

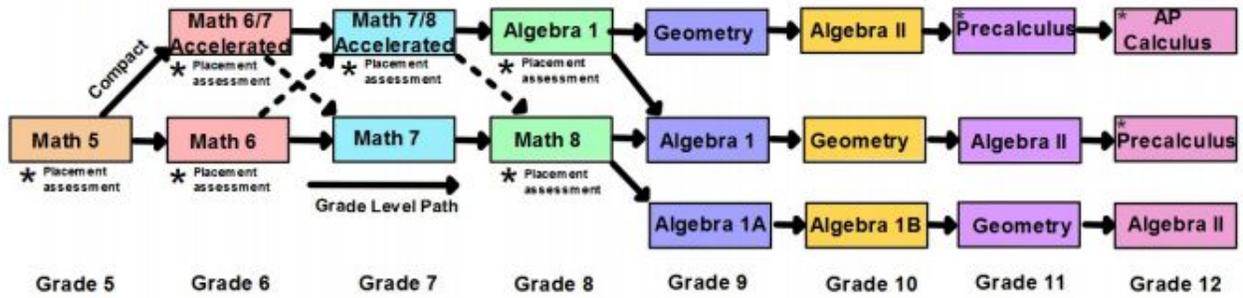
Math Placement FAQ

General Placement Questions	
What is the purpose of math placement?	The goal of the PYLUSD math placement is to enroll students in the appropriate math course that is best suited to their needs. The PYLUSD Math Placement Protocol ensures that all students have equal opportunities for grade level or accelerated course work.
How can I learn more about the PYLUSD math pathways?	Math placement information is placed on the secondary education page of the PYLUSD website. CLICK HERE to go directly to that page. The page contain the board policy, math pathways, the placement screencast and more.
Regarding Challenge Testing	
What is the purpose of a challenge test?	Challenge tests are intended for a student who feels that they have not been placed in the appropriate class. For example: an 8th grade Algebra student who tested into Geometry for high school but feels she/he should be in Geometry Honors, or a student who is placed in Math 7 but feels he/she should be in Math 7/8. The challenges tests are not intended for students to skip courses.
When does challenge testing take place?	Challenge testing will take place the week after school is out. There is no challenge testing at the end of the summer.
How do I register for the challenge test?	All registration takes place online. When a student receives a letter from his/her math teacher with the preliminary math placement, it will include a link to register for the challenge test.
I feel my student should be in Algebra as an 8th grader. What does he/she need to get on the challenge test?	Students need to demonstrate mastery of Math 8 concepts to show that they are adequately prepared for Algebra 1. A minimum score of 85% on the 8th grade fluencies and end of course final is required.
May my student test out of Algebra, Geometry or Algebra 2?	No, these courses must be on transcripts and may not be skipped.
Regarding Math 7/8 Summer School Course for Acceleration	
What is Math 7/8 Summer School for? Why would my student take Math 7/8?	Math 7/8 Summer School is an opportunity offered to the highest performing Accelerated Math 6/7 students from across the district. This provides mathematically gifted students the opportunity to take Algebra 1 as a 7th grader and Geometry as an 8th grader. Because the course covers a year and a half of curriculum in 5 weeks, the <u>students must qualify</u> based on multiple academic measures. Students must pass the Math 7/8 end-of-course test at the conclusion of the summer course to qualify for Algebra 1.
My student is in Math 6/7. How will he/she qualify for summer school?	Qualification for the summer Math 7/8 is based on a composite score that involves multiple academic measures: report card grades, benchmark scores, fluency test, placement test, etc. The district sets the placement criteria. These objective measures are used in lieu of teacher recommendations.
How will I know if my student qualified for the Summer Math 7/8 course?	Qualifying students will receive a letter in the mail in late April to early May.
If my student does qualify for the summer Math 7/8 , when & where will the course be held?	The dates of the 2017 summer school session will be June 26 - July 27. Students will attend class from 8:00am until noon. The course will be held at Esperanza High School.

