

# PINEY GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Pamela Pajerski**

Principal

**David Reed**

Assistant Administrator

**Jill-Marie Short**

Assistant Principal

**Ross Wason**

Assistant Principal

PGMS Students and Parents,

This letter is intended to provide some additional information about the Mathematics course offerings and curriculum that will be offered at Piney Grove in the 2020-2021 school year. For additional information, please review the resources available on the Forsyth County Schools website at <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/page/265>. After reading through this document and the other materials that are available, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Ross Wason, Assistant Principal via email ([rwason@forsyth.k12.ga.us](mailto:rwason@forsyth.k12.ga.us)) or telephone (678-965-5010, ext. 381505).

We are fortunate to offer a variety of Mathematics courses at Piney Grove, ranging from support classes, which are designed to supplement grade level instruction, to high school credit earning courses and everything in between. Our goal is to deliver the curriculum that is appropriate for each student based on their demonstrated need for support or enrichment, and Mathematics is one area where student placements in 6<sup>th</sup> grade can have an impact on opportunities that are available as students move through middle and high school.

The course placement/recommendation that has been made is based on the teacher's evaluation of the student's academic readiness, maturity, and the likelihood of the student being successful in the next mathematics course. Students who have struggled in a particular grade are not likely to be recommended for an advanced offering, because they may not have mastered some of some skills and concepts that are foundational to their success down the road. It may also be true that the teacher has identified that your student is ready for more of a challenge, and has recommended an advanced course offering.

As you review your student's course placements/recommendations, it is important to consider how the courses they take now will set them up to be able to take more advanced classes in the future. For example, in order to be eligible to take Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, we would expect that students successfully completed both Advanced 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and Advanced 7<sup>th</sup> Grade math. Students who show strong aptitude in math may be identified for additional placement testing in order to be in eligible for Accelerated Math. Rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify for Accelerated Math Placement testing will be notified later this spring about that testing opportunity. In cases where a student or family wishes to pursue a more advanced course placement than the teacher recommends, the student may be expected to meet additional criteria, such as placement testing and/or participation in supplemental instruction outside of the school day. The ultimate determination of student placements will be made by the PGMS Administration based on the evidence of a student's demonstrated need for support or enrichment.

Thank you for your continued support!



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