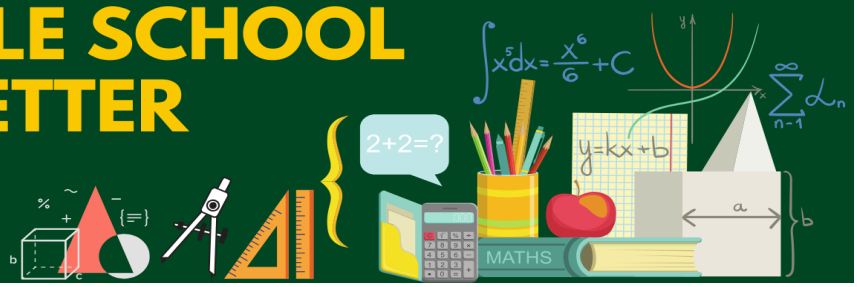
NELSON MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH NEWSLETTER



May 7, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The countdown to summer is underway. In the coming days, students will be preparing to take their end-of-year Standards of Learning (SOL) tests. Please help us encourage your student to study and prepare for their math SOL test to the best of their ability. Updates have been made to the Code of Virginia (§ 22.1-207.9) that may impact future middle school accelerated math course placement. The updated code shares pathways to enrollment in advanced and accelerated math courses. Nelson County Middle School offers three pathways:

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade
Pathway 1	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	Foundations, Algebra 1 Part 1&2, or Semester Algebra 1
Pathway 2	Math 6	Advanced Math 7	Algebra 1	Algebra 2
Pathway 3	Advanced Math 6	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2
* Please note that if a student earns a 430 or less on their Math 5, Math 6, or Math 7 SOL, they will be enrolled in Math Plus the following school year in order to help enhance foundational math and problem-solving skills.				

Accelerated and advanced math courses are more rigorous. Instruction moves at a faster pace, there is more content to cover, and a deeper level of reasoning and problem-solving is required. Students are expected to engage in class, actively participate, ask questions, and provide consistent effort. In addition, they will be expected to study outside of school hours and complete homework. It is important for students to understand the expectations of these courses so that they can build a solid mathematical foundation. Students who experience success often take accelerated math courses in order to ensure that they can take advanced course options in high school such as AP Statistics, AP Precalculus, or AP Calculus AB. Current secondary math course offerings can be found on our website at https://www.nelson.k12.va.us/ so you can begin discussing long-term goals with your student.

At the end of each school year, teachers make recommendations and placement decisions based off of cumulative SOL scores, STAR test results, class grades, unit assessments, teacher observations, and benchmark scores.

Please select one of the following options for your student and sign the bottom of this form. Please return this form to your math teacher no later than Friday, May 15, 2026.

_____ **Option 1:** I would like my child to be placed in a math course based upon student academic performance and teacher recommendation.

_____ **Option 2:** I would like to be contacted prior to my child being placed in a math course.

Parent Name (Printed): _____ **Contact Number:** _____

Student Name (Printed): _____ **Parent Signature:** _____

Nelson County Middle School is committed to student success, and helping students reach their long-term math goals. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Madalyn D. Bell

Madalyn D. Bell
Secondary Math Coach

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