

Strath Haven Middle School Math Course Descriptions

The curriculum for sixth grade Math is the U.S. edition of the top-rated Singapore math program, Math in Focus, which follows the pedagogical framework that includes emphasizing concept mastery, a concrete-to-pictorial-to-abstract approach, metacognitive reasoning and the use of model drawing to solve and justify problems. Math in Focus is a mastery program aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) that focuses on the following ideals in order to promote student success: a focused and coherent syllabus which allows fewer topics in each grade taught to greater depth; a visual and balanced approach that follows the concrete-to-pictorial-to-abstract progression; a focus on numbers and operations throughout the series which ensures that students develop and maintain a strong number sense; an emphasis on problem solving using model-drawing which utilizes strategies for solving routine and non-routine problems; and the recognition of the importance of attitudes and the ability to self-monitor while problem solving to achieve success in math. Math in Focus provides students with the tools they need to break down complex concepts and problems, which in turn develops positive attitudes. Entering middle school students have been placed into Math 6, Enriched Math 6 or Accelerated Math 6/7. Math 6 and Enriched Math 6 cover the same 6th grade mathematical topics while offering students opportunities to apply and extend their thinking throughout the year.

6th grade SHMS Math Courses

Math 6 - Students in a Math 6 class progress at a pace that provides appropriate opportunities for repeated practice and reinforcement of skills and concepts. Students in this class have an option for their assessments. Students in this class also have an option to complete the Enrichment Packet (which is required and graded in the Enriched class) This Challenge by Choice program allows students to choose an assessment/assignments that most meets their educational needs. When a student chooses Green Circle or Black Diamond, it will be noted in the portal. The Challenge by Choice are three levels:

- **Green Circle:** This level of assessment provides the most support on a given assignment.
- **Blue Square:** This level of assessment is the grade-level assignment. **Blue square will not be noted in the portal since it is meeting the grade level expectation.
- **Black Diamond:** This level assessment is the challenge level. These assessments will truly challenge you to use the skills that have been taught, but are doable for any given student. All students are encouraged to try black diamond assessments. A student in Math 6 who wants to place into our Enriched Level class, should take these assessments.

Enriched Math 6 - Students in an Enriched Math 6 class progress at a pace which provides a range of higher-challenge opportunities in addition to the same core skills and concepts taught in Math 6. Students in this class must take the Black Diamond Assessments and complete the required Chapter Enrichment Packets.

Accelerated Math 6.7 - Accelerated Math 6.7 will cover all of the same mathematical topics taught in Enriched Math 6. In addition, students will be exposed to selected chapters of 7th grade Math in Focus. This class is designed to meet the needs of our highest performing math students through an accelerated pace, a range of higher challenge opportunities and an in-depth study of the core concepts. Students in this class must take the Accelerated Assessments and complete the required Chapter Enrichment Packets.