



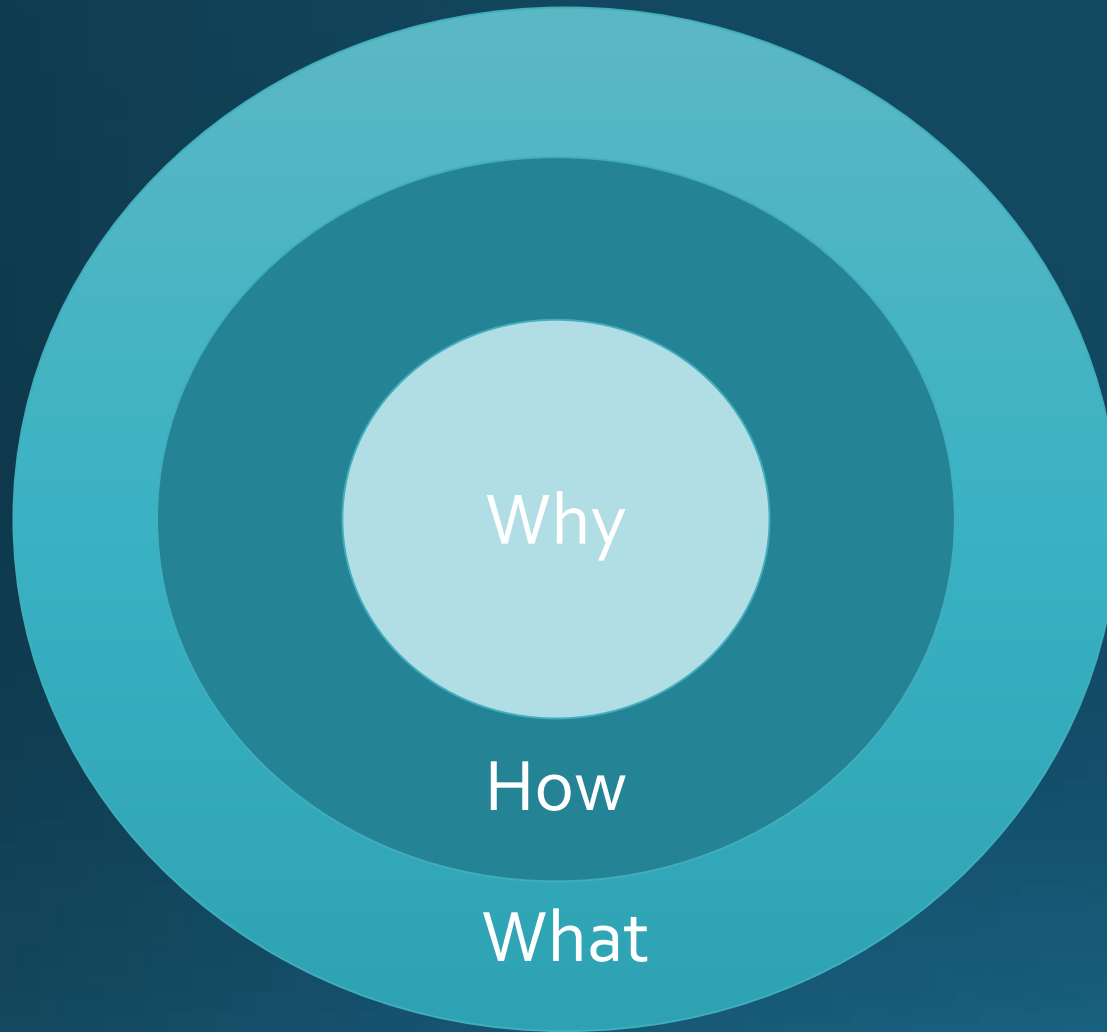
# MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVANCED STUDIES

Greenwich Public Schools  
*Making Learning Personal*

January 25, 2021

# Goals for Today

- Deepen our understanding of the placement process for Advanced Studies in the Middle School
- Deepen our understanding of the Advanced Studies placement process timeline (calendar)



The purpose of this process is to ensure students are placed appropriately in middle school courses.

Each core course has specific criteria for placements.

