Oak Park Elementary School District 97

260 Madison Oak Park Illinois 60302 ph: 708.524.3000 fax: 708.524.3030 www.op97.org

January 23, 2023

Dear District 97 5th-7th Grade Families,

Our district's vision is to create a positive learning environment for all District 97 students that is equitable, inclusive, and focused on the whole child. One of our goals is for **every student to have access and the opportunity to learn at high levels, with learning outcomes not dependent upon race, gender or socioeconomic status**. As District 97 continues our commitment to equity, the Middle School Math Enrichment program will be offered to all students in grades 5-7 to ensure a pathway to Algebra I/Integrated Math I by 8th grade.

Middle School Math Enrichment Program 2023

Math Enrichment Bridge Courses for Acceleration

Students in grades 5-7 who are interested will receive the opportunity to learn course content to advance to the next level of math instruction.

All bridge courses for acceleration will begin in **Trimester 3 (March 9 - June 9)** and continue during the **summer (June 13 - June 30 (M-F) 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. or 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., location TBD). THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES ON JUNE 19**. During Trimester 3, 6th and 7th grade students will participate in the bridge course during the school day based on the established schedule at Brooks and Julian. The virtual session on Saturdays will not be offered this year due to low enrollment last year. Fifth grade students will be provided this course at their home school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Transportation will be provided during Trimester 3 only for 5th grade students. All students in grades 5-7 who participate in a Trimester 3 bridge course for acceleration must commit to continuing their learning during the summer in order to conclude course content and take the end of course exam in person on Friday, June 30, 2023.

Consistent bridge course attendance during Trimester 3 and summer sessions is essential for your student's success. However, we understand the 95% attendance expectation posed a challenge for some families last year. This year, we are incorporating an attendance expectation of 80% for all bridge courses. We expect students to arrive and depart on time every day, and that families will inform the teacher if an unexpected illness or issue arises which impacts their attendance. Attendance will not prevent a student from taking the end of course exam.

Independent Study is offered to current 6th and 7th grade students who are unable to participate in the Trimester 3 and summer bridge course. A course outline will be provided to students enrolled in Independent Study. Mathematics resources will not be provided by District 97. Independent Study is not available for 5th grade students as it is important that students transitioning into middle school receive direct instruction from District 97 staff, are exposed to the District 97 mathematics curriculum, and follow the scope and sequence outlined for the Math 6 Bridge Course for Acceleration. The following two in-person testing dates will be held for Independent Study students: Friday, June 30, 2023 (location and time TBD) OR Friday, July 14, 2023 (for

Independent Study students ONLY) at 9 a.m. at District 97's District Office located at 260 Madison Street. Independent Study students must be able to attend one of the testing dates.

Students (bridge course or Independent Study participants) who score 80% or higher on the end of course exam and participate in the 2023 Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) in English Language Arts/Literacy and mathematics will advance to the next level of mathematics for the next school year. The IAR is a state-mandated assessment that determines whether or not a child has mastered grade level standards. This metric is critically important in determining academic performance for all students, particularly in the area of mathematics. In order to begin to phase in IAR as a component of math acceleration, mandated participation (not performance) will be implemented this year. In subsequent years, a performance requirement will be added. IAR performance will inform, but not dictate math course placement.

2023 Math Enrichment Bridge Courses for Acceleration (Trimester 3 and summer)	
Math 6 Bridge Course for Acceleration	Current 5th grade students ● Test into Math 7
Math 7 Bridge Course for Acceleration	Current Math 6 students ● Test into Math 8
Math 8 Bridge Course for Acceleration	Current Math 7 students ● Test into Algebra I/Integrated Math I

Summer Math Review Courses

Students in grades 5-7 who are interested will receive a review of course content from the previous school year.

Review courses will be offered to all students in grades 5-7 during the summer only to provide opportunities for students to review grade level Illinois Learning Standards in mathematics and engage in challenging performance tasks. Summer math review courses will be offered **(June 13 - June 30 (M-F) 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. or 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., location TBD). THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES ON JUNE 19**.

2023 Summer Math Review Courses	
Introduction to Middle School Math	Current 5th grade students
Math 6 Review	Current 6th grade students
Math 7 Review	Current 7th grade students

Middle School Math Enrichment Course Selection Suggestions for Families

Please review the Middle School Math Enrichment Course Descriptions to assist with determining the appropriate course for your student. The course descriptions will provide additional information regarding course content for all bridge and review courses.

