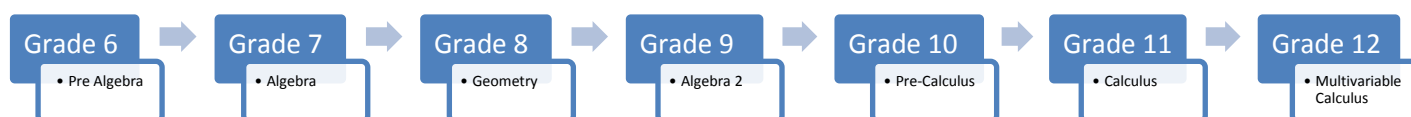


Pre-Algebra-7 Mathematics Placement (2014-2015) Procedures for Articulation

For some grade six students, the Pre-Algebra-7 course is available based upon qualifications. Grade six students who qualify based on the criteria and various testing results may take the Pre-Algebra-7 course with 7th graders. These students are identified by the district for the Pre-Algebra-7 course after the initial identification process for the Transition to Pre-Algebra course.

A student who is placed into Pre-Algebra-7 may progress to the Multivariable Calculus course as a high school senior, as illustrated below.



A student who enters the Pre-Algebra-7 course will miss important grade six standards that are necessary to be successful in the Pre-Algebra-7 course. As referenced in the Common Core State Standards Appendix A for Mathematics, “[S]kipping material to get students to a particular point in the curriculum will likely create gaps in the students’ mathematical background, which may create additional problems later, because students may be denied the opportunity for a rigorous Algebra I or Mathematics I course and may miss important content” (p. 80). Therefore, the district takes careful consideration through a set of rigorous criteria to make this placement decision into the Pre-Algebra-7 course so students are not negatively impacted in future mathematics courses. For this reason, the Request for Reconsideration process does not apply to the Pre-Algebra-7 course.

Criteria for the Pre-Algebra-7 Course

To help determine the proper course in 6th grade, the Fairfield Public Schools established the following benchmarks to help determine recommendations into the Pre-Algebra-7 course. The three aspects that are considered for placement are a) work behaviors based on the Math Practice standards, b) content mastery as identified through grade level expectations and assessment results, and c) aptitude based on the IOWA assessment.

Based on the following criteria below, students will be recommended for the IOWA assessment need to meet 3 out of the 4 first standards:

1. Math Practices Student Evaluation score range of 19 – 20;
2. Exceeds Grade Level Expectations 5 out of the 7 fifth grade winter expectations as listed on their Progress Report;
3. Score a 90% or above on the 5th grade assessment on the 5th grade content;
4. Score a 70% or above on the 5th grade assessment on the 6th grade content;
5. 8th or 9th stanine on the IOWA Algebra Aptitude Test.

The district will use the guidelines above to make a recommendation for the Pre-Algebra-7 course.

Summer Work:

To ensure incoming sixth grade students are prepared for the Pre-Algebra-7 course, they are required to complete summer work on the computer through PLATO. The PLATO online learning platform provides students with tutorials and assessments targeting standards that would be missed. This summer work needs to be completed before entering into the Pre-Algebra-7 course.

The recommendation process will follow the timeline below:

