

**GBMS Gifted and Talented Program:
Advanced Math
(Updated 2025)**

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) refers to specialized programs and services designed to meet the unique academic, social, and emotional needs of students who demonstrate exceptional abilities or potential in one or more areas. These students may show advanced skills in intellectual abilities, creativity, leadership, or specific subjects such as mathematics, language arts, or science. In particular, the middle school Advanced Math Program within the GATE framework is tailored to nurture students with a strong aptitude for mathematical reasoning, problem-solving, and abstract thinking.

Students selected for GATE Math entering Grade 5 are placed on a course sequence that culminates in Geometry in Grade 8. Students selected for GATE Math entering Grade 6 are placed on a course sequence that culminates in Algebra in Grade 8. These are rigorous math sequences and the GATE Math program aims to provide academic enrichment opportunities and challenges that allow identified students to deepen their understanding of mathematical concepts, explore advanced topics beyond the standard curriculum, and enhance their analytical and critical thinking abilities.

To identify students who demonstrate the skills and readiness for the challenges of advanced math, a clear set of eligibility criteria is used. These criteria are designed to recognize students who show exceptional potential in mathematics and possess the ability to engage with advanced mathematical concepts. The following outlines the eligibility requirements for students wishing to participate in the GATE Math Program.

Identification Process and Criteria:

In April of each school year, students in Grades 4 and 5 are eligible to participate in the GATE Math assessment process. Teachers will recommend students based on their performance on math assessments over all three marking periods of that school year. Parents may also request that their child participate in the GATE assessment process. GATE testing is completed during the school day across 2 sessions.

Admission is based on the following criteria:

- CogAT standard score of 130 or greater
- Spring NWEA MAP Math score at the 90th percentile or greater
- District-developed math assessment score of 90% or higher

Final Determination:

A multidisciplinary committee carefully reviews all relevant information to make the final determination. The committee consists of the building Principal, a Mathematics teacher, Supervisor of Teaching and Learning, and the Director of Student Services and other GBMS staff members, as needed. In making their decision, the committee also takes into account teacher input, which includes observations of student characteristics as defined by the National Association for Gifted Children.

Continuation Criteria:

Students who meet the criteria for GATE Math in Grade 5 or Grade 6 will remain on the advanced math track so long as they meet the following criteria:

- NWEA MAP scores within the 90th percentile in Math
- Keep up with classroom work/expectations and maintain at least an 80% average on assessments
- Maintain appropriate learning behavior in order to maintain the pace of an accelerated curriculum by:
 - Demonstrating independence
 - Remaining on-task during independent work and following classroom directions
 - Consistently completing homework and classwork on time

Students who are new to GBMS:

Students new to Green Brook Middle School who missed the initial screening window have the opportunity to be screened during the academic year in which they transfer to us.

GBMS Math Course Overview for 2025-26:

