

# The Overlake School

## Math Dept. Program Overview

In 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students of all levels work together in a differentiated math classroom as a single community. Tracking begins in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, when students enter a traditional high school mathematics sequence (Algebra to Precalculus). After finishing Precalculus, students will have the opportunity to study Calculus at either a high school or AP (college) level.

### Middle School Tracking

At the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, an Overlake student is evaluated based upon their potential for success in an accelerated sequence in the middle school, and is then placed into either a 2 year Algebra sequence or a 2 year Algebra/Geometry sequence. Students who finish Geometry in 8<sup>th</sup> grade enter Algebra 2 in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who finish Algebra 1b in 8<sup>th</sup> grade enter Geometry in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Upper School Honors and AP Courses

In upper school, honors courses are offered in Geometry, Algebra 2, and Precalculus, and AP courses are offered in Calculus. They are intended for students who show special interest and aptitude in math. To earn a recommendation for honors or AP courses students must demonstrate the ability to master concepts quickly, be independent learners, and earn top grades in prerequisite courses.

### Senior Courses / Calculus

While seniors are not required to take a math class to graduate, 100% of the class of 2015 is taking a math or computer science course in their senior year. Over 90% of the class of 2015 will have completed at least one calculus course when they graduate from Overlake. Students who do not take calculus their senior year generally take AP Computer Science, AP Statistics, or Precalculus as their terminal math course.

### Upper School Electives

The department offers five electives---three in computer science and two in statistics---in the upper school. Learning to Program, a one-semester introductory programming course, is open to all students. The year-long AP courses require Algebra 2, and the post-AP classes are semester-long.

