

6th Grade Academic Information

School Counselors:

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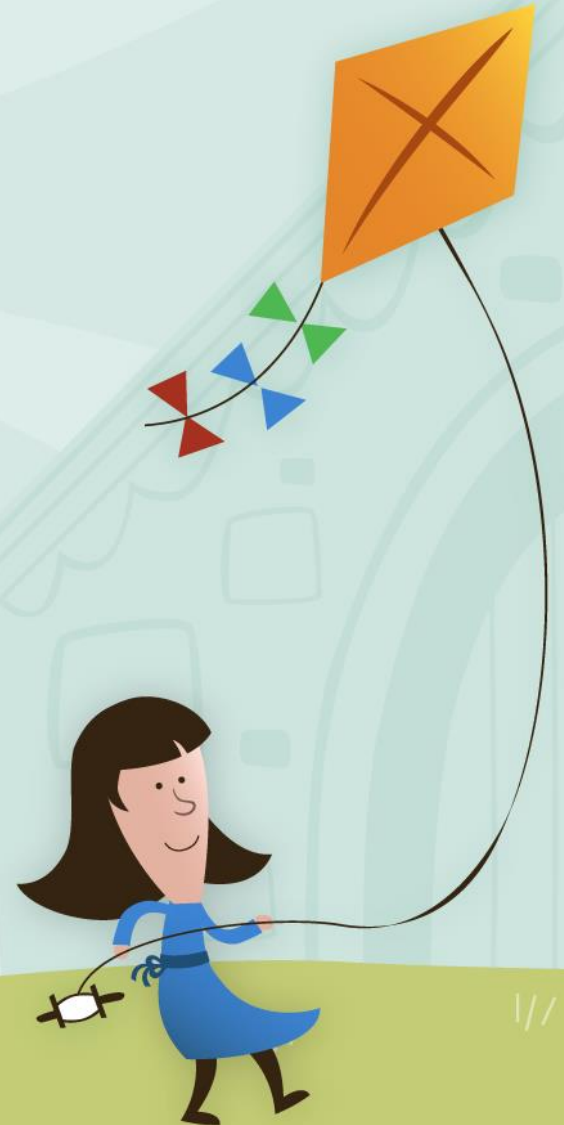
Katie Thompson

6th Grade Math Teachers:

Valerie Brown

Emily Medlin

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The Middle School Brain

Early Adolescence~ LOTS of physical, mental, emotional, and social changes occur

- Want to be independent
- Hormones and body changes (which may result in low self-esteem)
- Developing self-identity (among peers)
- May begin to think no one understands them and their feelings
- May begin to withdraw from parental figures, seek other adults and friends (positive mentor needed)
- Greater emphasis on friends and friend groups
- Dealing with peer pressure



The Middle School Brain

- Start to understand concepts such as influence
- Question things, don't take everything at face value
- Begin to think about how current actions affect the future
- Memorize information more easily
- Use flexible thinking, such as checking work and changing approaches as needed
- Begin developing a worldview, including a basic set of values
- Want to contribute and make money
- Interested in having discussions, debates and arguments
- Go through "what-if" scenarios



Social Tips

- Remind your child that they will have the opportunity to meet a lot of new students and potential friends by changing classes each period.
- Encourage your child to get involved at school. There will be a lot more activities to join than there were in elementary school. Sports, clubs, and other activities can help your child find their niche.
- Have a "heart to heart" talk with your child about being who they are. It is more important to be yourself than to be "cool" and to fit in. Talk about the importance of not compromising their beliefs and convictions to gain "friends".
- If you choose to allow your child to have access to a phone and/or social media, please monitor their use. Children at this age are not ready for the responsibility of managing social media on their own.



Academic Tips

- Work with your child on creating an organizational system that works for them
- Encourage your child to talk to their teachers and advocate for themselves
 - Ask questions when they don't understand, Ask for makeup work, Seek tutoring
 - Encourage your child to view PowerSchool often to check grades and assignments (parents should also have an account & check often)
- Time management skills - help them find what works best for them!
 - Write Due Dates in planner or calendar
 - Dividing larger assignments up into chunks when needed
 - Working on and completing assignments in one day



Your Support Team

Encourage your student to take advantage of the support team here at NW

- **Teachers-** tell them when you're having a problem, ask for help (any staff member they trust)
- **Counselors-** come to the counseling department between classes, after you eat lunch, or if its an emergency ask your teacher if you can go see a counselor
- **Administrative Team-** principal and 2 assistant principals
- **Parents and Family Members**



Academically Gifted (AG)

- The Middle School Model for AG students is different from the Elementary Model.
- Our AG students spend the day in general education classes; therefore, it is the teacher's responsibility to provide differentiation.
- Differentiation- tailoring instruction to meet individual needs



ELA and Math teachers must complete Annual Plans to communicate the primary strategies that will be used to differentiate the content, processes, and/or products each quarter.

The Differentiated Education Plan (DEP) communicates in which classes an individual student receives AG differentiation.



