

Preparing for Postsecondary Readiness in Middle School

Pflugerville ISD's Department of Postsecondary Readiness wants to ensure that after high school, all students are prepared to enter:

- A four-year college or university,
- A junior or community college,
- A trade or technical school,
- The military or,
- The workforce.

Taking the most challenging courses based on student ability and strength in both middle school and high school prepares students to be ready for their next step after leaving high school. When selecting courses, parents and students should be mindful about their child's academic abilities, interests, future plans, work ethic, and schedule requirements (homework responsibility / eight class periods).

PfISD believes all students have the opportunity to participate in rigorous and challenging curriculum with instruction that prepares them for postsecondary success.

Before Signing up for Advanced or Accelerated Courses in Middle School Students Should:

1. Speak to teacher(s) about class choices
2. Talk to counselor
3. Talk to parents or guardians
4. Set goals for how the class will benefit the individual learner

Why take Advanced and/or Accelerated Coursework?

- Middle School Advanced and/or Accelerated Courses build the foundation for taking college level courses (Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, OnRamps) while still in high school.
 - Advanced classes are offered in – English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and LOTE
 - Accelerated classes are offered in Math
 - Students may take their first AP course as a freshman – AP Human Geography. (Excluding AP Spanish for native speakers, offered in middle school.) Taking advanced social studies courses in middle school can help students prepare for the leap to an AP course in high school!

Enrolling in Advanced and Accelerated Courses: Gifted students should enroll in core Advanced and Accelerated content courses in their areas of academic strength in middle school and are highly encouraged to continue to enroll in these courses in high school. Pflugerville ISD has an open-enrollment policy for Advanced and Accelerated courses as well as AP courses, so students with high ability and a desire to take advanced level courses, but who are not identified as gifted, may also participate in these courses. Instruction is differentiated by using the PFISD curriculum for the identified GT student. Advanced, Accelerated and AP courses are taught by teachers who have the initial 30 hours of gifted training and continue to earn the annual 6-hour update as required by the Texas Education Agency.

Before enrolling in Advanced Academic courses, students should consider their desire to:

- Apply learning through work ethic.
- Commit to accomplishing objectives and requirements of course.
- Dedicate appropriate time to studies outside of school.
- Explore course topics with greater depth and complexity.
- Perform in challenging classes.
- Stretch academically.

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How do I enroll my student in Accelerated Math in Middle School?

PfISD believes that every student deserves the opportunity to pursue accelerated math courses in middle school, and offers entry points into the program for current 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students.

Enrollment Options for Accelerated Math for current 5th, 6th & 7th Graders

Option 1: Entering 6th Graders — Sign up for Advanced Math when Entering Middle School

All students interested in Accelerated Math can sign up for Accelerated Math 6 on their 5th grade choice sheet.

*Note: Every 5th grade student who performs in the top 40% in state mathematics exams will automatically be enrolled in Accelerated Math in the 6th grade. Families can decide to opt-out of accelerated math if they feel their student is not ready.

Option 2: Current 6th & 7th Graders -- Sign up for AVID Summer Bridge Program

Students enrolled in Math 6 or Math 7 who are interested in moving into the Accelerated Math Pathway and taking Algebra I during 8th grade are encouraged to attend PfISD's AVID Summer Bridge Program. This 3-week summer program is free of charge and takes place annually at our PfISD Summer School location. Students in AVID Summer Bridge practice mathematical skills in a high-engagement and collaborative setting and receive 60 hours of contact time with a PfISD math teacher. Students are required to pass a final exam to enroll in Accelerated or Advanced Math coursework the following year.

[Guide to Middle School Math Acceleration Process](#)

What is Hyper-Accelerated Math in Middle School?

Some students and families choose to accelerate in mathematics in order to take both Algebra I and Geometry in middle school. Students who choose to hyper-accelerate in mathematics are required to take a CBE test (Credit By Exam) and receive specific scores in order to skip multiple math courses. Registration information for CBE tests is available through our Advanced Academics [website](#) or through your student's counselor.

Year in School	Academic Math Pathway Recommendations	Accelerated Math Pathway Recommendations	Hyper-Accelerated Math Pathway Recommendations
5th Grade	Math 5	Math 5	Math 5
6th Grade	Math 6	Accelerated Math 6	Accelerated Math 7 *Required CBE process
7th Grade	Math 7	Accelerated Math 7	Algebra I
8th Grade	Math 8 - Intro to Algebra	Algebra I	Advanced Geometry
9th Grade	Algebra I	Advanced Geometry	Advanced Algebra II
10th Grade	Geometry	Advanced Algebra II	Advanced Pre-Cal*
11th Grade	Algebra II	Advanced Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus AP Statistics Math Independent Study
12th Grade	Pre-Calculus Statistics Advanced Quantitative Reasoning College Pre Math	AP Calculus AP Statistics	

*Students may take AP Statistics following completion of Advanced Algebra II; consult with academic advisor to determine math pathway best suited to future planning.