



TUCKAHOE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Mr. Gregory Stiefel
Principal

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Assistant Principal

Acceleration Protocols and Criteria

At TMS, accelerated course work is available in grade 7 and grade 8 mathematics and grade 8 science. These courses are rigorous and fast-moving. They are not meant for all students.

Protocols and Criteria for Accelerated Seventh Grade Mathematics:

1. Students who have earned a 90% test and quiz average in 6th grade mathematics will automatically be enrolled in accelerated 7th grade mathematics unless parents/guardians choose to have students remain in the grade-level course by notifying the guidance department.
2. Parents of students who have not met this benchmark may request for their child to enroll in the accelerated class by meeting with the principal. It is strongly recommended that students have attained an 87% test and quiz average to choose this option.
3. If a student is not displaying readiness for accelerated 7th grade mathematics, there will be an option to enter the class if they maintain a 95% test and quiz grade average during the first quarter only of 7th grade mathematics.
4. Students who drop below an 80% test and quiz grade average at the end of quarter 1 may drop into the grade-level course with parent consent. Once a student has been dropped they will not be eligible to advance themselves until the following year because they will have missed too much course material.

Protocols and Criteria for Eighth Grade Algebra 1:

Algebra 1 is a high school course that culminates with the Algebra 1 Regents Exam. Student scores are recorded on transcripts.

1. Students in accelerated 7th grade mathematics who have earned a test and quiz average of 85% or higher will automatically be enrolled in Algebra 1.
2. Parents of students who have not met this benchmark may request for their child to enroll in the accelerated class by meeting with the principal. It is strongly recommended that students have attained an 80% test and quiz average to choose this option.

3. Students in grade-level 7th grade mathematics with a 90% - or higher test and quiz average are eligible to attempt self-acceleration over the summer after 7th grade. Self acceleration must be documented in a log presented to the principal.
4. These students must earn an 85% or higher on the accelerated 7th grade mathematics final, which must be taken during the week prior to school opening (usually the last week of August).
 - a. Options for self acceleration include:
 - i. Participate in an online Course with Khan Academy
 - ii. Participate in the online Course with Math Planet
 - iii. Schedule and document 10 hours of mathematical study.
5. The learning should be focused on the following topics:
 - a. Rate of change
 - b. Slope, laws of exponents
 - c. Linear functions
 - d. Multi-step expressions
 - e. Equations and inequalities
6. At the end of the first marking period, parents and students may request to drop the Algebra 1 course and be enrolled in math 8.
7. Students should strive to maintain an 85% quiz and test grade average for the entire year. Parents must check the Portal regularly to track progress. The teacher and guidance counselor will alert parents if grades fall below 85% after the end of the first marking period.
8. Students with an average below 85%, at the end of the first marking period, will be encouraged to take an Algebra 1 workshop or attend extra-help. If they fail to improve, they may be dropped into the grade-level course, at the end of the first quarter with parent consent.

Protocols and Criteria for Eighth Grade Regents Earth Science:

The Earth Science Regents course is a high school course offered to 8th-grade students. It culminates with students taking the Earth Science Regents Exam. Student scores are recorded on HS transcripts.

1. Students must have earned an 85% or higher on all seventh-grade science tests.
2. Students must have earned an 85% or higher on all Life Science lab assessments.
3. Parents may request for their child to be waived into the course if the child has no more than two test scores below 85% after meeting with the Principal.