Middle School Math Enrichment Registration

Cost	**<u>Bridge Courses for Acceleration</u> - $150.00** ● Registration will open on **Wednesday, January 25, 2023** ● The registration fee includes a **$25 non-refundable** registration fee ● Scholarships are automatically applied for students currently participating in the free or reduced lunch program. Three forms will be available on the website. Please complete the form that correlates with your student's current lunch status. You may pay the registration fee with a credit card after completing the registration form on the district website here. ○ Families experiencing economic hardship may contact their building principal to request a registration fee waiver. *** Registration will close and payment is due on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. *** **<u>Independent Study</u> (current 6th-7th grade students only) - No Registration Fee** ● Registration will open on **Wednesday, January 25, 2023** ● You may register for Independent Study on the district website here. *** Registration will close on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. *** **<u>Summer Math Review Courses</u> - $45.00** ● Registration will open on **Monday, February 27, 2023** ● The registration fee includes a **$15 non-refundable** registration fee ● Scholarships are automatically applied for students currently participating in the free or reduced lunch program. Three forms will be available on the website. Please complete the form that correlates with your student's current lunch status. You may pay the registration fee with a credit card after completing the registration form on the district website here. ○ Families experiencing economic hardship may contact their building principal to request a registration fee waiver. *** Registration will close and payment is due on Monday, April 24, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. ***
5th Grade Transportation (Trimester 3)	Transportation will be provided during Trimester 3 only for 5th grade students who participate in the Math 6 Bridge Course for Acceleration after school. **Transportation will <u>not</u> be provided for 5th grade students during the summer.**
5th Grade Snack (Trimester 3)	District 97 will provide a healthy snack to students who participate in the Math 6 Bridge Course for Acceleration.
Registration Contact	If you need assistance with the registration process, please contact Dana Aviles in the Teaching and Learning Department at daviles@op97.org.

5th - 7th Grade Middle School Mathematics Family Information Session

A virtual family session will be held on Tuesday, February 7 at 6 p.m. to share more details on the Middle School Math Enrichment program and information about the Middle School Math Course Framework and pathways for math acceleration. If interested in attending this session, please register by **Tuesday, January 31** using this link.

2023-2024 Mathematics Acceleration Pathways and Mathematics Placement Communication

Bridge courses for acceleration are offered to students as one of two pathways to Algebra I/Integrated Math I by eighth grade. You may access the charts that include the two pathways students in grades 5-7 may select to be considered for acceleration in the area of mathematics here.

Brooks and Julian will communicate mathematics placement for the 2023-2024 school year to families in July. Please contact April Capuder, Brooks Middle School principal at acapuder@op97.org or Jeremy Christian, Julian Middle School principal at jchristian@op97.org if you have questions regarding your student's math placement.

Important Dates to Remember

Bridge Course for Acceleration (Trimester 3 and Summer)	**Dates**
Registration for the Bridge Course for Acceleration - Opens	Wednesday, January 25, 2023
Registration for the Bridge Course for Acceleration - Closes and Payment Due	Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Trimester 3 Session - Begins	Thursday, March 9, 2023
Trimester 3 Session - Ends	Friday, June 9, 2023
Summer Session - Begins	Tuesday, June 13, 2023
Summer Session - Ends	Friday, June 30, 2023
End-of-Course Exam	Friday, June 30, 2023

Independent Study	**Dates**
Registration for the Independent Study Course - Opens	Wednesday, January 25, 2023
Registration for the Independent Study Course - Closes	Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Independent Study - Begins	Thursday, March 9, 2023
Independent Study - Ends	Friday, June 30, 2023
End-of Course Exam	Friday, June 30, 2023 OR Friday, July 14, 2023 (for Independent Study students ONLY)

Summer Math Review Course	Dates
Registration for the Summer Math Review Course - Opens	Monday, February 27, 2023
Registration for the Summer Math Review Course - Closes and Payment Due	Monday, April 24, 2023
Summer Session - Begins	Tuesday, June 13, 2023
Summer Session - Ends	Friday, June 30, 2023

Thank you in advance for your continued partnership and cooperation. Please contact me at tlawrence@op97.org if you have questions regarding the Middle School Math Enrichment Program.

Sincerely,



Tawanda Lawrence, Ed.D.
Senior Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment