



8th Grade Math Placement Information Session

Giving students what they need, when they need it



March 10, 2026

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Tonight's Focus

- Overview of Our New Pathways
- 8th Grade Placement Process



Math Pathways

Students progress in mathematical understanding at different rates.

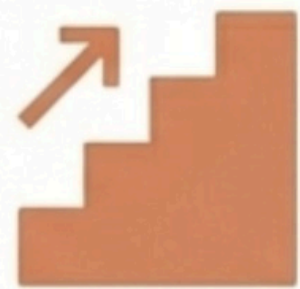
Students benefit from developmentally appropriate pathways that meet them where they are and allow them to grow at their own pace.

There isn't a single "right age" or "one path" for learning math concepts.

Math learning, like physical development, follows a range of readiness and progression, not a one-size-fits-all timeline.

Giving students what they need, when they need it

Building a gateway to advanced mathematics, not a gatekeeper.



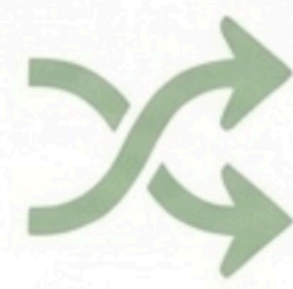
Rigor for All

- HS Math 1: Algebra, Geometry and Stats for all 8th grade students.



Targeted Support & Enrichment

- WIN (What I Need) blocks, Summer bridge programs ("catch up or jump up"), and Middle School math specialists.



Flexible On-Ramps

- Fluid movement between pathways based on data, early access to higher-level high school math, and expanded dual enrollment and STEM options.

Two flexible 8th-grade pathways leading to the same destination.

Both courses teach Algebra, Geometry, and Statistics Standards.

High School Math 1 (Standard)

- Provides more time for concept development.
- Focuses on reinforcement and building a strong foundation.
- Rigorous preparation for High School success.

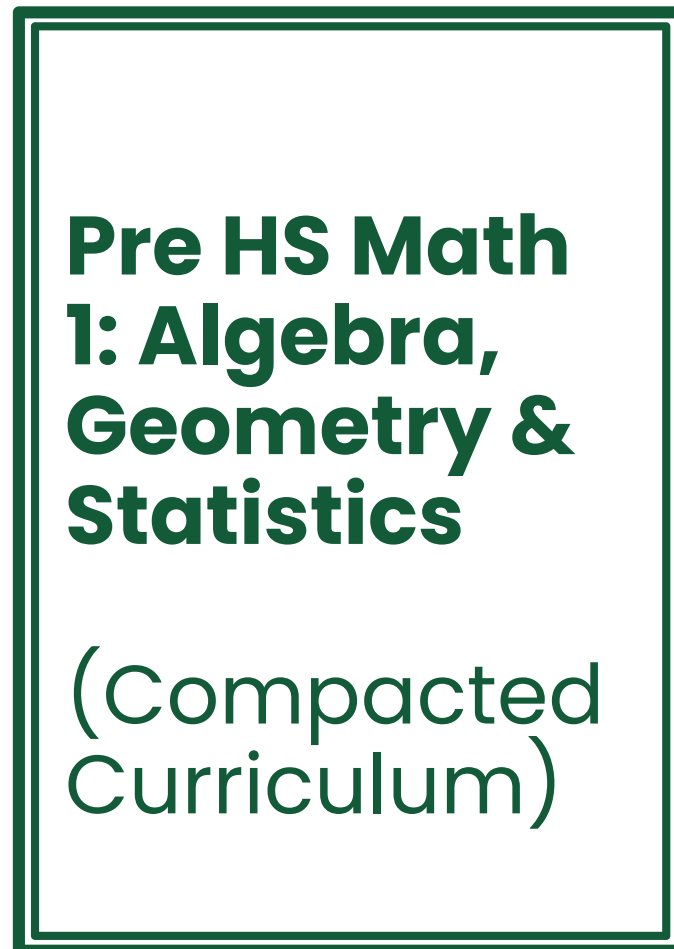
High School Math 1 (Accelerated)

- Moves at a faster pace.
- Includes additional Algebra standards.
- Deeper dive into complex problem-solving.
- Requires a higher level of readiness.

