

## Algebra Placement Policy for eighth graders

Mrs. Yen

This Algebra placement policy helps your child's math teacher to decide whether your child has been properly placed to the Algebra level and what level he or she may be placed next year. A student who is properly placed will feel happier and more confident and consequently learn better.

### Current level (Algebra):

Algebra at CMS is an accelerated math course. Students who fail to meet the following guidelines may be contacted individually and possibly recommended to move down to Algebra Readiness.

B or above in Q1: Getting an A or B is a norm for this level, so all students are expected to have at least a B in the first quarter. Getting C's or below in Q1 (Quarter 1) suggests that the student may not have enough essential math knowledge required to move on because Q1 math is mostly review of their previous level. Besides, because of the sequential nature of math curriculum, students who score C's or below in Q1 will be at risk to score D or F in the subsequent quarters and therefore may be disqualified for the Yosemite trip or may not be able to graduate. To help students be more successful in the subsequent math levels and more confident, we recommend that students who score C's or below in Q1 should move down to Algebra Readiness immediately.

SAM's testing score above 70%: SAM's Testing is usually given at the beginning of each year to evaluate each student's math level. The majority of successful Algebra students score above 70%.

### Next year's level: (adapted from the placement guidelines from Homestead High School)

**Geometry Enriched:** Students who earn an average grade of 90% (A-) or higher and score well on the Geometry placement tests at the end of the year may be recommended for Enriched Geometry as freshmen.

**Geometry:** Students will be placed in Geometry if their grade average is between C and B+ and their Geometry placement tests falls within a given range (set by the high school).

**Repeat Algebra:** Students who earn an average grade of C- or below and/or score low on the end of year placement test(s) may be recommended to repeat Algebra since all subsequent math (and science) courses depend on algebraic understanding.

**(Cut along dashed line and return the bottom part to Mrs. Yen)**

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(For 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra Parents)

Mrs. Yen

\*\*I have read the placement policy above, and understand that my child may be moved down to Algebra Readiness during the first quarter if their grade falls below a middle B and/or fail to score 70% or above on SAM's test. I also understand that my child may be recommended to repeat algebra in high school if his or her yearly math average falls below a low C. \_\_\_\_\_ (initial), Parent of

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