

District 39 Math Grades 5 - 8

In Wilmette, students are supported in their study of mathematics in many different ways. In every math class, teachers follow the district model of differentiation to meet the needs of each student. In order to provide the best possible instruction in mathematics for our students, HMS and WJHS offer several different classes that vary in pacing as well as the content taught. Below is a description of the math progression for grades 5-8.

Grade Five

All 5th grade students are taught math by one of the math teachers in their house. Some math classes are co-taught with a Learning Behavior Specialist (LBS). Math teachers use assessments, class assignments, and observations to plan lessons that target students' learning needs. For example, teachers may occasionally group students within a unit of study for a short period of time and regroup as needed. All 5th grade math teachers collaborate with the 5th Grade math specialist who supports teachers by sharing enriched lesson plans/resources so that students are challenged appropriately. The math specialist may also work with a group of students to enrich or extend learning.

Grade Six

Similarly, 6th grade students are taught math by one of the math teachers. Some math classes are co-taught with a Learning Behavior Specialist (LBS). Math teachers use assessments, class assignments, and observations to plan lessons that target students' learning needs. In addition, there is an accelerated math class offered to students who place into the accelerated math class as determined by three assessments:

- The CogAT (quantitative and nonverbal scores),
- 5th grade MAP Growth Assessment - Fall score
- 5th grade MAP Growth Assessment - Winter score

Accelerated math is a fast-paced, full year course taught by the accelerated math teacher. Curricular content addresses all 6th grade standards and some 7th grade standards.

Grade Seven

There are three math course offerings: Seventh grade math, Accelerated Seventh grade math, and the New Trier Township Program math class.

Seventh Grade Math: Math classes are taught by each team's math teacher, and may be co-taught by a team Learning Behavior Specialist. The teachers differentiate to meet all students' needs within the classrooms. Occasionally, based on pre- assessment data, students are grouped across teams and attend class for a period of time with math teachers and students from other teams.

Accelerated Seventh Grade Math: The curricular content of this course is the same as the seventh grade math class but expects students to dive deeper into these topics. Placement is based on students' success in the 6th grade accelerated math course. Additionally, students may be placed into this class periodically. During the seventh grade year, student progress is measured by MAP Growth assessment scores as well as their performance in math class.

New Trier Township Program: The Seventh Grade New Trier Township program is a fast-paced, inquiry based Algebra I class. All sixth graders are given the opportunity to qualify for New Trier Township program. This class takes place at the New Trier freshman campus.

Grade Eight

This grid briefly explains each of the classes open to grade eight students and the course your child will take at New Trier upon successfully completing the course at WJHS.

Class Name	Concepts and Instructional Approach	Grade 9 placement
Explorations in Algebra	This class focuses on a number of key algebraic concepts including linear functions, systems of equations and exponents. This course allows students to develop their understanding of these concepts which are essential for success in Algebra I freshman year.	Algebra I
Algebra I	This class focuses on all of the key Algebra I concepts including linear, exponential and quadratic functions, along with a unit on statistics. There will be a combination of guided instruction and independent work focused on abstract thinking. Students successfully completing Algebra I move to Geometry freshman year.	Geometry
Accelerated Algebra I	This course covers the same key concepts as the Algebra I class. Students construct concepts through investigation. A focus on application of concepts is emphasized. Students successfully completing Accelerated Algebra I move to Geometry freshman year.	Geometry
New Trier Township Math Program (Geometry)	This class is taught by New Trier staff at New Trier. This class covers key geometric concepts. Students must have taken Algebra I as a seventh grader to be eligible for this class.	Algebra II / Trigonometry

