

## Algebra Readiness Placement Testing for Students in Grade 7 Math

Seventh grade level math students who are interested in taking high school algebra in eighth grade can register for the placement testing with Jolyn Murrin. She can be contacted at [jdmurrin@conroeisd.net](mailto:jdmurrin@conroeisd.net), or students can sign up in room A213. The deadline to register is **Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**

### Requirements to test:

Students are required to have 80% or above in math on their first semester report card and have passed the math STAAR in sixth grade.

### Preparation:

Preparation is neither recommended nor offered by CISD. The tests cover concepts the students should already know if algebra is the best placement for them.

### Test information:

The online Pre-Algebra Placement Exam window is the week of 2/21/16. Students will be pulled during the school day to test. They will have one hour to complete the exam and will not use a math formula chart or calculator. Students will be responsible to make up any work they miss.

### Scoring information:

Students who score 70% or above on the Pre-Algebra Readiness Exam will then be scheduled to take the Algebra Readiness Exam later the same week during the school day. This online test is also one hour without the use of any math formula chart or calculator.

Students who score 70% or higher on the Algebra Readiness Exam will have the option to be scheduled into algebra their eighth grade year. The students who opt to take algebra will be bypassing pre-algebra. When students opt into algebra, they are enrolled in high school algebra for high school credit and take the algebra STAAR EOC in the spring of their eighth grade year.

No retests will be offered.

Parents will be notified of their student's scores.

### Possible Alternative:

For students who make below 70% on either exam and are still interested in algebra for eighth grade, there may be the option to take an accelerated after-school math course. The after-school math course begins late April and runs through mid-July. Scheduling and pricing will be made available. The class could be cancelled dependent on how many students register. More information on the class will be emailed out as district releases it.

### Please be aware of the following aspects of bypassing pre-algebra:

- Students who bypass a level oftentimes see a decrease in their averages of at least a letter grade. Therefore, if making an A is the highest priority, then staying in level pre-algebra is probably best.
- Because the eighth grade algebra course is an advanced course for high school credit, students may have an increase in the amount of preparation required outside of class.
- Students who bypass pre-algebra do not receive direct instruction regarding pre-algebra topics, so extra effort may be required to master concepts due to gaps in learning.
- The students who are most successful at bypassing pre-algebra often have participated in a math study program outside of school, although it is not required.