Accelerated Math in Ken-Ton Middle Schools

What does it mean to be accelerated in math?

Students who begin accelerating in **7th grade** (September 2015) will study the Common Core Learning Standards for 7th grade, 8th grade, and Integrated Algebra *in two school years*.

Students who begin accelerating in **8th grade** (September 2015) will study the Common Core Learning Standards for 8th grade and Integrated Algebra *in one school year*.

When do accelerated students take NYS assessments?

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Grade 7 Accelerated Math		Grade 7 NYS Assessment (April)	PARCC Assessments Grade 7 TBD
Grade 8 Accelerated Math	Common Core Algebra 1 Regents Exam (June 17)	Common Core Algebra 1 Regents Exam TBD (*Grade 8 NYS Assessment may also need to be administered*)	Common Core Algebra 1 Regents Exam TBD (*Grade 8 NYS Assessment may also need to be administered*)

What are the expectations?

- Accelerated students will be held to higher expectations due to the rigor of the curriculum.
- Students will need to have a strong foundation in algebraic skills.
- Students will need to make a commitment t successful completion of the program.
- Summer work may be required.

What are the benefits of accelerated math?

- Successful completion of the acceleration program provides students with 1 high school credit in mathematics. (Credit will be weighted 1.05 towards class rank.)
- The students' 8th grade course average will be a part of their permanent transcript.
- Students will have the opportunity to participate in more upper level math classes at the HS level. (ie, IB Math, AP Statistics, AP Calculus)

Why is it important to take advanced math courses?

"Studying advanced math in high school has an enormous influence on whether or not a student subsequently enrolls in a four-year college and earns a bachelor's degree."

Research

"A U.S. Department of Education study (Adelman, 1999) found that taking advanced math in high school, beyond Algebra 2, was more strongly associated with successful completion of college than any other factor, including high school grade point average and socioeconomic status."

Also …

"Successful completion of college, in turn, correlates strongly with subsequent educational and employment opportunities (Murnane & Levy, 1996). In other words, studying advanced math in high school strongly correlates with future success."

(Burris, Heubert, Levin, 2004, "Improving Achievement in Math and Science")

Are you ready for accelerated math?

- Talk to your parent/guardian about the opportunity.
- Talk to your teacher to get more details about the expectations of an accelerated math student.
- Take some time to reflect on your academic history in math.*

(*Students are not eligible for acceleration if they score a 1 or a 2 on the NYS assessment.)

Accelerated Math Readiness - Academic History

Last Name_____ **First Name**_____ **Grade**_____

Complete the following section for 6th graders only.

5th grade NYS Assessment Score		1	2	3	4
6th grade Overall GPA (3 Quarters)	< 80	80-84	85-90	91-95	96+
6th grade Math GPA (3 Quarters)	< 80	80-84	85-90	91-95	96+
Algebra Readiness Level (SMI Score)		Below Basic ≤ 650Q	Basic 645Q – 775Q	Proficient 780Q – 950Q	Advanced ≥ 955Q

Complete the following section for 7th graders only.

6th grade NYS Assessment Score		1	2	3	4
6th grade Math Average	< 80	80-84	85-90	91-95	96+
7th grade Overall GPA (3 Quarters)	< 80	80-84	85-90	91-95	96+
7th grade Math GPA (3 Quarters)	< 80	80-84	85-90	91-95	96+
Algebra Readiness Level (SMI Score)		Below Basic ≤ 700Q	Basic 705Q – 885Q	Proficient 890Q – 1040Q	Advanced ≥ 1045Q

Total Absences _____ **Local Final Exam Grade** _____

	Never	Sometimes	Always
Comes to class prepared and on time			
Highly self-directed, independent learner			
Follows directions during class, on assessments and hw			
Able to fully complete tasks, class work, hw, etc. in a timely manner			

Teacher Recommendation: Would NOT recommend Would recommend

What can you do now?

- Demonstrate a strong work ethic.
  - Create good study habits.
  - Use your resources and be a problem solver.
- Practice your basic skills.
  - Transition books
  - Websites
- Think like a mathematician!

We hope you and your child have an enjoyable, challenging, and successful experience.