6, students focus on the writing process by composing narrative, informative, argumentative, and literary pieces. Other topics include writing conventions, vocabulary, and reading. At this level, students are identifying and developing clear intentions while writing organized, focused, and supported pieces. An emphasis will be placed on grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students will read and analyze various literary and nonfiction texts.

### **Academic Literacy 6**

The **Academic Literacy** course aims to develop the student's ability to read for academic success: to independently apply various reading strategies to comprehend and analyze texts. In addition, instruction will focus on decoding multisyllabic words, building comprehension, expanding academic vocabulary through word study, and writing in response to reading. Direct instruction for skills (decoding, encoding, and word attack for multisyllabic words; comprehension; vocabulary; writing paragraphs; constructing sentences) will be ongoing throughout the course. **Teacher recommendation is required.**

## **Advanced Math 6**

Advanced Math is designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace and have an aptitude in math. Students in this advanced class will accelerate one full year in math – bypassing the sixth grade math curriculum to study the seventh grade math curriculum one year earlier than the average student. **Placement in this course will be based on individual student data and projections of proficiency on future assessments.**

## **Math 6**

This math course prepares students for pre-algebra by computing with multi-digit numbers and finding common multiples and factors, and by extending previous understanding of arithmetic to ratios, rational numbers, properties of numbers, algebraic expressions, solutions of simple equations and their applications. Other topics include measurement, geometry, unit rates, coordinate system, data analysis, and probability.

## **Science 6**

In Science 6, students will study Earth and space science. Students will learn about the oceans, meteorology, climate, and space. In the area of meteorology, students will study the water cycle, air pressure, causes and effects of natural disasters, and how climate is impacted. When studying astronomy, topics include stars and galaxies, constellations, objects in the Solar System, and the moon's effects on the Earth. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments.

## **Social Studies 6**

Social Studies 6 focuses on early humans, ancient civilizations, beginning in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, and Greece and leading through to the Fall of Rome. Students will learn about how civilizations develop and the patterns among civilizations. Students will develop skills as social scientists, such as analyzing cause and effect, and work with primary and secondary source materials.

# **Grade 7**

## **Honors English Language Arts 7**

The Honors Language Arts 7 course challenges students in the areas of reading, literature study, writing, research, speaking, and critical thinking. Both fiction and nonfiction selections will be examined, with emphasis on literary analysis of texts. Students will analyze challenging texts and complete reading and writing assignments independently with a high degree of critical thought, organization, and attention to details. In this honors course, students will encounter challenging texts and writing assignments, so they are expected to be avid readers and proficient writers, demonstrating a clear command of basic conventions and grammar rules. At this level, students independently continue to develop their writing styles, with variety and complex usage of vocabulary. Honors level students are expected to continue in the Honors program and aim for Advanced Placement work in high school. **Teacher recommendation is required for this course.**

## English Language Arts 7

In Language Arts 7, students focus on the writing process by composing informative, argumentative, and literary pieces. Other topics include writing conventions, vocabulary, and reading. At this level, students are developing style, engaging the reader, and defending a stance using different viewpoints while writing organized, focused, and supported pieces. An emphasis will be placed on grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students will read and analyze various literary and nonfiction texts.

## Academic Literacy 7

The **Academic Literacy** course aims to develop the student's ability to read for academic success: to independently apply various reading strategies to comprehend and analyze texts. In addition, instruction will focus on decoding multisyllabic words, building comprehension, expanding academic vocabulary through word study, and writing in response to reading. Direct instruction for skills (decoding, encoding, and word attack for multisyllabic words; comprehension; vocabulary; writing paragraphs; constructing sentences) will be ongoing throughout the course. **Teacher recommendation is required.**

## Pre-Algebra 7

Pre-Algebra is designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace and have an aptitude in math. Problem solving, application, communication, and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. Students in this advanced class will continue their acceleration in math by studying the pre-Algebra 8 curriculum one year early. **Placement in this course will be based upon individual student data and projections of proficiency on future assessments.**

## Math 7

This course expands the application of rational numbers to numerical and algebraic expressions and to the solution of real-life and mathematical multi step problems using equations, inequalities, proportions, and percent. Geometric topics include angle measurement, constructions, properties of two and three-dimensional figures, and the application of geometric formulas. Topics also include statistics and probability, random sampling, statistical models and compound probability.

