



O'Keeffe PTG Meeting - Minutes

Wednesday March 11th from 6-7:30pm

O'Keeffe Middle School Library, 2nd Floor

510 S. Thornton Ave (enter at corner of Thornton & Spaight Streets)

Email: okeeffeptg@gmail.com Web: www.okeeffeptg.com

All O'Keeffe families and staff are welcome at the O'Keeffe PTG Meetings, and they are open to the public. Please note that **agenda items in bold** may be voted on. Have something you want on the agenda to discuss? Please let us know! You can be there to lead the discussion, or just bring up the topic, or even submit anonymously.

- **Welcome and introductions** - 15 in attendance

- **Principal's update** - O'Keeffe has been planning and building on their work through this year and into 2021. Building on 3 areas: relationships, rigor and race. Met w/incoming superintendent and is excited for his leadership and how his team will come together to enact the district's vision. Overall our school is doing well and is a good place to be, starting to see results and how students and staff are enjoying their year. Conducting family interviews to get a feel for their experience. - How are we handling the incoming wave of Coronavirus? Hand washing and contact discouraged. All levels are in a state of: watch and wait, see what rules and recommendations are handed down. Top Chef is coming up.

- Note from Assistant Principal Emily Koch that Principal Dugas has been repeatedly held up and recognized as an example and a leader in taking a school in a new direction!

-**Thank you shout outs** - again - Maria Banchik, Grant Samuelsen & Lisa Nielson Agnew who pitched in to get O'Keeffe a piano (OK, a clavinova)! It has been a great teaching tool. Chocolate Shoppe has now made the ice cream for our socials FREE!

- **Updates** -volunteers needed for spring events (Arts & Words, Top Chef, O'Keeffe Wear)

- **Discussion of Compacted Math** - this item was added to the agenda 5 days before the meeting with the following questions: how does staff handle class placement, what is the program, how are students placed into this class, and what are the implications of this for their upcoming math class choices in 8th grade and beyond. Should this be more transparent? Does this unintentionally create tracking? Should 6th grade parents/guardians have some information on this, and subsequently some say in where their student is placed?

O'Keeffe staff Shelly Nelson (advanced learning curriculum) and Paul Chotlos (counselor) attended the meeting to present on this and answer questions. Their materials are attached.

The current math curriculum (CPM) brought about this option for a compacted sequence for 6-8th grade math and which then allows Algebra 1 to be taught in 8th grade. With the CPM curriculum, some students jumped from 7th grade math to Algebra 1 in 8th grade without this compacted sequence, but they needed some of the 8th grade concepts and content for Algebra. So O'Keeffe added compacted math 2 years ago to address this. (2018/19 school year) The program is designed to better prepare students for Algebra in 8th grade. It uses 2 years of math class (6 & 7th grade) to teach 3 years of math and have students prepared for Algebra in 8th grade.

Overview - this is a newer program that the staff has been adjusting to fit student needs and to allow all students to perform at their highest levels. Important changes have been making this an additional piece of math intervention times in 6th grade, not a separate class, and also better communication with parents so everyone understands the program and placement. Staff is working to bring this into the 7th grade math class in the upcoming school year.

- All O'Keeffe students should have their best math experience and be pulled to their highest success levels.

Algebra is not right for all students, and they need to make sure students will succeed if they are in it in 8th grade.

- Placement is done by staff and is based upon: fall & winter MAPS scores & 5th grade teacher recommendation.

In 2019/2020 O'Keeffe added option to move into 7th grade compacted math if recommended by a teacher.

- Communication with families is now a focus and there was an acknowledgement that there was a gap when



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O'Keeffe staff assumed elementary schools were providing this information and they were not. Need to incorporate this into incoming student information. For those that are recommended for this in 6th grade, there is now a requirement to acknowledge and accept that this is an accelerated path. For 7th grade, teachers have until the end of March to recommend any changes and the student/family have final say.

- Paths for jumping to Compacted Math are by teacher recommendation and then initial placement in 6th grade, opt in for 7th grade with the 7A summer bridge course, opt into 8th grade Algebra 1 with the summer bridge course. Summer school is by invite only, what if your student is not invited? Those students who want to opt into compacted math or Algebra without the summer bridge course can do so with an independent work, course or tutor and the school has self-study plans available as well.

- How does this affect our students' math choices in high school? Are they excluded from highest level math if they are not in Algebra 1 in 8th grade? See attached math flow chart - there is a path to all the math courses.

- Comments - Request for better communication on 6th grade sign up options for language, music, etc. How can we support students who want to take Algebra 1, but are not in compacted math and don't have the schedule or opportunity for summer school?

- **Incoming 6th Grade Parent Info Night** - 4/15/20 7-8pm Should have a PTG table & O'Keeffe wear. Jen Conti volunteered to work with Liz Amundsen to take over the O'Keeffe wear management. (yay!)

- Should we allow **links to/from the O'Keeffe PTG website** at: <https://okeeffeptg.com> We were approached by an outside mental health facility about adding them as a resource link to our site. We decided to decline and leave any outside and for profit resources to be promoted through MMSD as they deem appropriate.

