Mathematics Course Selection

Questions: Contact Laurell Wiersma, math department chair

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**Big Ideas:**

Taking Math is not a Race

It is always better to have a strong foundation before moving forward

Math is a gatekeeper for colleges and trade programs.

Students at Wakefield take math all four years

Frequently asked questions

1. What are the consequences of taking Intensified Algebra 1 in 7th Grade?
* Access to higher level math elective classes during Junior and Senior years
* More math in high school than the average student
* Less time mastering fractions
1. Can a student repeat Algebra in high school even if the student passed the class in middle school?
* Yes, speak with the counselor or the math department chair.
1. There is a strategies class for Algebra and Geometry, how do I know if it is appropriate for a student?
	* Talk to the student’s current math teacher for advice.
	* Strategies classes are best for students who need support doing homework and are unlikely to be successful without homework support.
2. For students with an IEP, how do we make decisions on an appropriate 4 year plan?
	* Feel free to talk to the current teacher or counselor.
	* If you have further questions, contact Lynette McCracken at Wakefield for advice.
3. How do we decide the best course sequence for my child?
	* Maturing is not a one-size fits all situation. Work with your current math teacher and counselor to make the best decision one-year at a time.
	* Remember, this is not a race and math courses should be balanced with other interests and future goals.