

NORTHPORT-EAST NORTHPORT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

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Robin Rann
District Chairperson
Mathematics

May 6, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We have recently initiated the mathematics scheduling process for the 2015-2016 academic year. In seventh grade, students continue their study of the mathematics curriculum outlined in the NYS Common Core Learning Standards. The Common Core Learning Standards focus on fluency and application, both of which are fundamental to the deep long-term understandings necessary for college and career readiness.

Most current sixth graders were scheduled for Math 7, which is a challenging Regents preparatory curriculum. This program provides students with the foundation to pursue an Advanced Regents Diploma in high school. We have also identified students for enrollment in our accelerated seventh grade courses, Pre-Algebra and Algebra BC. These accelerated courses begin a rigorous study of abstract mathematics culminating in AP Calculus courses in high school. Factors considered for recommended enrollment in Pre-Algebra or Algebra BC include academic achievement in prior mathematics and ELA courses, performance on prior standardized assessments (NYS, NWEA, etc.), and teacher feedback pertaining to your child's readiness for the study of algebra. At this time, you can access your child's course assignments, including his/her recommended mathematics placement, in Parent Portal.

Below you will find brief descriptions of each mathematics course offered in seventh grade.

<u>Math 7</u>: Students enrolled in Math 7 further their understanding of ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, statistics and probability, and geometry. Students will be administered the seventh-grade NYS Common Core Assessment, as well as a locally developed final exam in June.

<u>Pre-Algebra (one-year acceleration)</u>: Students in Pre-Algebra will engage in a compacted study of seventh- and eighth- grade Common Core curriculum that prepares them for the study of Algebra AB in eighth grade. Students will be administered the seventh-grade NYS Common Core Assessment, as well as a locally developed final exam in June.

*Algebra BC (two-year acceleration): Students in Algebra BC will study the Algebra curriculum outlined by the NYS Common Core Learning Standards, along with a compacted Pre-Algebra curriculum that supports Algebra. Seventh-graders enrolled in Algebra BC are expected to write a math research paper, to present research at the Long Island Math Fair, and to actively participate in extra-curricular math-related activities such as Mathletes and math contests. Students will be administered the Common Core Algebra Regents Exam in June. Seventh graders receive no high school course credit, but will have their Regents scores reflected in their high school transcripts.

*If <u>Algebra BC</u> is your child's recommended placement, we encourage you to attend the <u>Acceleration Orientation Meeting</u> on Tuesday, May 19, at 6:00pm in the Northport High School Small Cafeteria. At this meeting, we will address the rigors and expectations associated with the course, as well as the long-term implications of double acceleration.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your child's recommended placement, please feel free to contact me by phone at **631-262-6691** or by email at **robin.rann@northport.k12.ny.us**.

Sincerely,

Robin Rann