## Honors Science 7

In Honors Science 7, the focus of the course is physical science. The honors level is designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace and have an aptitude in science. Students learn about the basic principles of chemistry, physics, energy, and force. Science topics include matter, elements, forms of energy, electricity, simple machines, and Newton's Laws. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments, and will be encouraged to develop skills consisting of analysis, application, and problem solving in relating inquiry-based labs to the material studied in class. Students in this course should be strong in math and reading skills. **Teacher recommendation is required for this course.**

## **Science 7**

In Science 7, physical science is the focus. Students learn about the basic principles of chemistry, energy, and force. Topics include matter, elements, forms of energy, electricity, simple machines, and Newton's Laws. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments.

## **Honors Social Studies 7**

Honors Social Studies 7 focuses on world history from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. The major topics include how government, society, and economic policies are influenced by religion. The course is designed for students who enjoy an in-depth study of world history and seek rigorous, honors level work in the social studies. Students are expected to read many historical texts independently, and to use both primary and secondary resources to complete historical research. In addition, students will demonstrate an understanding of chronological development and historical comprehension. **Teacher recommendation is required for this course.**

## **Social Studies 7**

Social Studies 7 focuses on world history from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. The major topics include how government, society, and economic policies are influenced by religion. Students will develop skills as social scientists such as analyzing cause and effect and work with primary and secondary source materials.

# **Grade 8**

## **Honors English Language Arts 8**

The Honors English Language Arts 8 course challenges students in the areas of reading, literature study, writing, research, speaking and critical thinking. Both fiction and nonfiction selections will be examined, with emphasis on literary analysis of texts. Students will analyze challenging texts and complete reading and writing assignments independently with a high degree of critical thought, organization, and attention to details. In this honors course, students will encounter challenging texts and writing assignments, so they are expected to be avid readers and proficient writers, demonstrating a clear command of basic conventions and grammar rules. At this level, students develop their writing styles, with variety and complex usage of vocabulary. Honors level students are expected to continue in the Honors program and aim for Advanced Placement work in high school. **Teacher recommendation is required for this course.**

## **English Language Arts 8**

Students will combine the skills and strategies previously learned in Language Arts classes to comprehend, question, connect, and analyze text verbally and through composition. Students

will continue to develop their writing style through various modes of writing. An emphasis will be placed on the writing process as well as the conventions of language (grammar, usage, and mechanics).

## **Academic Literacy 8**

The **Academic Literacy** course aims to develop the student's ability to read for academic success: to independently apply various reading strategies to comprehend and analyze texts. In addition, instruction will focus on decoding multisyllabic words, building comprehension, expanding academic vocabulary through word study, and writing in response to reading. Direct instruction for skills (decoding, encoding, and word attack for multisyllabic words; comprehension; vocabulary; writing paragraphs; constructing sentences) will be ongoing throughout the course. **Teacher recommendation is required.**

## **Algebra I**

In Algebra I, students will be expected to solve multi-step equations/inequalities, apply these equations to real life situations and use mathematical properties to justify any step in the solving process. Other topics taught at this level include probability, statistics, absolute value, roots, operations with radicals, properties of exponents, simplifying polynomials, factoring and solving quadratic equations (including using the quadratic formula) and exploring quadratic equations. Problem solving, application, communication, and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. Students enrolled in this course will take the Algebra I Keystone Exam. **Placement in this course will be based on individual student data and projections of proficiency on future assessments.**

## **Pre-Algebra 8**

In this course, students will study irrational numbers, radicals, scientific notation, and will solve problems involving integer exponents, equations in one-variable, and system of equations in two-variables. They will also define, evaluate, and compare linear functions using tables, equations, and graphs. In geometry, rotations, reflections, translations, and dilations will be used to show congruence and similarity of two-dimensional figures on a coordinate plane. Students will also compute the volume of three-dimensional figures using formulas, and will apply the Pythagorean Theorem to real-life and mathematical situations. In statistics, students will investigate patterns in bivariate data.

