

Advanced Learning at Madison Middle School



Mathematics

Madison Middle School offers five math course titles: Math 6, Math 7, Math 8, Algebra 1, and Geometry. These course titles correspond to grade levels 6 through 10. At each grade level, students may take one of three course titles according to their eligibility. This allows students to be at their optimal level of challenge. Even in a skill-based system such as ours, we acknowledge that students come with a range of skills and strengths. All math classes are taught through the lens of differentiation and rigor. We use district-approved curriculum for each course title (CMP2, Discovering Algebra, and Discovering Geometry).

Placement in these courses is determined by triangulating data from standardized tests (MSP, MAP), classroom grades, teacher recommendation and a Madison-created, grade-level, standards-based assessment when needed. A student identified as academically gifted or highly gifted (Spectrum/APP) is also expected to meet these criteria to be placed in an advanced math class.

We place students in the appropriate course title to their individual needs. To the extent possible, barring schedule and class size issues, we work to ensure that students who are working above grade level are in classes with peers socially and academically. When mixing grade levels, we follow a blended model.

Algebra and Geometry taken in middle school may entitle a student to complete the state high school requirements for end-of-course exams and/or high school math credits. Students progressing through high school level courses need to be aware of the impact that achievement and learning in these courses can have on high school coursework and grade point average.

Madison Middle School offers a wide range of support for students. Students not progressing in their math class will be offered support as appropriate. Students who do not progress in spite of support may be expected to repeat the coursework in the next school year or during the current school year when appropriate.

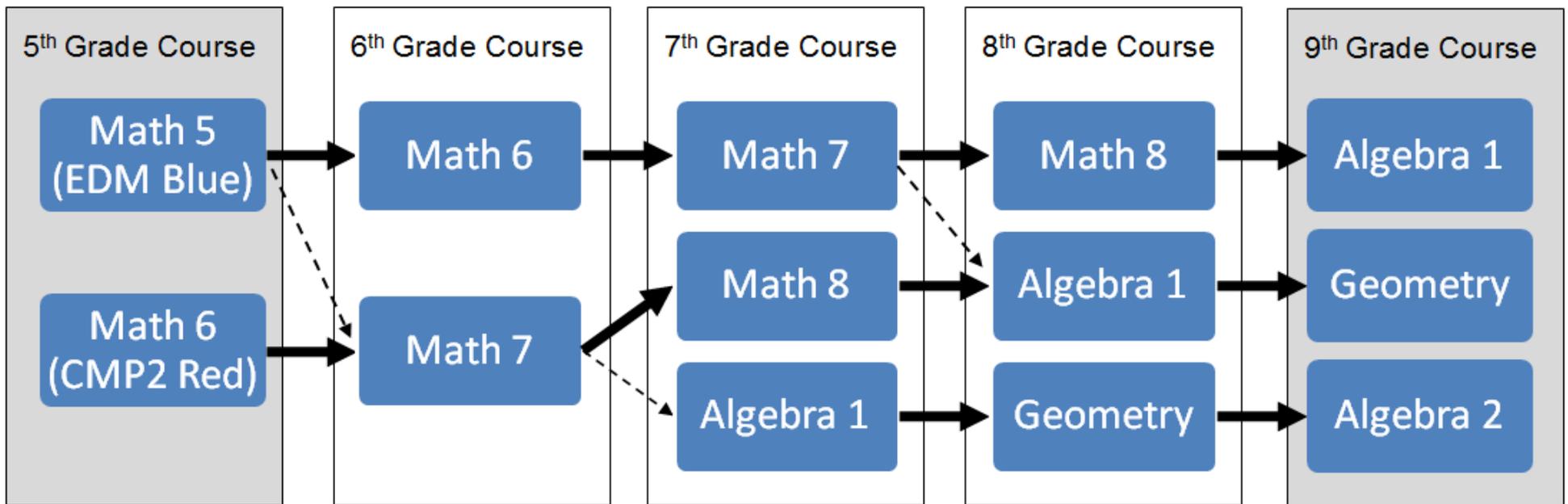
The following flow chart illustrates the possible advanced-placement options.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The information in this packet reflects our current practices at Madison Middle School. As the Seattle School District adopts the Common Core State Standards and develops new scope-and-sequence documents, there could be changes in the classes offered at each grade level.