Transition Year specific: Rising 8th graders will take either Math 8 + select HS Math I standards OR HS Math 1 Accelerated.

Future Middle School Pathways

Grades 6 & 7



- Common Assessments
- Intervention
- Summer Programs
- Enrichment

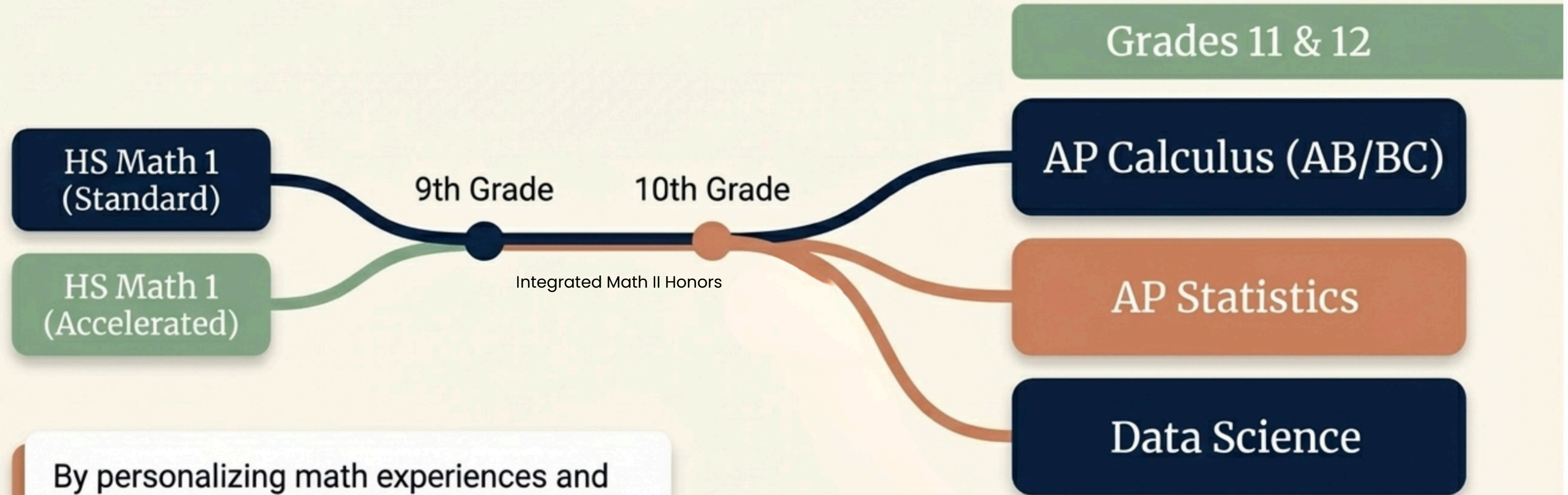
Grade 8

Accelerated HS Math 1: Algebra, Geometry & Statistics

HS Math 1: Algebra, Geometry & Statistics (Standard)

- **The New Standard:** HS Math 1: Algebra, Geometry and Statistics for all 8th-grade students.
- **Why?** To provide rigor for all students and ensure high school readiness.
- **Support Mechanisms:** Enrichment blocks and Summer "Jump Up" or Catch Up" programs for students in need of intervention or showing potential to move up.

Both middle school starting points unlock advanced high school opportunities.



Grades 11 & 12

HS Math 1
(Standard)

AP Calculus (AB/BC)

HS Math 1
(Accelerated)

9th Grade

10th Grade

Integrated Math II Honors

AP Statistics

Data Science

By personalizing math experiences and offering multiple on-ramps to advanced learning, we ensure that all students get what they need, when they need it.



8th Grade Math Placement

Placement reflects demonstrated readiness for Algebra I concepts.

Readiness over Speed

To ensure all students receive specific instruction when they need it.

