RMS Accelerated Math
Frequently Asked Questions

Renfroe Middle School offers differentiated on-level math to students. In some circumstances, students demonstrate a need for acceleration in math. Below are several frequently asked questions about RMS Math Acceleration processes.

What is Math Acceleration?
Accelerated Math is defined differently in every school system. At Renfroe Middle School, accelerated math is offered to seventh and eighth grade students who demonstrate (through multiple criteria) that acceleration in math is most appropriate to meeting their learning needs. If a student meets the multiple criteria (defined by RMS Accelerated Math Criteria and Eligibility Chart below), then students may be invited to skip a full grade level in math.

How does acceleration affect my child’s long-term math sequence?
When reading the response to this question, please refer to the “RMS to DHS Math Sequencing” flowchart at the end of this document. The Decatur High School math department offers three entry points for ninth graders:
- Algebra 1 (On-Level path in green) - offered to all rising ninth graders
- Accelerated Algebra 1/Analytic Geometry (Accelerated path in teal) - offered to rising ninth graders who have taken regular eighth grade math and have scored at the 75th percentile on recent math MAP tests
- Accelerated Analytic Geometry/Algebra 2 (Double-Accelerated path in purple) - offered to rising ninth graders who accelerated as middle schoolers

Should I be concerned about my child accelerating in math at Renfroe?
Students that skip a full grade level in math are placed on a specific math “path.” Our CSD high school graduation requirements necessitate that students take four years of mathematics from 9th grade to 12th grade. Due to graduation requirements, students cannot be removed from this path once they begin, so some prefer to wait until high school before deciding to accelerate. The middle school acceleration path culminates with the following:
- 9th grade - Accelerated Analytic Geometry/Algebra 2
- 10th grade - AP Statistics
- 11th grade - Accelerated Pre-Calculus/IB Math
- 12 grade - AP Calculus/IB Math

Students that accelerate in middle school are required to take Calculus during their senior year. For this reason, one must exercise caution before making the commitment to accelerate in middle school.

We will build the foundation for all children to be their best, achieve their dreams, and make the world a better place.
RMS Accelerated Math  
Frequently Asked Questions, continued

My child qualifies for Accelerated Math. What does this look like?  
Accelerated seventh graders are placed into an eighth grade math class with eighth grade students. There will be a few other accelerated seventh grade students in the class.

Accelerated eighth graders are offered the ninth grade Accelerated Algebra 1/Analytic Geometry course, which is taught at Renfroe.

How will my child learn the material that is skipped by accelerating?  
Students who skip seventh or eighth grade math are offered an online tutorial and assessment program over the summer. If the program is successfully completed, the student will begin the school year in the accelerated math course.

My child wants to accelerate but does not qualify.  
Math acceleration is designed for students who meet the criteria. The criteria were developed after analyzing the academic and motivation profile of students who are typically successful when accelerated in math. It is possible that your child is a high-achieving student in math who does not qualify for acceleration in middle school. Instead, your child may be eligible for an accelerated path that begins in ninth grade. This path also allows a student to choose Calculus by senior year.

All students are offered differentiated instruction whether they accelerate or not. The Georgia Standards of Excellence, coupled with the International Baccalaureate Objectives, provide opportunities for students of all skill levels to excel and grow in math.

Does my child need to apply for math acceleration?  
No. All students are screened in the Spring. Once MAP testing and report card scores are available, qualifying students will be notified and offered details about summer tutorial plans.

Why is math acceleration only offered to seventh and eighth graders?  
Sixth graders are new to the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program. While some students may enter sixth grade with some proficiency with the Georgia Standards of Excellence, they still require time to build an understanding of the IB objectives and criteria.
RMS Accelerated Math Criteria and Eligibility Chart
Rising 7th Graders

Student can qualify through either Path A or Path B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PATH A</th>
<th>PATH B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Student has a MAP(^1) Math RIT score within one calendar year $\geq 261$</td>
<td>- Student meets <strong>three out of four</strong> of the following criteria:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Student has CogAT Quantitative score within two calendar years $\geq 98^{th}$ percentile</td>
<td>o MAP(^2) Math RIT score within one calendar year $\geq 255$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o CogAT Quantitative component score within two calendar years $\geq 90^{th}$ percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o A final effort score of 4 in math on the end-of-year report card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Final grade in math on previous year’s report card = 6 or 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Using the MAP Growth: 6+ 2015
\(^2\) Using the MAP Growth: 6+ 2015

*We will build the foundation for all children to be their best, achieve their dreams, and make the world a better place.*
RMS Accelerated Math Criteria and Eligibility Chart
Rising 8th Graders

Student can qualify through either Path A or Path B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PATH A</th>
<th>PATH B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Student has a MAP³ Math RIT score within one calendar year ≥ 270</td>
<td>- Student meets three out of four of the following criteria:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o MAP⁴ Math RIT score within one calendar year ≥ 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o CogAT Quantitative component score within two calendar years ≥ 90th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>o A final effort score of 4 in math on the end-of-year report card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Student has CogAT Quantitative score within two calendar years ≥ 98th percentile</td>
<td>o Final grade in math on previous year’s report card = 6 or 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

³ Using the MAP Growth: 6+ 2015
⁴ Using the MAP Growth: 6+ 2015

We will build the foundation for all children to be their best, achieve their dreams, and make the world a better place.
We will build the foundation for all children to be their best, achieve their dreams, and make the world a better place.