

## **Medea to Oak Park Math Placement FAQ's**

- I am currently in *Intro to Algebra* as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, but want to take summer school to advance past material never seen before in order to advance into *Geometry (9)*. Can I do this?

**Policy:**

No, *Algebra 1* is the foundation for all higher level math. Moving through the material at a quick pace would not benefit a student. These students should enroll in *Algebra 1B (9)* for 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

- I am currently in a math class as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, but do not have a high enough grade to meet the prerequisite to move forward. I want to take summer school to remediate, or improve a grade in order to move forward. Can I do this?

**Policy:**

Yes, students are always allowed to remediate or improve a previous grade in an attempt to move forward between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

- I am currently in *Algebra 1* as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader with Q3 and Q4 grades 80% or higher, and I want to take *Geometry* in summer school in order to advance into *Algebra 2* for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Can I do this?

**Policy:**

No, students may not accelerate from *Algebra I* to *Algebra II* between their 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade years. Acceleration is only allowed for students who have completed their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. These students should enroll in *Geometry (9)* for 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Reasons:**

1. The goal of acceleration should be so a student can obtain the highest level of math available at the high school. If a student takes *Geometry (9)* as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader, they can then take *Algebra 2 Honors* as a 10<sup>th</sup> grader, *Math Analysis Honors* as an 11<sup>th</sup> grader, and then finish their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year by taking *Calculus BC(AP)* which is the highest level of math we offer. If the student can obtain our highest level of math, then there is no need for acceleration.

2. The Oak Park summer school *Geometry* course is designed for remediation. The students that are in this class have either failed or are trying to improve a low grade. The rigor of this course, in a 6-week period, cannot compare to a year long *Geometry (9)* class.

- I want to take Oak Park High School's summer school courses between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade to advance or remediate. Can I do this?

**Policy:**

No, there is no reason for a student this young to move forward in math. These students should stay with their recommended placement.

Student stress is a significant problem at Oak Park High School. The number of students suffering setbacks from academic pressures seems to grow each year. Our policies are designed to help students stay competitive, but also to encourage a healthy balance between rigor and mental health.

Last updated: 12/12/2016