



ATLANTA
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

BETSY BOCKMAN, PH.D.
PRINCIPAL

HENRY W. GRADY HIGH SCHOOL
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March 14, 2018

Dear Inman Parent:

For the past several years, advanced math students at Inman have taken Accelerated Algebra I/Geometry A in 8th grade. The normal course sequence would then be Accelerated Geometry B/Algebra II in 9th grade and Pre-Calculus in 10th grade, allowing them to take AP Calculus AB in 11th grade and AP Calculus BC in 12th grade.

This year, all advanced 8th graders at Inman are enrolled in Algebra I (not the accelerated course, but the regular-paced course typically taken in 9th grade). These students are currently on track for enrollment in Geometry in 9th grade, Algebra II in 10th grade, Pre-Calculus in 11th grade, and AP Calculus AB in 12th grade. Students would also have the option of non-AP Calculus, AP Statistics, or Advanced Mathematical Decision Making. This is a rigorous math track for most of our students.

However, in order to create an option which would allow our most advanced students the opportunity to take Calculus by 11th grade and AP Calculus BC by 12th grade, as accelerated students have previously been able to do, we have decided to offer a double math option for next year's 9th grade class. This would allow qualified students to take two full years of math in one year, essentially finishing their 9th grade year ready to enroll in Pre Calculus in 10th grade. This double math option is not new to Grady- we had a pilot section of this class this year, and other APS schools teach advanced math this way.

The way the double math class will work is students will take Algebra II each day of the first semester. Second semester, students will take Geometry each day of the semester and will take the Geometry End of Course Assessment in May 2019. There is no EOC for Algebra II. Students will have 7 classes on their schedule both semesters instead of the normal 8.

The qualifications for this class are:

- Final course grade of 90% or higher in current Algebra 1 class, and
 - Score at the distinguished level on the Algebra EOC to be taken later this semester.
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Some things to think about with this option:

- Students will have 90 minutes of math each day rather than every other day
- Students will complete 13 units of math in 9 months—this is a substantial amount and the pace will be quick. Please think about this as students will be making the big transition to high school and they will want to become immersed in other activities as well.
- The mid semester grades (October and March) both count as transcript grades. They are not “in progress” grades. These grades are part of a student’s GPA.
- Students will lose an elective course in their schedule

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- Final course grade of 90% or higher in current Algebra 1 class, and
- Score at the distinguished level on the Algebra EOC to be taken later this semester.

You probably have questions. Parents and students are invited to meet with me on April 17 at 6:30 in the Inman Media Center.

Sincerely,

Betsy Bockman, Ph.D.
Principal
