



# MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVANCED STUDIES

Greenwich Public Schools  
*Making Learning Personal*

December 3, 2018

# 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)
- Deepen our understanding of the Advanced Studies appeals process



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 Grades PK-5	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics	High School Grades 9-12
Curriculum defined by Standards and Program of Studies (POS) of Greenwich Public Schools  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> (MIF Course 1 – Grade 6 Core)	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core (On Grade Level)</b> (MIF Course 2 – Grade 7 Core)	<b>Pre-Algebra (On Grade Level)</b> (MIF Course 3– Grade 8 Core)	<b>Algebra I</b>
	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Accelerated</b> (MIF Course 2 – Grade 7 Core)	<b>Pre-Algebra</b> (MIF Course 3– Grade 8 Core)	<b>Algebra I</b> (Aligned with HS Course)	<b>Geometry</b>
Advanced Math Curriculum delivered through ALP Program (MIF Course 1 – Grade 6 Core)	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Algebra</b> (MIF Course 3– Grade 8 Core)	<b>Algebra I</b> (Aligned with HS Course)	<b>Geometry</b> (Aligned with HS Course)	<b>Algebra II</b>
				<b>Advanced Math Courses beyond the required math pathway including AP</b>

# Overview of Placement Process: Math

- The Winter Administration of the Math STAR assessment will be used for placement for grade 6 Math courses.
- The Winter STAR Reading Assessment will also be used for placement.
- Scaled score ranges for the Math and Reading STAR will be sent home prior to the test administration date.
- The assessments will be administered during instructional time.
- Grade 5 cumulative achievement and teacher's recommendation will also be used for placement.

# Math Placement Timeline

Date	Action/Task/Event
January 7 – 18, 2019	STAR administration window
February 4-March 1, 2019	Building Advisory Committee Meetings
March 8, 2019	Grade 6 Math and Advanced Science Placement decisions sent to parents
March 11-20, 2019	Appeals forms can be submitted (school office or online)
March 21-April 8, 2019	Grade 6 Math and Advanced Science Appeals Meetings
April 12, 2019	Appeals Decision emails will be sent to parents



# The Summer Bridge Program

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 August 1, 2019.
- Registration instructions will be posted on the Summer School website.



*Middle School  
Science*

# Advanced Science Grades 6-8

- NGSS Middle School Performance Standards
- NGSS High School Performance Standards
- 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:*

- Cumulative Science report card grade (grade 5)
- Science Notebooks minimum rubric score of 26/30 points
- Teacher Recommendation
- Reading STAR Winter administration scores

# Overview of Placement Process: Advanced Science 7 and 8

- All grade 6 and 7 students will participate in a Content Knowledge Assessment (Science placement assessment) this spring with an “opt-out” option.
- The purpose of the Assessment is for placement.
- Assessment will take place in the student’s grade 6 and 7 science classroom or in an appropriate place as determined by the building administration.
- The Assessment will be delivered in STAR, an online format and will remain secure until the day of the test.
- Assessments will be administered on March 7 or 8, 2019; make up day on March 11, 2019.

*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 4	Testing Permission Letters emailed to Parents
January 7-18	STAR administration window
January 8	District wide meetings about MS ALP placement
January 18	Parent/Student Nomination Deadline
January 21- February 1	Additional ALP Language Arts Testing Window: CogAT Verbal Battery and Performance Task
February 4-March 1	Building Advisory Committee Meetings
March 8	ALP Language Arts Placement letters emailed to Parents
March 12	District wide meetings about MS ALP placement scores
March 20	Parent Appeal Deadline
April 12	Appeal Decisions emailed to Parents



*Middle School  
World Language*

# 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 Assessment (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Language) (March, 2019)
  - Average of 5th grade unit assessments (2018-2019)
    - Native Speakers participate in the DRA2 in their Native Language in place of AAPPL assessment.

# World Language Course Sequence Guide 2018-19

	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 Spanish 4
	Spanish 6 Native	Spanish 7 Native	Spanish 8 Native	Spanish 2 Native Spanish 5 Native Spanish 5H Native
French	French 1 Continuing	French 2A	French 3A	French 4H French 4
	French 1 Beginning	French 1 Continuing	French 2	French 3A 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.

# Advanced Studies Appeals Process

- The teacher, student or parent can make requests for an appeal by completing the appeals application available on the GPS District Website.
- Appeals applications must be received by March 20, 2019 for grade 6 placement and April 8, 2019 for grades 7 and 8 Advanced Science.
- The Appeals Committee consists of the building administration, science teachers, STEM Coordinator, World Language Coordinator and ALP Facilitator . Other representatives are invited in to support the process.
- ***Grade 6 Math, Advanced Science and World Language Appeals Meetings:*** March 21-April 8, 2019.
- ***Grades 7 and 8 Advanced Science Appeals Meetings:*** April 22-26, 2019.
- ***Grade 6, 7, and 8 ALP Appeals Meetings:*** March 21-April 8, 2019.