Multiple Measures

No single data point determines placement; we use a holistic view.

Rigorous Options.

Both standard and accelerated pathways give access to advanced high school math.

Flexible Pathways

These are not permanent "tracks." Movement is possible as student readiness develops.

The primary metric is the Spring Algebra Readiness Assessment.



Date

April 29 (Make-up:
May 1).



Format

Digital
(Chromebooks),
approximately 15
questions.



Duration

Up to 90 minutes.

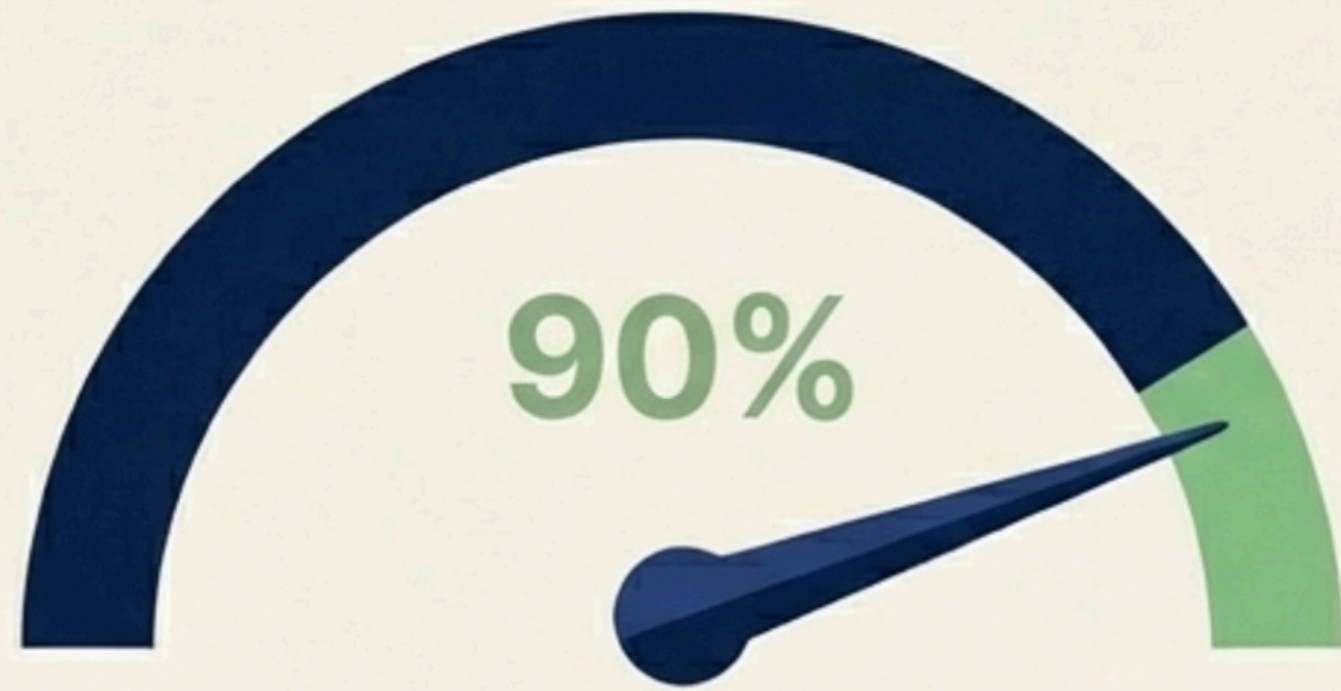


Focus

Measures conceptual
and procedural
readiness for Algebra I.

