

Fifth to Sixth Grade Placement Information

PLACEMENT OVERVIEW

District 96 works diligently to place students in the appropriate courses when students enter middle school at either Woodlawn and Twin Groves. The placement process for both Math and Language Arts is detailed below.

LANGUAGE ARTS PLACEMENT OVERVIEW

Teacher Checklist – During Trimester 3, the 5th grade teachers are asked to provide input based on specific criteria.

NWEA MAP – All 5th graders take the MAP assessment as part of our Spring Assessment window. The MAP assessment is included in the placement process because it is a nationally normed, objective assessment.

Writing Assessment – Students are asked to write an essay as part of their Unit 5 PBA. This essay is collaboratively scored among the 5th grade teachers in each building, based on an agreed upon rubric.

Literacy Assessment – All 5th grade students take a district developed reading assessment. This assessment is designed to measure each student's reading comprehension.

Scoring the Assessments and Determining Placement

The criteria and assessments are reviewed yearly by the middle school teachers, school principals, and the Teaching and Learning Department to ensure appropriate placement.

Below you will find information about the matrix used to place students at the middle school for Language Arts. This information includes the maximum number of points available for each of the components for placement in Language Arts as well as the cut scores for each course.

Students are not expected to study or prepare for any of these assessments. There are no available practice tests for students or parents. All placements will be final, but there are opportunities for movement once middle school begins.

Summary:

Teacher Checklist	5 points max.
NWEA MAP	10 points max.
Writing Assessment	5 points max.
Literacy Assessment	5 points max.
Total	25 points max.

6th Grade Language Arts - Scores less than or equal to 14

6th Grade Language Arts Advanced - Scores equal to or greater than 15 with a minimum of 3/5 on the Writing Assessment to qualify.

The middle school teachers and principals are provided all of the matrix information and will monitor all students to ensure that they are appropriately placed. At times, students may be moved up to Advanced near the end of the first marking period in 6th grade or at the end of the school year, based on student performance.

MATH PLACEMENT OVERVIEW

The math placement process consists of four individual assessments of student performance.

Teacher Checklist – During Trimester 3, the 5th grade teachers are asked to provide input based on specific criteria.

Task 1 (Video) – All 5th graders will be provided a video lesson and will apply their knowledge to a performance task to complete. This task is designed to teach students new content that is immediately applied to a set of problems. They will need to complete this rigorous task and provide explanations for their work. This task is collaboratively scored by members of the staff.

Task 2 – All 5th graders will be provided a second performance task that measures a variety of skills with which they have experience already. Students will need to combine these skills in order to solve the problems in the task. They will need to complete this rigorous task and provide explanations for their work. This task is collaboratively scored by members of the staff.

NWEA MAP – All 5th graders take the MAP assessment as part of our Spring Assessment window. The MAP assessment is included in the placement process because it is a nationally normed, objective assessment.

Scoring the Assessments and Determining Placement

The criteria and assessments are reviewed yearly by the middle school teachers, school principals, and the Teaching and Learning Department to ensure appropriate placement.

Below you will find information about the matrix used to place students at the middle school for Math. This information includes the maximum number of points available for each of the components for placement in math as well as the cut scores for each course.

Students are not expected to study or prepare for any of these assessments. There are no available practice tests for students or parents. All placements will be final, but there are opportunities for movement once middle school begins.

Summary:

Performance Task 1(Video)	5 points max.
Performance Tasks 2	5 points max.
NWEA MAP	10 points max.
Teacher Checklist	5 points max.
Total	25 points max.

Core 6/7 - Scores equal to or between 0-17

Core 7- Scores greater than or equal to 18

The middle school teachers and principals are provided all of the matrix information and will routinely monitor all students throughout the year to ensure that they are appropriately placed.

TYPICAL DISTRICT 96 MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH PROGRESSIONS

6th Grade Core 6/7 6th and 7th Grade Common Core Standards ↓	6th Grade Core 7 7th and 8th Grade Common Core Standards ↓
7th Grade Core 8 7th and 8th Grade Common Core Standards ↓	7th Grade Algebra 1 High School Algebra 1 Standards ↓
8th Grade Algebra 1 High School Algebra 1 Standards ↓	8th Grade Geometry High School Geometry Standards ↓
Freshman Year at SHS: Geometry College Prep or Geometry Accelerated <i>(pending SHS placement process)</i>	Freshman Year at SHS: Algebra 2 College Prep or Algebra 2 Accelerated <i>(pending SHS placement process)</i>

For any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

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