- Will **Moving Madison Metro stops** to potentially eliminate the stop at Rogers and Willy affect us? It does not. Our buses come right to the school and the stop on the far side of the river is still effective and safe.

Calendar of PTG Events:

Tues	March 24th	Arts and Words - 2:30 - 5 pm
Tues	April 7th	Bake Sale Spring Elections / Presidential Primary
Weds	April 8th	PTG Meeting
Weds	April 15th	Incoming 6th Grade Parent Information Night 7 pm
Thurs	April 23rd	Top Chef
	May TBD	Teacher Appreciation Week
Tues	May 5th	Choir concert - all grades - ice cream social - 7 pm
Weds	May 6th	PTG Meeting
Weds	May 13th	Band concert - all grades - ice cream social - 7 pm
Weds	May 20th	Strings concert - all grades - ice cream social - 7 pm
	June TBD	8th grade Graduation and Dance

Frequently Asked Questions about Math - O’Keeffe

1. What math classes are available at O’Keeffe?

There are two main math sequences at the middle school level:

	Traditional	Compacted
6th grade	6th grade math	6/7a math
7th grade	7th grade math	7b/8 math
8th grade	8th grade math	Algebra

2. What is the Compacted Math class/program, when was it created and why?

- a. Compacted Math is a math curriculum that compacts 3 years of math (6th, 7th, 8th) into 2 school years (6th & 7th). This compaction allows students to take Algebra as 8th graders **and not miss any middle school math content.**
- b. It was created by the MMSD Math Department.
- c. Historically, due to parental preference, students have been allowed to self select taking algebra in 8th grade *even though they hadn’t completed 8th grade math*. This results in gaps in their math knowledge causing the algebra teacher to have to fill in those gaps in addition to teaching algebra. Approximately 6 years ago, the district adopted a new middle school curriculum (CPM) and at the same time, introduced the compacted sequence to remedy this issue of students skipping 8th grade math.
- d. O’Keeffe is in its second year of having the compacted math sequence. In the first year (2018-2019), the 6th grade compacted math class was a stand alone class. In the second year we went to a model created at Toki called 7a Access. In this model, all 6th grade students are grouped together for 6th grade math content for most of quarter 1. Approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way into quarter one, 6th grade math teachers make a determination regarding what students are ready to start accessing 7th grade math in addition to 6th grade math. Those students will receive 7th grade math during a math intervention time. (See FAQ #3 for more information on what data is used to make the determination.)

3. How are students placed in compacted math?

- a. The data used to determine placement in compacted math comes from the MMSD Math Department. Individual schools can also add their own lens to this data. The data the past 2 years from the math department has been: fall MAP scores, winter MAP scores, i-Ready diagnostic scores and 5th grade teacher recommendation. I also added in elementary ALS recommendation.
- b. The MMSD Math Department is changing the data criteria for next year’s placement. The data being used for next year is: fall MAP scores, spring MAP scores, semester 1 report cards, end of 5th grade math assessment (CGA) and teacher recommendation.

4. What information is given to students/families about compacted placement and when?

5. Is there fluidity between the traditional sequence and the compacted sequence? Is there movement between these 2 sequences during the school year?
- Students that took 6th grade math as a 6th grader and want to be in 7b/8 in 7th grade can take a 7a summer school bridge course. This course covers the 7th grade content they need to know before transitioning into 7b/8.
 - Students who took 7th grade math as a 7th grader and want to be in algebra their 8th grade year can take a math 8 summer course that covers the most important areas in 8th grade math so that they will be less behind entering algebra in 8th grade.
 - Paul Chotlos gathers data from 6th and 7th grade math teachers about candidates for summer bridge courses and then gives that info to the summer school office. Those students will then get summer school letters inviting them to the bridge course. Families/students can also contact Paul directly if they are interested in a bridge course so that he can refer them to the summer school office.
 - Movement during the school year: there is very little. As we progress throughout the year, it gets harder and harder to transition because the student will have missed content and will be behind. For 6th grade this year: 2 students moved from 6/7a compacted to straight 6th grade math and one student was added into 6/7a.

6. How much crossover is there between compacted math students and traditional math students in their other classes?

With the 7a Access compacted model, there is considerable crossover. This is the reason we switched to the 7a Access model.

7. What percentage of students are in compacted vs. regular math. What is the current demographic make up of the 2 math sequences? What is the demand for compacted math? What percentage of students in regular math transition to Algebra in 8th grade?

- 40% of 6th graders are in compacted math
- Demand for compacted math is fairly high - it's been an ongoing conversation to balance demand with capacity
- Currently almost all of our 8th grade algebra students came from the traditional sequence. We will not see compacted students in Algebra until next year.
- Compacted math demographics for 6th grade in the 2019-2020 school year:
 - 41.5% students of color
 - 58.5% white students
 - 47.2% male students
 - 52.8% female students
- O'Keeffe demographics for the whole school:
 - 54% students of color
 - 46% white students
 - 50% male students
 - 50% female students

MATHEMATICS