Varies by course

\* ALP Seminar, ALP Language Arts, Math, Science, and World Language

# *Middle School Mathematics*

### GPS PK-12 Mathematics Pathways

Greenwich Public Schools District Mathematics Course Sequence provides the possible progression of math classes from elementary through grade 12. The PK-8 pathway provides a roadmap to readiness for Algebra I. Consult your school for additional math offerings.

Academic

Accelerated

Advanced

| Elementary<br>Grades PK-5  | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Mathematics   | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Mathematics   | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>Mathematics                                | High School<br>Grades 9-12   |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Curriculum defined by Standards and Program of Studies (POS) of Greenwich Public Schools<br><br>Content includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Counting and Cardinality</li> <li>Operations and Algebraic Thinking</li> <li>Number &amp; operations in Base Ten and Fractions</li> <li>Measurement and Data</li> <li>Geometry</li> <li>Problem Solving</li> <li>Developing viable mathematical arguments and critiquing the reasoning of the others</li> </ul> | <b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Core (On Grade Level)</b><br>(MIF Course 1 – Grade 6 Core) | <b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core (On Grade Level)</b><br>(MIF Course 2 – Grade 7 Core) | <b>Pre-Algebra (On Grade Level)</b><br>(MIF Course 3– Grade 8 Core) | <b>Algebra I</b>   |
|  | <b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Accelerated</b><br>(MIF Course 2 – Grade 7 Core)           | <b>Pre-Algebra</b><br>(MIF Course 3– Grade 8 Core)                                 | <b>Algebra I</b><br>(Aligned with HS Course)                        | <b>Geometry</b>  |
| <b>Advanced Math Curriculum delivered through ALP Program</b><br>(MIF Course 1 – Grade 6 Core)   | <b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Algebra</b><br>(MIF Course 3– Grade 8 Core)            | <b>Algebra I</b><br>(Aligned with HS Course)                                       | <b>Geometry</b><br>(Aligned with HS Course)                         | <b>Algebra II</b>  |
|  |  |  |   | <b>Advanced Math Courses beyond the required math pathway including AP</b> |

***Based upon parent and teacher feedback, the following changes have been made for Math and Science Placement:***

- Parent input, the Building Advisory Committee (BAC) discussion, and student work are of increased importance for placement.
- STAR Math Assessment scores are of decreased importance for placement.

# Overview of Placement Process: Math

- Grade 5 cumulative achievement, parent input, and teacher's recommendation will be used for placement.
- The Winter Administration of the Math and Reading STAR assessment will be used for placement for grade 6 Math courses.
- The assessments will be administered during instructional time.

# Math Placement Timeline

| Date                          | Action/Task/Event  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| January 25 – February 4, 2021 | STAR administration window   |
| February 1- 26, 2021          | Parent Input Forms available online. Forms must be submitted by February 26, 2021. |
| March 8 - 19, 2021            | Building Advisory Committee Meetings   |
| March 26, 2021                | Grade 6 Math and Advanced Science Placement decisions sent to parents              |



# Summer School Options for Acceleration

The purpose of the Bridge Program is to provide an alternative route for enrollment in Math 6A, Pre-Algebra 7, Algebra 8.

- The Bridge Program is scheduled during normal Summer School hours. The Placement Test will be given on July 30, 2021 .
- Algebra 1 and Geometry will be offered for students who wish to accelerate in Middle School Math. These courses are scheduled during normal Summer School hours.
- Registration instructions will be posted on the Summer School website.

# *Middle School Science*

# Advanced Science Grades 6-8

- NGSS Middle School Performance Standards
- NGSS extension activities
- Increased rigor and expectations
- Rigorous Scientific Research Component



# Overview of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Science Placement Process

*All 5th grade students will be provided an opportunity to opt into Advanced Science. There will be a comprehensive review to determine final placement based upon the following criteria:*

- Teacher Recommendation and parent input
- Cumulative Science report card grade (grade 5)
- Science Notebooks minimum average of 3
- Reading STAR Winter administration scores

# Overview of Placement Process: Advanced Science 7 and 8

Placement is based upon the following criteria:

- Teacher recommendation
- Parent Input
- Cumulative review of student work

*Middle School  
Advanced Learning Program  
Language Arts and Seminar*

# ALP Language Arts

- Greater depth through the rigor of lessons and differentiated activities.
- Accelerated to include above-grade level material when appropriate.
- Advanced pace of learning



*In the case of good books, the point is not to see how many of them you can get through, but rather how many can get through to you.” — Mortimer J. Adler*