MS Math Course Options Guidelines 2023-24

Rising Sixth Grade Course Offerings	
Math 6	Math 6 is the on-grade-level course. It is a rigorous math course that covers 100% of 6th Grade NC Math Standards. There are embedded opportunities for enrichment to dig deeper into the sixth grade math standards to meet the needs of each and every student taking Math 6.
ACC 6	<p>Accelerated Math 6 is the advanced math course for sixth grade students. It is a rigorous math course that covers 100% of 6th Grade NC Math Standards <i>in addition to</i> 60% of standards expected of seventh grade students.</p> <p>This course fully prepares students to take Accelerated Math 7 in 7th grade which fully prepares middle school students to take their first high school math course, NC Math 1 in their 8th grade year.</p> <p>Students who choose to take this math course should meet at least <u>one</u> of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Level 4 or above on 2021-22 EOG <input type="checkbox"/> 70th percentile or above on the Winter or Spring NWEA MAP assessment
AIMM	<p>AIMM is a course that is accelerated by both speed and depth and designed for sixth grade students wishing to skip Accelerated Math 7 to enroll in NC Math 1 during 7th grade. It is a rigorous math course that covers 100% of 6th Grade NC Math Standards AND 60% of the 7th Grade NC Math Standards. There are embedded opportunities for enrichment to dig deeper into the standards to meet the needs of each and every student taking AIMM.</p> <p>Students who wish to take NC Math 1 in their seventh grade year are encouraged to enroll in a summer course called "Bridge to Math 1" that will prepare students skipping Accelerated Math 7 in order to take NC Math 1 during 7th grade. Any student who scores in the 90th percentile on any of the NWEA MAP assessment administrations during 6th grade will receive an invitation to enroll in summer Bridge to Math 1 if they so choose. Continue to the next page to see requirements for all 7th grade course offerings including Math 7, Accelerated Math 7, and NC Math 1.</p> <p>Students who choose to take this math course should meet at least <u>one</u> of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Level 5 on 2021-22 EOG <input type="checkbox"/> 90th percentile or above on the Winter or Spring NWEA MAP assessment

- **[SB 500](#) legislates that all students who score a level 5 on the EOG must be placed in an advanced math course the following year, unless parent or guardian makes a formal request against advanced placement. This means all students who received a Level 5 on their 5th grade EOG must be placed into Accelerated Math 6.*
- *Teams will be formed at the elementary school level to make placement recommendations for middle school. Teams should consider under-represented populations and use qualitative data (evidence of a rigorous level of [mathematical practices](#) by the student) to schedule in advanced courses when possible. Middle school teams will make final recommendations based on data points listed above. EC /EL status should not influence placement in higher level math courses.*
- *[CLICK HERE to view Pathway Options 6-12](#) to view how courses impact further math options.*

GCS Secondary Mathematics Pathway Options

Below are typical course sequences for taking mathematics in high school. **This chart does not include all possible scenarios.
The bolded cell indicates the last HS course the student must complete to satisfy graduation requirements.

<u>Pathways</u>	<u>6th Grade</u>	<u>7th Grade</u>	<u>8th Grade</u>	<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Section 1: Pathway Sequence Options Available to ALL							
A	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	NC Math 1	NC Math 2	NC Math 3	NC Math 4
B	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	NC Math 1	NC Math 2 (Honors)	NC Math 3 (Honors)	PreCal or MAT 171/172* and/or AP Stats
C	Accelerated 6/AIMM	Accelerated 7	NC Math 1 (Honors Level)	NC Math 2 (Honors)	NC Math 3 (Honors)	PreCal or MAT 171/172*	AP Calculus and/or AP Stats or IB Math
D	Accelerated 6/AIMM	Accelerated 7	NC Math 1 (Honors Level)	NC Math 2 (Honors)	NC Math 3 (Honors)	NC Math 4 (Honors)	MAT 143*, MAT 152*, PreCal or MAT 171/172*
E	Accelerated 6/AIMM	Accelerated 7	NC Math 1 (Honors Level)	NC Math 2 (Honors)	NC Math 3 (Honors)	PreCal or MAT 171/172*	MAT 271 (Calc I)* MAT 272 (Calc II)* or other options
F	Accelerated 6/AIMM	NC Math 1 (Honors Level)* requires a summer Bridge Course	NC Math 2 (Honors Level)	NC Math 3 (Honors)	PreCal or MAT 171/172*	AP Calculus or MAT 271 (Calc I)* and/or AP Stats or IB Math	MAT 272 (Calc II)* or other options and/or AP Stats or IB Math

Dispelling Some Common Myths About Math

AIMM \neq AG Math

AIMM is not a “track” or “program” - it is a 6th grade math course.

Students can still take the highest levels of high school math available even if they do not take Math 1 in 7th grade.

Please do not try to push your student beyond what is the right “fit” for them now – trust us that it is much easier to move ahead later than to have to fall back if they are not successful.



Questions and Answers

