

Junior High Math Placements

The Junior High Math Team's goal is to find the best possible learning environment for each student based on their cognitive ability and readiness level. We want students to be challenged but also feel successful and build confidence along the way. Building a strong foundation in mathematics can help students flourish in their future math endeavors.

The following guidelines may be used when placing your student:

- ◆ Teacher Recommendation
- ◆ 6th or 7th Grade PSSA Scores
- ◆ Results from the Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT)
- ◆ Nine Weeks Grades
- ◆ Score on the placement exam given at the end of 6th grade

You will receive a letter with information about your student's placement as well as the data pieces that were used to determine the placement before the beginning of the next school year.

Placements will not be changed upon request. Significant evidence must be provided by the student in the first two to three weeks of the new school year in order for a placement change to be considered.

Riverview School District

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Junior High Mathematics Information



This pamphlet is intended to provide parents with an overview of information about our Junior High Mathematics program.

Teachers have compiled answers to commonly asked questions from parents with students in the Junior High.

If you have additional questions or need further explanation about any information in the brochure, please feel free to contact a Junior High Math teacher.

*“Serious Commitment to Student
Success”*



Junior High Math Courses

What are the grade level courses in 7th grade?

Principles of Math 7 Principles of Math 7+

What are the grade level courses in 8th grade?

Particular Topics in Algebra (PTA)

What does a grade level course mean?

Students in 7th grade are expected to be in Math 7 or Math 7+. These courses directly follow the standards set forth by the state for 7th grade. Math 7+ offers a more fast-paced, in-depth look at the 7th grade standards and requires students to complete tasks to apply the standards. Math 7 and Math 7+ use similar textbooks and address the same standards.

Students in 8th grade are expected to be in PTA. PTA directly follows the standards set forth by the state for 8th grade.

What additional classes are offered in 7th grade? How do they work?

Algebra I 7

Algebra I 7 is offered to students who have provided significant evidence that they are above grade level. Students in this class will receive instruction based on the Algebra I standards; they will not receive instruction on the 7th grade standards but will be required to demonstrate proficiency with those standards on the PSSA exams. The Algebra I Keystone Exam will be taken in May.

What additional classes are offered in 8th grade? How do they work?

Algebra I 8 Geometry 8

These courses are offered to students who have provided significant evidence that they are above grade level. Students in these classes will receive instruction based on the Algebra I and Geometry standards; they will not receive instruction on the 8th grade standards but will be required to demonstrate proficiency with those standards on the PSSA exams.

Junior High Standardized Math Assessments

	Grade Level Assessment	Algebra I Keystone Exam	Focus of Grade Level Standards*
Algebra I 7	Yes	Yes	Minimal
Math 7+	Yes	No	Main Focus
Math 7	Yes	No	Main Focus
Algebra I 8	Yes	Yes	Minimal
Geometry	Yes	No	Minimal
PTA	Yes	No	Main Focus

**Please see the explanation of a grade level course and the answers below to clarify "Focus of Grade Level Standards."*

What happens if my student fails the Algebra I Keystone Exam?

If students do not pass the Keystone in 7th and 8th grade, they will be scheduled to take Algebra I 8 or Algebra I 9 the following year. They will be taking a grade level Algebra course at that time. Students' transcripts will not show that they retook Algebra I.

What happens if my student fails the grade level PSSA?

PSSA scores could possibly affect future placements. PSSA scores are added to students' permanent transcripts and can be viewed in the future. Students may be pulled from electives or other classes to participate in remediation if needed. We encourage our students to take the PSSA exams seriously and try their best!

How will my student be prepared for the PSSA?

Students in grade level courses are using a curriculum that is directly aligned to the PSSA standards. Students in above grade level math courses may need to put in extra work and time to develop the skills and concepts for the 7th or 8th grade PA Common Core standards.

Math Pathways

What are the pathways?

Please see the program of studies for more information about the pathways as well as each math course. The program of studies can be picked up at the front office or can be accessed online. A brief summary chart can be found below.

Will my student be "stuck" in one pathway?

No. The pathways are designed to be fluid. There are opportunities for students to double up in future math classes if they provide evidence that they are able to do so. Please see the program of studies for doubling up requirements.

Pathway	7th Grade	8th Grade
1	Math 7	PTA
2	Math 7+	PTA or Algebra I**
3	Algebra I 7	Geometry 8
4	Math Foundations	Math Foundations or PTA**

**Placement will be based on teacher recommendation and success in the previous course. Movement is possible.