# Students New to the District

## *Math and Science:*

- All students new to the district will participate in a placement process to determine appropriate placement into a Math and Science class.

## *ALP Language Arts:*

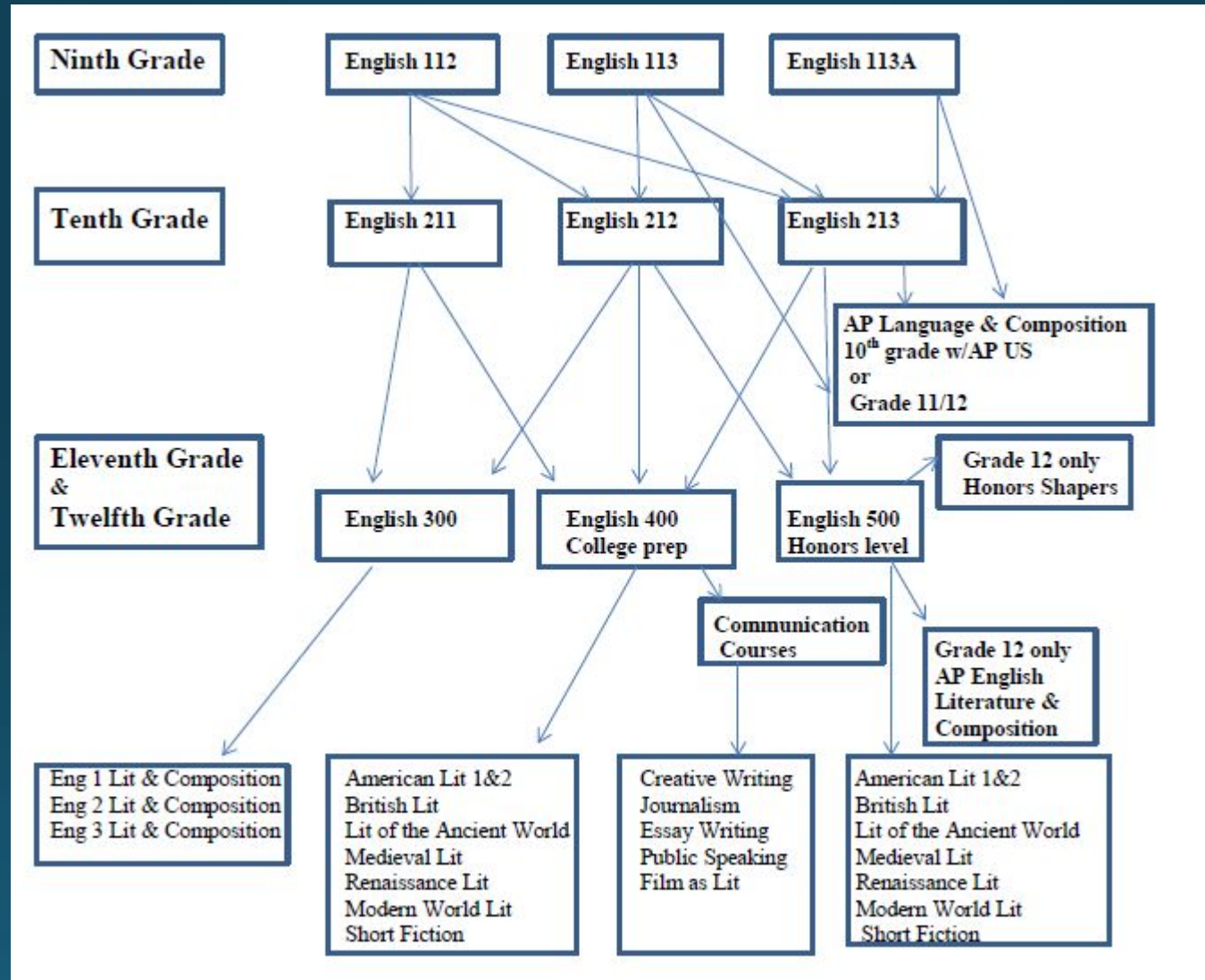
- Participation in a gifted program in another school district does not automatically qualify a student for placement in ALP courses in Greenwich. However, because another district's placement process may give us enough information to make a placement decision, parents should submit the relevant documentation to the district ALP office.

*Parents should complete the test registration form available online by Thursday, August 16, 2019. All students need to be pre-registered for the testing which will take place on August 19 and 20, 2019.*

# Math Course Sequence Guide 2018-19

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

# Language Arts Course Sequence Guide 2018-19





# 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
- NGSS Released Items - Science
- NGSS Interim Assessments - Science

# Contacts

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

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

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

- Bonnie O'Regan, District Advanced Learning Program Facilitator

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

- Adriane Hirsch-Klein, District Languages and ESOL Coordinator

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

- Andrew Byrne, Folsom House Interim Administrator

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Questions?