

Marsha DeGennaro <mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org>

Fwd: [External Email] path to calculus (clarification)

1 message

Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 3:46 PM

To: Marsha DeGennaro <mdegennaro@woodbridgeps.org>, Vonda Tencza <vtencza@woodbridgeps.org>

FYI

To be included in Correspondence for November's Board meeting.

L.

------ Forwarded message ------From: Hall, John <john.hall@yale.edu>
Date: Wed, Oct 18, 2023 at 2:15 PM

Subject: [External Email] path to calculus (clarification)

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Dear Woodbridge BOE members,

Thanks so much for the opportunity to address the board on Monday. It's clear that you are taking our concerns seriously, and we are very hopeful that a solution will be found.

I'm writing today because during the curriculum section of the meeting it was stated that "students need to be ready to take algebra in 9th grade so that they can take calculus in 12th grade". This is incorrect. The sequence is Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, so a student would normally need to take algebra in 8th grade if they are going to be able to take calculus at all in high school. There are two possible exceptions:

- 1. Amity High School offers a summer geometry course for students who took 9th grade algebra, and successful completion of this course would make them eligible to take algebra 2 in 10th grade.
- 2. On rare occasions AHS allows students to take two math courses in one year. I'm only aware of this happening in cases where the student was already advanced, for example our daughter was approved to take both geometry and algebra 2 in 9th grade, but it may be that this is allowed in 10th if the student has done very well in 9th grade algebra.

Just wanted to clear that up in case there was confusion.

John

John Hall, PhD
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