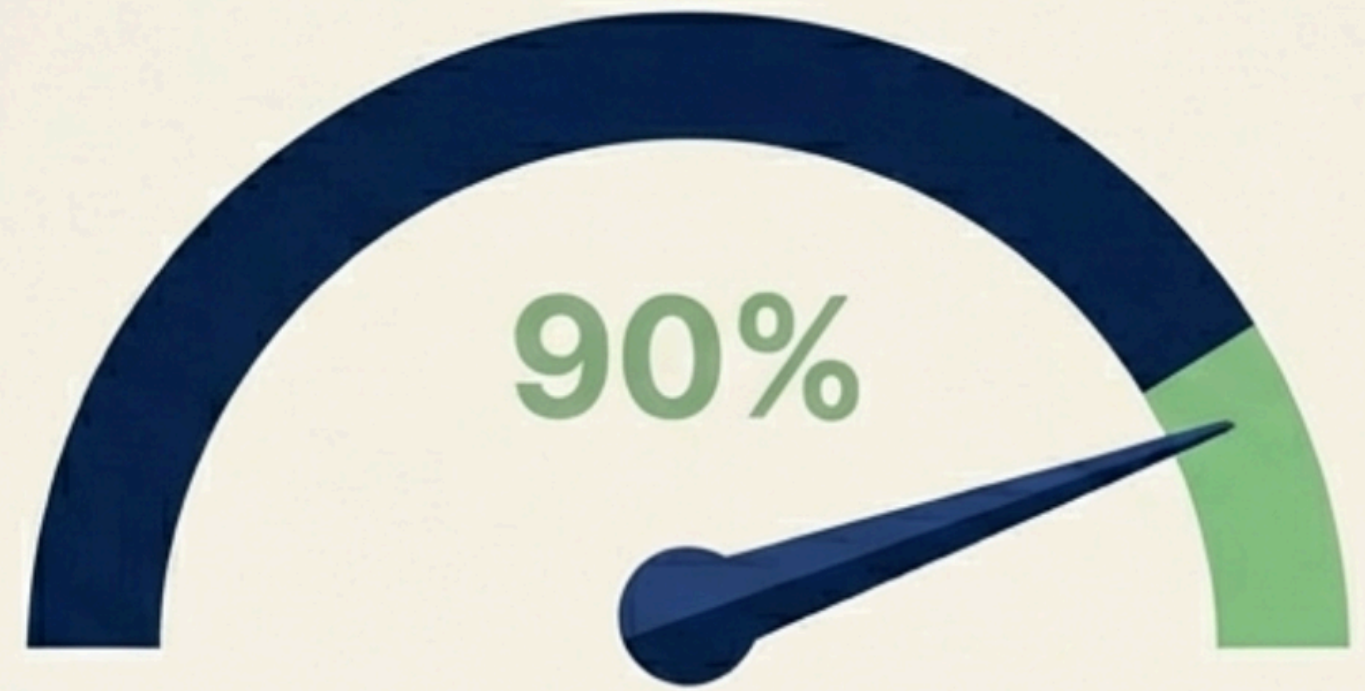
(Accommodations and
full support provided
for students with IEPs
or 504 plans).

Secondary metrics measure sustained performance over time.



STAR Math Assessment (Winter Administration Data)