# Overview of Placement Process: ALP Language Arts

| Date                           | Action/Task/ Event  |
|--------------------------------|---|
| January 25, 2021               | Test Screening Letters emailed to Parents   |
| January 25- February 4, 2021   | STAR administration window  |
| February 5, 2021               | Parent/Student Referral Deadline  |
| February 16- February 26, 2021 | Additional ALP Language Arts Testing Window: CogAT Verbal Battery, NWEA Reading Assessment and Performance Task |
| March 8 -March 19, 2021        | Building Advisory Committee Meetings  |
| March 26, 2021                 | ALP Language Arts Placement letters emailed to Parents  |



*Middle School  
World Language*

# World Language Course Sequence Guide 2020-21

|         | Grade 6                 | Grade 7                 | Grade 8                 | Grade 9   |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Spanish | Spanish 1A              | Spanish 2A              | Spanish 3A              | Spanish 4H  |
|         | Spanish 1C              | Spanish 2               | Spanish 3               | Spanish 3A<br>Spanish 4                                     |
|         | Spanish 6 Native        | Spanish 7 Native        | Spanish 8 Native        | Spanish 3/4 Native<br>Spanish 5 Native<br>Spanish 5H Native |
| French  | French 1A<br>(CMS only) | French 2A<br>(CMS only) | French 3A<br>(CMS only) | French 4H<br>French 4                                       |
|         | French 1 Beginning      | French 1 Continuing     | French 2                | French 3A<br>French 3B                                      |

- Students are able to change languages in grade 9 or take the recommended course and an additional language as an elective (double up).
  - Other options: ASL, Chinese, Latin, Italian, and German.
- Students need to qualify based on specified placement criteria to enter the honors courses in grade 9.

# Overview of Placement Process: World Language

- The middle school placement process begins with students in 5th grade as we determine the appropriate 6th grade World Language placement.
- Placement will be determined using the following measures:
  - AAPPL Interpersonal Listening/Speaking Assessment (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Language) (March, 2021)
  - One page reading comprehension/writing assessment (March 2021)
  - Average of 5th grade unit assessments (2020-2021)
  - Teacher recommendation informed by classroom performance

