Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your son/daughter has been identified for Grade 7 Accelerated Mathematics or Grade 8 Accelerated Mathematics based on the following criteria:

* 1st semester mathematics classroom grade\*
* Fall and/or Winter math benchmark assessment score through STAR

If your child chooses to be a part of the Grade 7 or Grade 8 Accelerated Mathematics class next year, he/she will be learning the same material as other Mathematics courses, but in greater depth and at a faster, more challenging pace. Grade 7 Accelerated Mathematics and Grade 8 Accelerated Mathematics are compacted courses, which means that the curriculum compresses mathematics standards from two or more courses (Grade 7 Math, Grade 8 Math, and Algebra I with Probability) into a single course. The advanced middle school courses are intended to be a preparation for higher-level high school classes (i.e., Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, etc.) and to give students the opportunity to experience a more challenging curriculum before the transition to high school.

A student must successfully pass Grade 7 Accelerated Math in order to take Grade 8 Accelerated Math. Additionally, students who successfully complete both Grade 7 Accelerated Math and Grade 8 Accelerated Math will be prepared to enter Geometry with Data Analysisin Grade 9 and with adequate progress can then accelerate directly into Algebra II with Statistics in Grade 10, thus providing them with an opportunity to take additional, specialized mathematics coursework in Grades 11 and 12. A student (and his or her parent) who decides to accelerate directly into Algebra II with Statistics (bypassing Algebra I with Probability) will not earn a math credit for Algebra I with Probability and will be required to earn four math credits to satisfy the Alabama diploma requirements, thus taking two additional courses beyond Algebra II with Statistics. A student who has completed Grade 7 Accelerated and Grade 8 Accelerated Math (and his or her parent) may elect to take the Algebra I with Probability at the high school.

Students enrolled in advanced courses must recognize and understand that they will be responsible for extended academic responsibilities and expectations, which may include a more challenging workload as well as additional skill mastery and problem-solving assignments inside and outside of class. Though students making the transition to advanced classes sometimes find they earn a lower classroom grade than they have in the past, the content and strategies they pursue in advanced coursework will better prepare them for success in their high school and college-level studies. A commitment to the course and its depth of content, along with good time management and study skills, is essential to your child’s success. **Once your child has committed to the advanced class, schedule changes should not be expected.** If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gambino, the 7th Grade Counselor, at [mgambino@bcbe.org](mailto:mgambino@bcbe.org) or 928-2573 or the Department of Secondary Curriculum at 972-8525.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Angie Hall

Fairhope Middle School Principal

**Please sign below and return to your child’s Homeroom Teacher by April 6, 2023.**

I have read the above letter and understand the expectations for middle school Accelerated Mathematics courses. I am requesting that my child be enrolled in this class.

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**Parent’s Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature**

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**Student Signature**

*\*If the student’s grade falls to a D or an F by the end of the school year, then taking the advanced class will not be recommended. The student will be placed in a standard class unless the parent completes and returns the “Request to Enroll” form that is located at* [*www.bcbe.org*](http://www.bcbe.org)*. Parents should contact their child’s middle school to find out the date this form is due.*