Current Grade/Course Title	Current MSP	Previous Spring MAP	Other Criteria	Recommended Course Title for Next Grade
5 th Grade/Any	L1, L2	≤232		Math 6
	L3, L4	>232	Teacher Recommendation Madison Placement Test	Math 7
6 th Grade/Math 6	L1, L2	<219		Math 7 with support
	L3, L4	≥219		Math 7
6 th Grade/Math 7	L1, L2	<240		Math 8
	L3, L4	≥240	Teacher Recommendation Madison Placement Test	Algebra 1
7 th Grade/Math 7	L1, L2	<222		Math 8 with support
	L3, L4	222-239		Math 8
	L3, L4	≥240	Teacher Recommendation Madison Placement Test	Algebra 1
7 th Grade/Math 8	Any	Any		Algebra 1
7 th Grade/Algebra 1	Any	Any	Proficient on Algebra 1 End of Course Exam	Geometry
	Any	Any	Not proficient on Algebra 1 End of Course Exam	Algebra 1 (repeat)
8 th Grade/Math 8	N/A	≤232	Teacher recommendation	Algebra 1 with support
	N/A	>232		Algebra 1
8 th Grade/Algebra 1	N/A	N/A	Proficient on Algebra 1 End of Course Exam	Geometry
	N/A	N/A	Teacher recommendation	Algebra 1 (repeat)
8 th Grade/Geometry	N/A	N/A	Proficient on Geometry End of Course Exam	Algebra 2
	N/A	N/A	Not proficient on Geometry End of Course Exam	Geometry (repeat)

The Math Program at Madison

The flowchart below shows the possible pathways students may take through our math program at Madison. Students are typically placed based on the last math course they completed; however there are opportunities for advancement at each grade level. **BOLD** arrows indicate the typical pathway. Dashed arrows indicate advancement opportunity. In order to advance, students are required to meet certain criteria, including specific MAP and/or MSP scores, teacher recommendations, and successful performance on a placement test.



Honors Language Arts at Madison Middle School

Honors Language Arts serves students who have been identified as academically gifted through the school district's testing process. This class is part of the district's Spectrum program, which provides a rigorous curriculum that challenges students to apply complex thinking skills when working with core skills and concepts. The Language Arts curriculum is presented at an accelerated learning pace, focusing on grade level expectations that are one year above students' assigned grade level in reading and at or above students' assigned grade level in writing and communication. **On a space-available basis**, Honors Language Arts also includes advanced readers and writers who have been identified through evaluation of a student application, writing sample, teacher *Profile of*

Advanced Learners in Language Arts:

- Enthusiastic attitude about reading and writing, and a strong desire to improve skills.
- Ability to read and analyze challenging texts.
- Persistence and curiosity when tackling new skills or concepts.
- Independence and internal motivation.
- Active involvement in small- and large-group activities.
- Outstanding effort on all assignments.

Eligibility and Placement

1. Students receive priority placement in Honors Language Arts if they have been designated as academically highly gifted ("APP") or academically gifted ("Spectrum") through the district's advanced learning testing. Students currently enrolled in a 5th grade Spectrum class at one of Madison's feeder schools will automatically be assigned to the Spectrum class at Madison. Please note that 5th grade Spectrum or APP students currently enrolled in an Advanced Learning Opportunity school rather than a Spectrum classroom must submit a school choice form during the Open Enrollment period (Feb. 24-March 7, 2014) to request a 6th grade Spectrum assignment at Madison. If eligible students do not request a Spectrum assignment and choose to come to Madison, they will be placed in Honors Language Arts on a space-available basis.
2. Students who have not qualified for advanced learning through the district's testing process may be placed in Honors Language Arts on a space-available basis. These placements will be based on spring test scores for the MSP, teacher recommendations, and a brief application and writing sample provided by the student. MAP reading scores will also be used when a tiebreaker is needed. Interested fifth graders and their parents may ask their teacher to submit a teacher recommendation by **Fri., May 2**. Teacher recommendation forms and student application forms (also due **Fri., May 2**) are available from the office at your elementary school, Madison's school office, or the Madison website. Applicants will be notified the week prior to school starting, and a waiting list will be maintained, if necessary.

Differentiated Instruction in Language Arts

With a long history as an Advanced Learning Opportunity school, Madison is committed to differentiating instruction so that students in all classes receive an enriching education. Students seeking additional challenge and greater depth in Language Arts and Social Studies are encouraged to take advantage of Challenge offerings provided by their classroom teacher. Challenge assignments require the application of complex thinking skills to core skills and concepts, often pushing students to work beyond grade level expectations. For some assignments or units of study, the Challenge component involves a modification of or an addition to the "regular" assignment. Separate assignments, such as an advanced reading selection or a special presentation, are another type of Challenge work. Everybody is welcome to complete Challenge assignments as long as regular classroom work meets standards and all other work has been turned in. Challenge work is not just "extra credit." Rather, it is intended to provide increased academic rigor for advanced learners.

