

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Alabama State Department of Education adopted a new course of study for math that began in the 2020-2021 school year. As a result, new pathways for math have been created. With this change comes a change in the math courses that we offer our students in 7th and 8th grades. For the 2021-2022 school year, students in 7th grade will be given the opportunity to take Grade 7 Accelerated Math. This math begins the pathway for an accelerated math path through the senior year of a student. The state gives some insight as to students who might be considered candidates for this math course. As taken from the new *2019 Course of Study*:

Accelerated courses have been carefully aligned and designed for middle school students who show particular motivation and interest in mathematics. In this pathway, students meet all the standards of Grade 7, Grade 8, and Algebra I with Probability within the Grade 7 Accelerated and Grade 8 Accelerated courses, thus merging all the standards from three years of mathematics into two years. This enables students to move through the content more quickly. Students who complete this pathway will be prepared to enter Geometry with Data Analysis in Grade 9 and then accelerate directly into Algebra II with Statistics in Grade 10, thus providing them with an opportunity to take additional, specialized mathematics coursework in Grades 11 and 12, such as AP Calculus, AP Statistics, or college dual enrollment classes. Clearly, this pathway will be challenging and should be reserved for Grade 7 students who demonstrate a high level of motivation and interest in studying mathematics.

Approved Draft - December 12, 2019

Grade 7 Accelerated math is available for all 7th grade students; however, careful consideration must be made when placing your student in this math. The content in this course is fast paced, and as outlined in the description, Grade 7 Accelerated Math is the first step in taking a math that merges three years of content into two years. Students enrolled in this course need to exhibit a strong mathematics foundation and must be highly motivated.

Please indicate which pathway you would like for your 7th grade student to begin for the 2021-2022 school year and return to JIS or JMS by December 18, 2020.

_____ I would like for my student to take regular **7th grade math**. This class will cover all required standards that will lay the foundation for future math courses. A student who takes regular 7th grade math will remain in regular 7th grade math for the 2021-2022 school year.

_____ I would like for my student to take **Grade 7 Accelerated Math**. I understand that in choosing this course my student will be required to work at a faster pace and will be responsible for mastering advanced material. Students enrolled in the Grade 7 Accelerated Math for the 2020-2021 school year will remain in the accelerated course for the duration of the 2021-2022 school year.

Student Name (please print)

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date