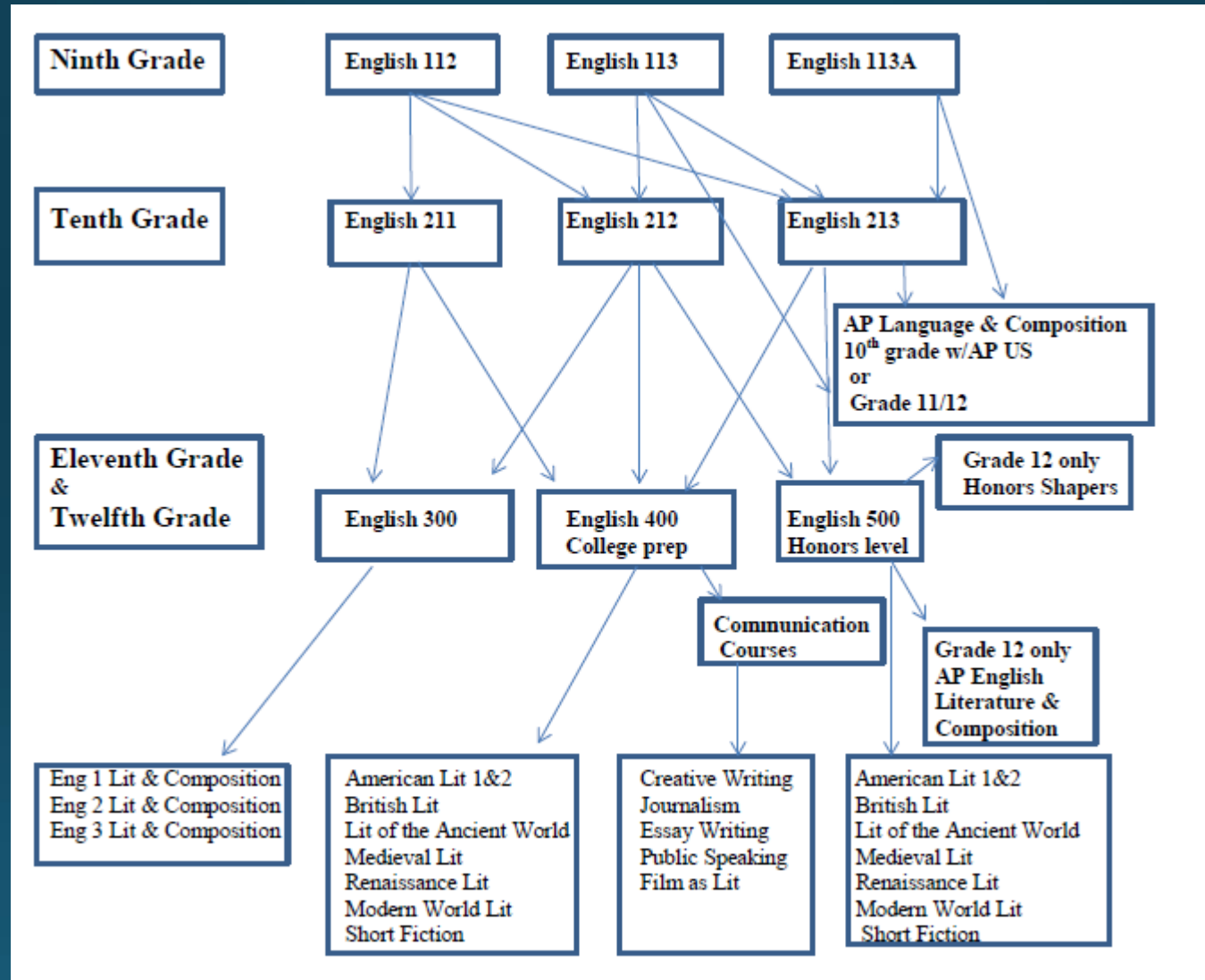
# Students New to the District

- All students new to the district will participate in a placement process to determine appropriate placement into a Math and Science class.
- Participation in a gifted program in another school district does not automatically qualify a student for placement in ALP courses in Greenwich. However, because another district's placement process may give us enough information to make a placement decision, parents should submit the relevant documentation to the district ALP office.

# Math Course Sequence Guide 2021-22

|               |                   |                    |                           |  |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Pre Algebra 8 | Alg/ Geo Course 1 | Alg / Geo Course 2 | Alg/ Geo Course 3         | Algebra 2B<br>Topics in Mathematics                                  |
|               | Extended Algebra  | Geometry B         | Algebra 2B                | Discrete Math 1 and 2<br>Statistics 1 and 2<br>Topics in Mathematics |
|               | Algebra 1         | Geometry A         | Algebra 2A                | Precalculus 1 and 2<br>Statistics 1 and 2<br>Discrete Math 1 and 2   |
| Algebra 8     | Geometry A        | Algebra 2A         | Precalculus 1 and 2       | Calculus and/or<br>AP Statistics                                     |
|               | Honors Geometry   | Honors Algebra 2   | Honors Precalculus        | AP Calculus AB<br>AP Calculus BC                                     |
| Geometry 8    | Algebra 2A        | Precalculus        | Calculus<br>AP Statistics | AP Calculus AB<br>AP Statistics                                      |
|               | Honors Algebra 2  | Honors Precalculus | AP Calculus BC            | Advanced Calculus and/or<br>AP Statistics                            |

# Language Arts Course Sequence Guide 2021-22



# Resources

- Grade 5 Common Core Standards for Mathematics
- Grade 6 Common Core Standards for Mathematics
- Grade 5 Common Core Standards for ELA
- Grade 6 Common Core Standards for ELA
- Smarter Balanced Released Items – Mathematics
- Smarter Balanced Released Items - ELA
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) - Science
- NGSS Interim Assessments (IAB's) - Science

# Contacts:

## ***Middle School Mathematics and Science Placement:***

- Sheila Civale, District Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Coordinator

## ***Middle School ALP Language Arts and Seminar Placement:***

- Bonnie O'Regan, District Advanced Learning Program Facilitator

## ***Middle School World Language and ESL/Bilingual Placement:***

- Adriane Hirsch-Klein, District Languages and ESOL Coordinator

## ***High School Mathematics:***

- Andrew Byrne, Folsom House Administrator

## ***High School Science:***

- John Deluca, Science Program Administrator



The Greenwich Public School District is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The District does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws.

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Questions?