



# Pearl River School District

PEARL RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

520 Gilbert Avenue

Pearl River, New York 10965-3399

[www.pearlriver.org](http://www.pearlriver.org)

Phone: 845-620-3870 – Fax: 845-620-3894

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“Striving, Believing, Achieving, Succeeding”

**Maria A. Paese**  
Principal

**Counselors**  
Brittany Beckley  
Mark Bernasconi

**Kristin E. Talleyrand, Ed. D.**  
Assistant Principal

December 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 6 Students:

During the 2019 – 2020 school year, Pearl River Middle School will offer an accelerated mathematics program for high achieving 7th grade students. Students in this accelerated course (Pre-Algebra) will be instructed in the Next Generation Mathematics Standards for grades 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. This course will include a series of higher-level, problem-based learning experiences.

Student candidacy is determined through administrative review of performance data. It is important to note that all data must be consistent and this class is not self-selected or parent opt-in.

Criteria for student candidacy and participation:

- Consistent 90% percentile rank or greater STAR Math assessment
- Sixth Grade math average greater than 90%

This placement decision is based on the understanding that accelerated courses are designed for high achieving students who are motivated to pursue a very rigorous course of study. Students who are successful in the *Pre-Algebra* course in seventh grade will be eligible for the *Algebra* course for eighth grade. The Algebra course concludes with a Regents Examination. The grade for the course and exam will appear on the high school transcript.

Seventh graders who take Math 7 (not accelerated) and are interested in accelerating into Algebra for eighth grade may have the opportunity to do so, pending a minimum Math 7 average and the completion of a required summer preparation course during the summer before eighth grade.

**Please know that this letter replaces the letter that was distributed at our Back-To-School Night.**

If you have any questions, please contact your child’s counselor or me at any time.

Thank you,

Maria Paese, Principal

Robert J. Roelle, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction



U.S. Department of Education – Pearl River Middle School – 2011 Blue Ribbon Winner  
N.Y.S. Department of Education – Pearl River Middle School – 2015 Rewards School