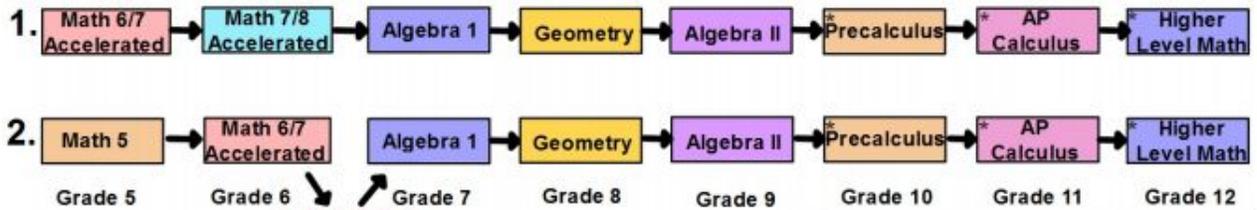
My student has qualified for the course and would like to attend, but we already have summer plans. Can my student miss a week of the class?	Yes. Placement into Algebra 1 as a 7th grader is not based on attendance, but rather the passage of the end-of-course test. The summer school teacher will provide the student with the content that will be studied during the time of the absence. The student will need to self-study while he/she is gone to ensure all concepts are learned.
I can't decide if my student should participate or not. What do you suggest?	Talk with your child. If your student is enjoying math at the level in which he/she working, you may prefer not to participate. Pushing too hard or too fast may lead to math burnout and a negative attitude towards math. If your student is feeling as though he/she is not challenged in current math class and wants more rigor next year, then the summer course may be the right fit for your student.
What if I opt out of the Summer Math 7/8 course?	Participation in the Summer Math 7/8 course is optional. Choosing to not participate will not put your student "behind". Your student is already in an advanced Math pathway which will allow him/her to take AP Calculus, AP Statistics, and/or IB Math at the high school level. See Math Pathways here.
Other	
My student did not qualify for Algebra 1 in 8th grade. Is there another opportunity for acceleration at a later date?	Yes. Once in high school, the student may enroll in an online summer Geometry course. Successful completion of the course will allow the student to take Algebra 2 the following year. Additionally, high school students may enroll in a community college course for acceleration purposes. See your HS counselor/principal for more information.
My student is currently enrolled in Math 6 and is doing well. Can he/she move to Math 7/8 next year?	There are 2 opportunities for your student to move to Math 7/8. If the student does well on the grade-level placement and fluency tests, the teacher may administer the Math 6/7 End of Course Test. Successful completion of that test can qualify the student for Math 7/8 the following year. The student may also opt to take a challenge test in June to qualify for Math 7/8. <i>Students will need to have a firm understanding of the following Math 7 topics to be successful on this test: operations with integers, operations with rational numbers, two-step equations, ratios & proportions, and percents.</i>
Is Math 6/7 or Math 7/8 an "honors" course?	No, this is an accelerated course where the concepts are taught at a faster pace. The content is the same as the grade level courses, but 3 years of content have been compacted into 2 years. Moving at this pace requires the students to have strong math skills as it will lead to taking Algebra 1 as an 8 th grader.
What happened to pre-Algebra?	Pre-algebra standards are now included within the Math 7 and Math 8 California State Content Standards.
If my child takes Algebra 1 in 9th grade will he/she be able to attend a 4 year college?	Yes. As long as students complete Algebra 2 by their senior year, they meet the a-g requirements. To be more competitive for the university, students should try to complete Algebra 2 their junior year. Successfully completing Algebra 1 as a freshman and Geometry as a Sophomore will allow the student to take Algebra 2 as a junior. Additionally, UC schools recommend 4 years of math.
Will my child be automatically accelerated if they are in GATE?	No. Success in higher levels of math requires the knowledge of prior levels of math. Skipping a level of math will create a gap in a student's mathematical knowledge. Students in GATE will take the district placement tests to ensure they are enrolled in a math class that is best suited to their needs.
My MS or HS student will be new to the district. How will his/her math placement be determined?	New students in middle and high school will receive math placement information in the registration packet. Students will register for a math placement test using the information in the packet. Counselors will receive test scores and placement info. New students may also register for the test at the PYLUSD Secondary Education webpage.

PYLUUSD Math Pathways

Grade level & Accelerated



8th Grade Geometry



Math 7/8 Accelerated
Summer School for qualifying students

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| <p>* Other Higher Level Math Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Statistics College Readiness Mathematics AP Statistics IB Math (HL & SL) |
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Updated
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