

Dear Incoming 6th Graders and Families,

Spring 2011

Welcome to secondary mathematics in the Issaquah School District! Please read this letter with your student and return the attached form to your student's 5th grade teacher by April 22, 2011.

As your student enters middle school, you have the opportunity to enroll your student in Math Path I or Math Path II:

- Students enrolling in Math Path I have the opportunity to enroll in Geometry as 9th graders, and their three years of required high school math are Geometry, Algebra 2 and Pre-Calculus.
- Students enrolling in Math Path II take Algebra 1 and Geometry while in middle school, and their three years of required high school mathematics are Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus and Calculus.

This chart compares the math paths. More details, including course descriptions, are available on the Issaquah School District website.

Grade Level		Math Path I (1 year of HS Calculus)		Math Path II (2 years of HS Calculus)
6		Integrated Pre-Algebra Topics		Integrated Algebra A
7		Integrated Algebra A		Integrated Algebra B
8		Integrated Algebra B Incoming 9th graders enroll in Algebra 1 or Geometry through a Self-Select Process		Geometry
9	Required for High School Graduation	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2
10		Geometry	Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus or IB Math Methods 1
11		Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus or IB Math Methods 1	Calculus or IB Math Methods 2
12		Pre-Calculus or Advanced Algebra Functions and Trigonometry	Calculus or IB Math Methods 2 or Statistics	Advanced Calculus, IB Math Methods 3, AP Statistics or possible travel for additional math courses

Please note that Math Path II is recommended for students who:

- Have earned at least a 4 on the 4th grade Math MSP.
- Scored at least a 96 on the Stanford Total Math Score. Students' test scores will be available through Family Access on April 15th.
- Score at least an 85% on the on-line assessment tool on the district website.
- Are intrinsically interested in mathematics and enjoy devoting the time and energy necessary to study math. They have excellent study habits, consistently high motivation and perseverance. **Please note:** Students who are highly motivated and have met two of the three criteria above are strong candidates for enrolling in Math Path II.

If you enroll your student in Math Path II, you are committing to a path in which your student will likely take Calculus or IB Math Methods 2 as their third year of required high school math credit for graduation. Additionally, you are confirming that your child has the necessary math skills and study habits for success and that you consent to the possibility of lower grades in mathematics due to the increased rigor of the course. Once a student is placed in a math class, he or she will remain in that class as long as he or she is passing (i.e. maintaining at least a D grade.) Students who are passing the class, even at a C and D level, will not change math pathways during the school year.

Please complete the attached form and return it to your child's 5th grade teacher by April 22, 2011.

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CHILD'S FIFTH-GRADE TEACHER BY
April 22, 2011

**Spring 2011
Math Path Selection Form**

Student Name (printed)	Elementary School	Middle School
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Please select a math path and sign below:

- Math Path I – One year of High School Calculus**

My student and I have read the attached information about Issaquah Math Paths. We choose to enroll in the Math Path I.

- Math Path II – Two years of High School Calculus**

Please initial each bullet.

My child and I have read the attached information about Issaquah District Middle School Math Paths and about Math Path II. We have:

- looked at all of our student's test results and the online assessment tool and believe our student is capable of being successful in Math Path II
- discussed the motivation and work necessary to succeed in Math Path II and believe that our student will enjoy the challenge and is comfortable working outside of his or her academic comfort zone
- discussed our student's high school plans for taking math and understand that by entering Math Path II we are anticipating that our student will take Calculus or IB Math Methods 2 as his or her third year of required high school math credit for graduation
- discussed the possibility that our student may earn lower grades than she/he is accustomed to and understand that our student must remain in the math class as long as he/she is passing with at least a D

_____ Student Name (printed)	_____ Parent Name (printed)	_____ Date
_____ Student Signature	_____ Parent Signature	