## **Honors Science 8**

In Honors Science 8, students will study life science and biology. The honors level is designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace and have an aptitude in science. Students will learn about the properties of organic materials, cells, diversity of life, life cycles, biomes, and ecology in greater depth and breadth. In addition, students will be required to use the scientific method to participate in a challenging scientific investigation. Students in this course should be strong in math and reading skills and will use literary and graphic skills to express their knowledge of the concepts covered. **Teacher recommendation is required for this course.**

## **Science 8**

In Science 8, students will study life science and biology. Students will learn about the properties of organic materials, cells, diversity of life, life cycles, biomes, and ecology. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments.

## **Honors Social Studies 8**

Honors Social Studies 8 focuses on American History from 1787 through 1900. The course is designed for students who enjoy an in-depth study of American history and seek rigorous, honors level work in the social studies. Students will be required to use both primary and secondary resources to participate in extensive historical research. Students are expected to read many historical texts independently; critical and spatial thinking will be emphasized by developing analytical and interpretive skills. Students will demonstrate an understanding of chronological development and historical comprehension. **Teacher recommendation is required for this course.**

## **Social Studies 8**

Social Studies 8 focuses on American history from 1787 through 1900. The major topics include the Revolutionary War, development of the United States Constitution, the systems of government, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, and Industrialization. Students will develop skills as social scientists such as working with primary and secondary source materials, geography and mapping skills, and developing critical and analytical thinking.

## **World Language 8**

In Grade 8, students can begin their World Language study in a Level I course. **Students may elect to take Spanish I. Students will choose this in place of two Exploratory courses.** Within the course, students will focus on learning concepts of the language such as sound system, spelling patterns, common vocabulary, simple sentences and question structures. Students will develop basic conversational skills and competencies. Students will also learn about the part of the world in which the target language is spoken. Topics for this include customs, culture, gestures, and social structure.

## Expo Course Descriptions

For Expo courses, certain courses are required in each grade level. In Sixth grade, all students are required to take the same Expos. Seventh and eighth grade students have options for which Expo course they can take. **All Expo classes will alternate on A/B cycle except for World Language which will be every day.**

<b>Expo Options</b> ( <b><u>Bold</u></b> courses are required)		
<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
<b><u>Sixth Grade Seminar</u></b>	<b><u>Family &amp; Consumer Science (FCS)</u></b>	<b><u>Personal Finance &amp; Career Exploration</u></b>
<b><u>Physical Education / Health</u></b>	<b><u>Physical Education / Health II</u></b>	Lifetime Fitness
<b><u>General Music/Band/Chorus/Orchestra</u></b>	Band/Chorus/Orchestra	Family & Consumer Science II (FCS)
<b><u>Introduction to Middle School Art</u></b>	Intermediate Middle School Art	Band/Chorus/Orchestra
**Advanced Thinking Enrichment 6 (ATE 6)	Programming/ Consumer Media	Advanced Middle School Art
**Academic Literacy 6	Innovation and Exploration	Innovation and Exploration
**ELD Mathematics	STEM/Techsplorations (Tech X)	STEM/Innovative Design Manufacturing
	**Advanced Thinking Enrichment 7 (ATE 7)	STEM/Robotics
	**Academic Literacy 7	Music 8
	**ELD Mathematics 7	Lights, Camera, Action
		***World Language
		**Advanced Thinking Enrichment 8 (ATE 8)

		**Academic Literacy 8
		**ELD Mathematics 8

\*\* This course has a prerequisite in that grade. \*\*\* This course runs every day for the year.

## Art

### **Introduction to Middle School Art 6 (Art I)**

Art 6 is designed to give sixth grade students a selection of art experiences. Students will explore a variety of art media including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and crafts. Artwork will be discussed with proper vocabulary, historical and cultural significance, and art aesthetics (elements 10 of art and principles of design). Students will produce original works with a strong emphasis on style and technique while making interdisciplinary connections. Students will begin to learn how to assess themselves and others honestly using specific criteria of craftsmanship and aesthetics.

### **Intermediate Middle School Art 7 (Art II)**

Building on the foundational skills from Art 6, students will continue to explore new materials and techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and crafts. There will be a stronger emphasis on style and design. Art History and its influence on the present day will be discussed in more depth. Pieces produced will begin to show significant improvement in skill level and technique while building a body of work for a portfolio. Students will assess themselves and others honestly with specific criteria based on the elements of art and principles of design and a high level of craftsmanship. This course meets every day for a full year.

