GRADE 6 PLACEMENT
MATHEMATICS PROCEDURES FOR ARTICULATION (2013-2014)

The mission for Fairfield Public Schools is to provide a comprehensive, rigorous education program for all students in the district. For most students, the grade level standards, as identified in the Common Core State Standards, provide the comprehensive, rigorous program needed to successfully progress through the mathematics courses in the Fairfield Public School curriculum.

Fairfield Public Schools offers two math courses in the middle school for grade six students: Math 6 and Transition to Pre-Algebra.

Math 6

Math 6 is a sixth grade course based on the Board of Educations' approved curriculum. This Math 6 course is aligned to the Common Core State Standards. The Math 6 course will focus on four critical areas*:

- Connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems;
- Completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes understanding negative numbers;
- Writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and
- Developing understanding of statistical thinking.

Transition to Pre-Algebra

The Transition to Pre-Algebra is a sixth grade course based on the Board of Educations' approved curriculum. The Transition to Pre-Algebra course combines the Math 6 course standards and part of the grade seven standards into one year. The Transition to Pre-Algebra will focus on five critical areas*:

- Connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems;
- Completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes operating with negative numbers;
- Writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations;
- Developing understanding of statistical thinking; and
- Geometric reasoning within two and three dimensional figures.

*Further information regarding the specific content addressed in each course can be found on the district website on the Curriculum and Instruction webpage (http://fairfieldschools.org/curriculum_instruction_math.htm).

Criteria for the Transition to Pre-Algebra Course

To help determine the proper course in 6th grade, the Fairfield Public Schools established the following benchmarks for the Transition to Pre-Algebra:
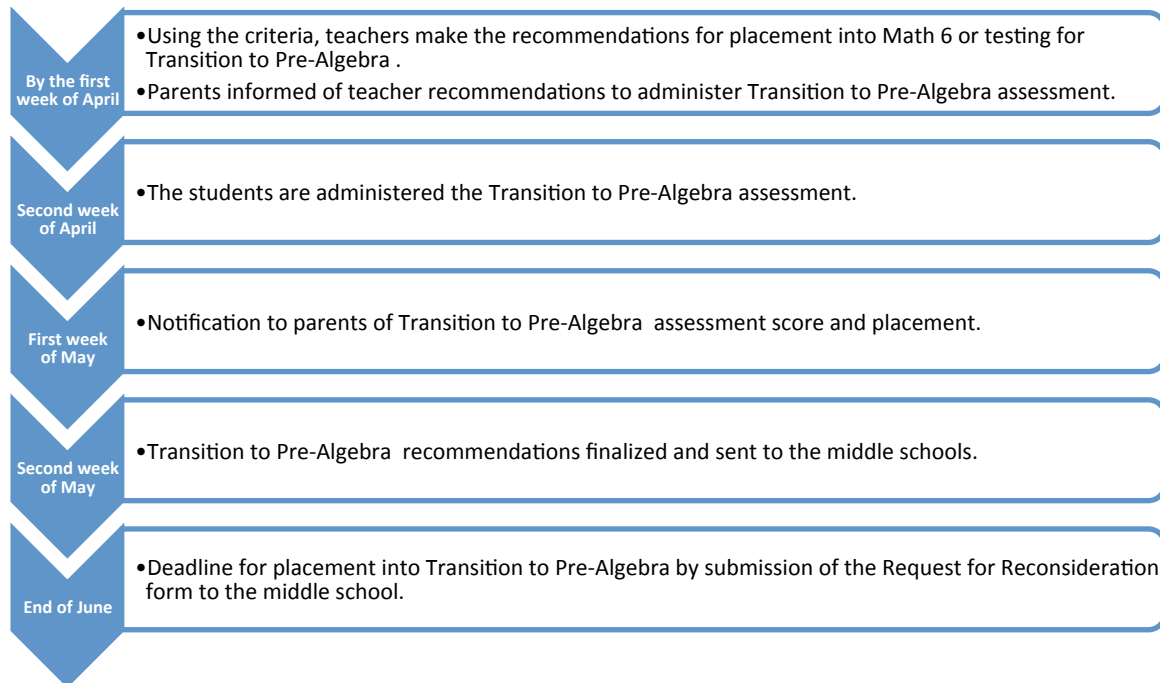
- Fifth Grade Teacher Evaluation form score range of 17 – 20.
- Consistently exceeds Grade Level Expectations on four out of the five expectations outlined on the fall student Progress Report.
- Consistently exceeds Grade Level Expectations on five out of the seven expectations outlined on the winter student Progress Report.
- Fall Fifth Grade Blue Ribbon Benchmark 70% to 100%,
- Winter Fifth Grade Blue Ribbon Benchmark 81% to 100%