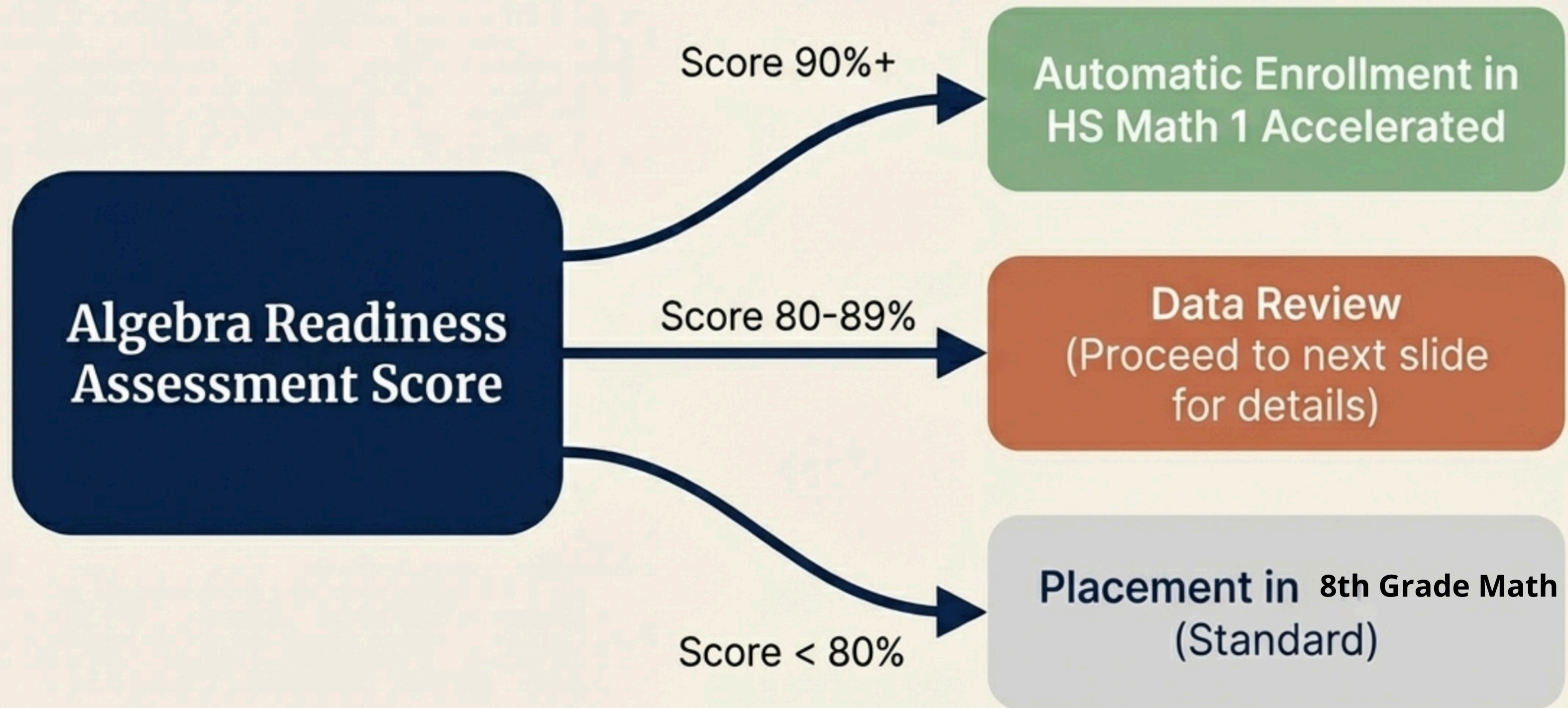
Requires 90% Domain Mastery. Assesses foundational skills and growth over time.



Amplify Desmos Assessments (End of Unit Performance)

Requires 90% Mastery. Average of unit assessments throughout the year, demonstrating consistent grasp of grade-level standards.

How the placement algorithm ensures consistent and equitable decisions.



The Review Zone acts as an automatic, built-in appeal.

80-89%
Data Review

STAR
90% Domain Mastery

Desmos
90% Unit Average

YES

Accelerated

NO

Standard



Why are there no external appeals?

- **Data Driven:** Placements rely on reliable indicators of readiness, ensuring students can successfully engage in course demands.
- **Readiness & Safety:** Accelerated math moves fast and demands strong problem-solving skills. We place students where they can thrive, not struggle.

Families have distinct choices regarding testing and placement.

Deadline: April 17

Option 1: Opt-Out of Assessment

Submit via Survey Form. Student is not tested and defaults to Math 8 (Fall 2026), then transitions to standard HS Math 1 as a 9th grader.

Deadline: After Early June Notification

Option 2: Opt-Out of Accelerated Placement

Scenario: Student qualifies for Accelerated, but the family prefers the Standard pace.

- **Result:** Decline the placement to enroll in Standard HS Math 1.

Key spring dates for the placement process.

March 10

Parent Info
Session.

April 29

Assessment
Day.

Early June

Placement
Notification.