### **Advanced Middle School Art 8 (Art III)**

Students who move on to this rigorous course will continue to use new materials and techniques to refine art making skills. This course will help students attain a high level of quality and craftsmanship in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and crafts while developing a personal style. Art from several periods in history will be studied and utilized to inspire and influence personal development within each piece. Students will develop a sense of confidence and independence in solving problems and meeting challenges in unique ways. Students will assess themselves and others honestly with specific criteria based on craftsmanship, aesthetics, and personal improvement. This course meets every day for the year.

## Business, Computers, and Information Technology

### **Programming/Consumer Media (Gr. 7)**

This course is designed to provide an introduction to computer programming and consumer media. In the first part of the course, the students will apply foundational programming concepts to create animation products. In the second part of the course, students will learn the principles of

marketing as a business owner and a consumer of products. Both aspects of this course include engaging, individualized, and hands-on activities that incorporate visual arts and communications.

### **Personal Finance/Career Explorations (Gr. 8)**

In Personal Finance and Career Explorations, students will develop an understanding of various careers and the education and skills needed to successfully pursue these careers. Students will also learn about emerging occupations in the current and future labor market. In addition, student will develop a foundational understanding of personal finance that includes sources of 10 income and expenditures, basic tax deductions, and managing personal finances. Students will complete a portfolio project in this course.

## **Communication Elective**

### **Lights, Camera, Action! (Gr. 8)**

In this course, students will learn about the origins of broadcasting, ethical issues confronted by broadcast journalism, and careers associated with broadcast journalism. Students will learn how to prepare for and conduct an interview, effective public speaking skills, journalistic writing for broadcast, and pre-and post-production processes.

## **Family and Consumer Science**

### **Family and Consumer Science I (Gr. 7)**

In this course, students explore a wide range of problem solving, hands-on activities, technology, and cooperative learning skills and techniques. This is a course about life skills that are relevant to every student. Topics covered in this course include bullying, friendship, dating, peer pressure, work importance, hand-sewing and ironing/laundry care, babysitting, and an introduction to food science and nutrition.

### **Family and Consumer Science II (Gr. 8)**

In this course, students will explore topics needed for successful and independent living in a world with many choices and influences. This is a course that all 8th grade students can take if they so choose. In this course, students will go beyond the basics of food science and nutrition to managing a healthy lifestyle and acting as a responsible consumer. Topics also include interior design and sewing, money-management, identity theft, child development, and the importance of stable family units.

## **Innovation and Exploration**

### **Innovation and Exploration (Gr. 7 & 8)**

This course will focus on developing 21st Century Skills by incorporating technology concepts, strategies, and resources into an individualized problem-solving quest developed by the student, in conjunction with the facilitator, organized around a topic that the student is passionate about. Students will be able to select and use district-provided applications effectively and productively to question, experiment, research, and investigate about their own learning. Throughout the course, students will demonstrate creative thinking, problem solving, and collaboration. Course activities provide a pathway for students to assess and apply new knowledge while at the same time explore an area of their individual passion.

## **Library**

### **Sixth Grade Seminar (Gr. 6)**

This course will focus on the basic organizational skills that students need to be successful at the middle school. Students will learn how to access information from different sources (library databases, websites, print materials, etc.), evaluate the resources based on their needs and the resource's merit and accuracy, and organize information for multiple presentation purposes. Students will also learn how to organize and manage their documents on the learning management system. This course will also include practical strategies for successfully managing the expectations of middle school using mindfulness techniques.

## **Music**

### **General Music 6 (Gr. 6)**

In this course, students learn basic elements and principles within music. Topics include duration, intensity, pitch, composition, and genre. The course includes performing in class, improvising, using vocabulary, and describing style, as well as developing an appreciation for different types of music.

### **Music 8 (Gr. 8)**

In this course, students will apply the basic elements of music composition and performance using both traditional instruments and computer applications. Students will also develop an understanding of various musical styles along with significant musicians and compositions associated with that style.

## **Performance Music**

Students who select Performance Music for band, orchestra, and chorus will continue to develop as musicians by applying their musical skills in three performances. This course includes the goals and topics from the general music classes while preparing students for performances through the dynamics of working within an ensemble.