Students who score at least a 70% on the placement assessment are placed into the Transition to Pre-Algebra course.
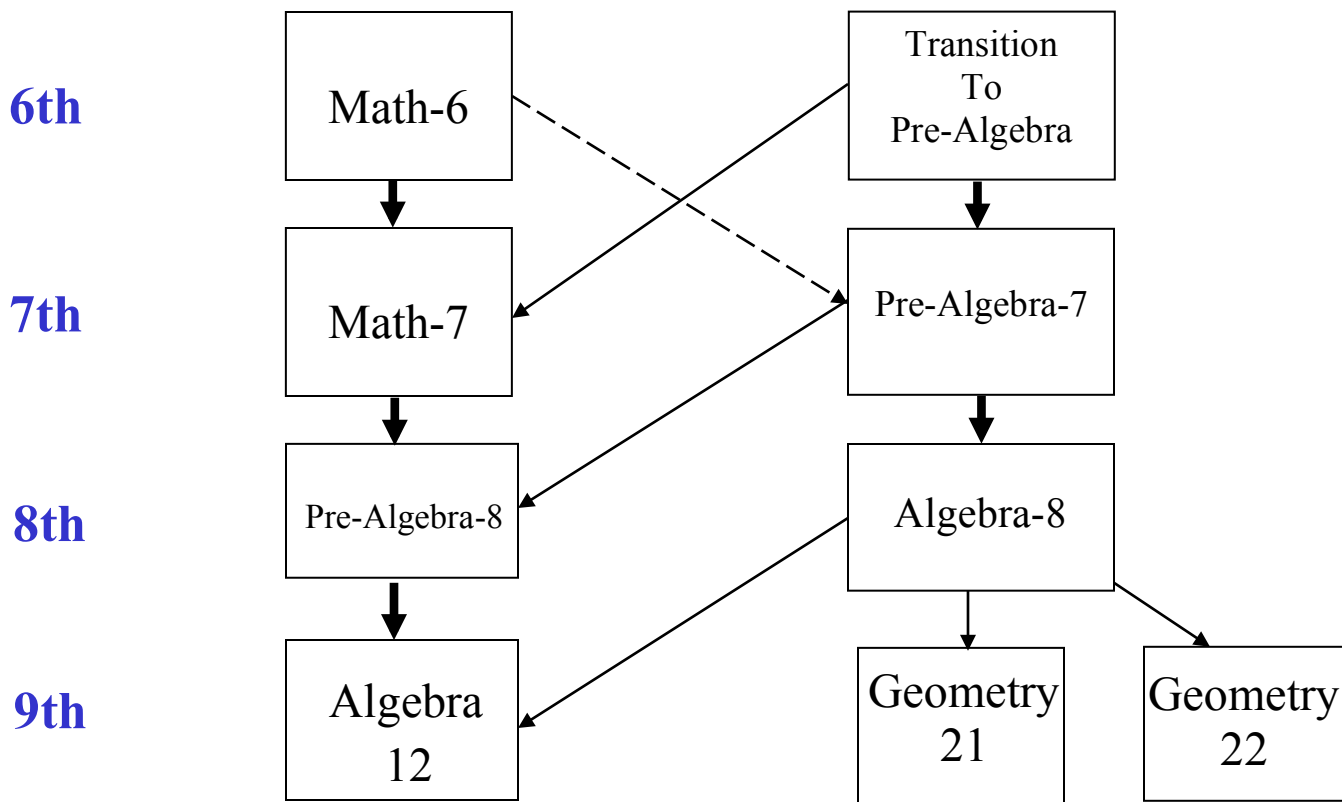
Request for Reconsideration

If the student does not qualify based on the testing results, parents have another opportunity through the Request for Reconsideration process to enter into the Transition to Pre-Algebra course. However, this Request for Reconsideration requires the student to take the Transition to Pre-Algebra placement assessment. *Any request for reconsideration for placement into the Transition to Pre-Algebra course requires the student to take the assessment before the end of the school year to meet the Request for Reconsideration deadline as listed below in the timeline.*

The recommendation process will follow the timeline below:

By the first week of April
- Using the criteria, teachers make the recommendations for placement into Math 6 or testing for Transition to Pre-Algebra .
- Parents informed of teacher recommendations to administer Transition to Pre-Algebra assessment.

Second week of April
- The students are administered the Transition to Pre-Algebra assessment.

First week of May
- Notification to parents of Transition to Pre-Algebra assessment score and placement.

Second week of May
- Transition to Pre-Algebra recommendations finalized and sent to the middle schools.

End of June
- Deadline for placement into Transition to Pre-Algebra by submission of the Request for Reconsideration form to the middle school.

P. Rasmussen 1/14

Middle School Math Course Sequences

The figure below illustrates different course sequences that students can take through their middle school experience that leads into high school mathematics. Most students follow the vertical arrow sequence; however, some flexibility is available to move between the course sequences. For example, students can move from Math 6 into Pre-Algebra-7. Though as noted by the dashed line, to move to the Pre-Algebra from Math 6 requires students to make up missed content in order to be prepared to enter the Pre-Algebra-7 course.

6th

| Math-6 | | Transition To Pre-Algebra |

7th

| Math-7 | | Pre-Algebra-7 |

8th

| Pre-Algebra-8 | | Algebra-8 |

9th

| Algebra 12 | | Geometry 21 | Geometry 22 |

High School Math Course Sequences

The figure below illustrates different course sequences that students can take through their high school experience in mathematics. Most students begin in Algebra 12, Geometry 21, or Geometry 22. However, some flexibility is available to move between the course sequences. If a student would like to get ahead in the course sequence, a student can take Algebra 2 and Geometry concurrently. All other courses require the student to meet the pre-requisites to enter into a desired course.

9th

| Algebra 12 | | Geometry 21 | Geometry 22 |

10th

| Geometry 22 | Geometry 21 | Algebra 31 | Algebra 32 |

11th

| Algebra 32 | Algebra 31 | Pre-Calculus 41 | Pre-Calculus 40 |

12th

| Math Modeling Trig 42 | Pre-Calculus 40 | Pre-Calculus 41 | AP Calculus AB/BC | Intro to Calculus 50 |