April 17

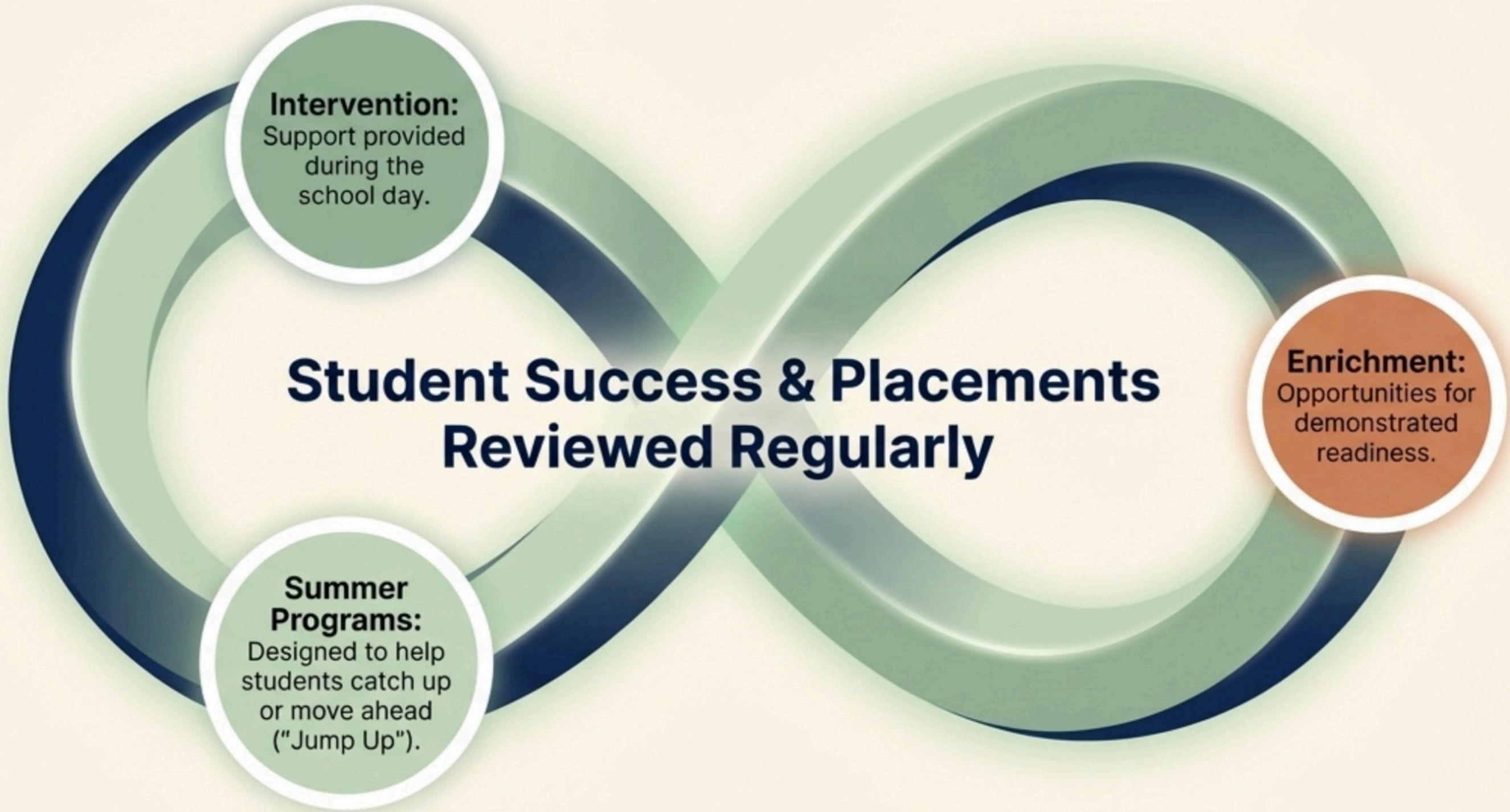
Opt-Out of
Assessment
Deadline.

May 6

Scores shared
with schools.



Placements are starting points, not permanent tracks.



Ensuring every student can thrive and reach their full potential.



Questions?