### **Course Codes**

	<b>Band</b>	<b>Chorus</b>	<b>Band <i>and</i> Chorus</b>	<b>Orchestra</b>	<b>Orchestra <i>and</i> Chorus</b>
<b>Grade 6</b>	1061	1062	1064	1063	1065
<b>Grade 7</b>	1071	1072	1074	1073	1075
<b>Grade 8</b>	1081	1082	1084	1083	1085

## **Physical Education/Health**

### **Physical Education/Health (Gr. 6 & 7)**

During class, students will be exposed to individual and team activities. Instruction throughout the year will emphasize gross and fine motor skill development, teamwork, and social interaction. Fitness and Wellness will also be emphasized as critical components of healthy behavior and decision making. Students will learn basic health information and services. This curriculum will be delivered in co-educational grade level classes for both Physical Education and Health.

### **Lifetime Fitness (Gr. 8)**

Lifetime Fitness is a new, semester long course designed to introduce a series of physical fitness related concepts, applications, and activities with the expectation being that the information will enlighten and motivate students to improve their physical fitness and maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. These concepts will be presented through a series of demonstrations and lectures, and then applied through a variety of activities such as team/individual lifetime sports, outdoor/cooperative games, and cardiovascular fitness and strength training tasks. This Lifetime

Fitness class may include, but is not limited to, the following: Xbox/Wii Fit, TRX Strength Training, Racquet Sports, Cooperative/Adventure Challenges, Dance/Aerobic Activities, and Golf.

## **STEM**

### **Techsplorations (TechX) (Gr. 7)**

In this introductory class, students will learn about shop safety while exploring a wide range of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) related projects. Using 3D printing, students will learn how prototypes affect the design process while working collaboratively to solve everyday problems. Robotics will introduce students to basic programming and engineering. Students will use a variety of materials to build bridges, cars, and other design challenges. They will build their passion for learning by “*Techsploring*” their own interests. Through this exploratory course, students will build confidence in using tools and an understanding of how the design process works to solve problems in today’s world.

### **Innovative Design & Manufacturing (Gr. 8)**

By diving deeper into the design process, students will be able to explore the manufacturing process from conception to prototyping to building and replication. Students will be expected to work collaboratively to design meaningful projects that can be built and tested within the Centennial community. This course will expand on the knowledge of tools and shop safety while allowing students to creatively express themselves in a vocational environment.

### **Robotics: An Air, Land, and Sea Adventure! (Gr. 8)**

Some of the highest paying jobs in the world involve programming and robotics. This course will allow students to explore programming languages through the exploration of *LEGO* robotics, *SeaPerch* underwater robots, and *Parrot* drones. Students will work collaboratively, engineering their robots to accomplish specific tasks and in some cases, participate in certain competitions.

## **Middle School Math Acceleration**

On occasion, parents may choose to accelerate their child in mathematics. To exercise these options, a student must meet the following conditions for eligibility and follow the procedures below:

Assessment	Math Eligibility Criteria
PSSA	Advanced on most recent PSSA
PVAAS	70% Advanced projection on Keystone Algebra I exam

MAP	95th Percentile
Other	Teacher recommendation

Middle School Course sequence:

Grade	Academic Pathway	Advanced Pathway	Accelerated in Elementary School
6	• Math 6	• Advanced Math 6	• Pre-Algebra
7	• Math 7	• Pre-Algebra	• Algebra I
8	• Pre-Algebra	• Algebra I	• Geometry (At WTHS)

\*Students may not advance more than one grade level per calendar year.

**Challenge Process:**

In order to challenge a course and accelerate to the next sequential course:

- The student must:
  - Meet all eligibility criteria
- The parent must:
  - Obtain permission from the middle school's Department Coordinator
  - Present the request in writing, with the Department Coordinator's approval, to the middle school's guidance counselor by March 6, 2020.
- If approved, the student will receive materials for Independent Study from the Department Coordinator.
- Once a student has been approved and received materials, the student is responsible for reviewing the coursework leading into two assessment options:
  - Passing the District's end-of-year test with a score of 90% or greater score by June 30 of the current school year.
    - And/Or
  - Enrolling in a summer school course, at the parent's expense, and passing the District's end-of year-test with a score of 90% or greater score by August 15.
- Any student who successfully challenges Algebra I must take the Algebra I Keystone exam during the winter wave of testing.
- Any student taking a course beyond Algebra I must take the course at William Tennent High School.

