



# Summit Hill School District 161

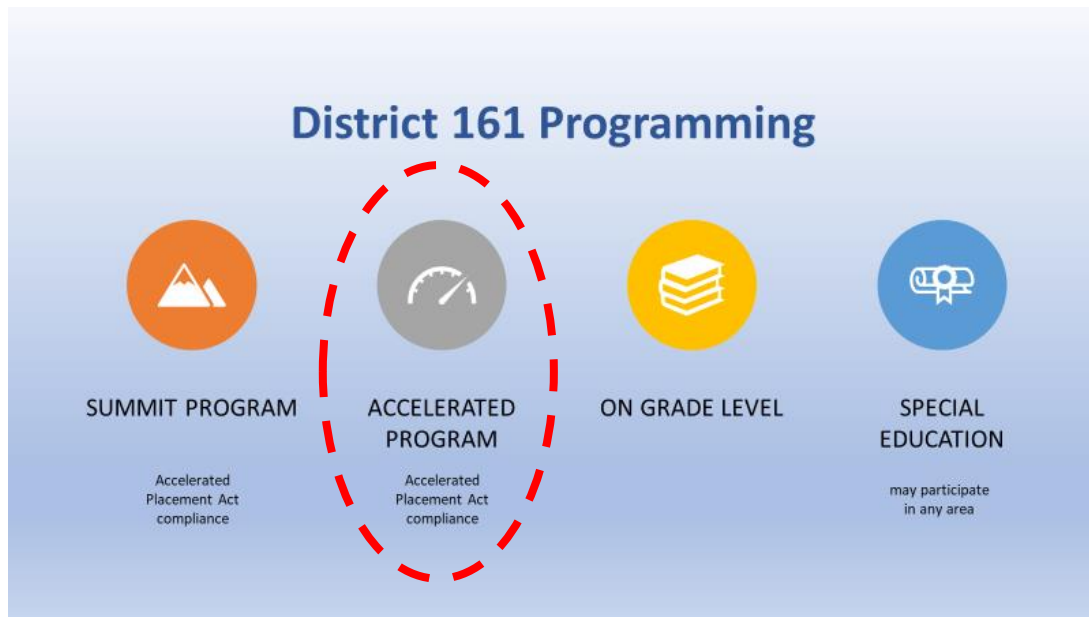
## Accelerated Program

Beginning 2019-2020 in  
grades 5-8 for ELA and Math

4.3.2019  
5.25.2022

Accelerated Programming is available for qualifying students in grades 5-8 for ELA and Math.

### Available Programs



### Program Mission

- ▶ Summit Hill School District 161 wishes to provide an accelerated curriculum option in Mathematics and English Language Arts in grades 5-8. This program will be as inclusive as possible to increase the overall percentage of students exposed to advanced content and academic rigor by the time they complete eighth grade. We strive to provide flexible and innovative teaching and learning environments where students have the opportunity to probe deeper into the content of the curriculum, experience different processes of learning, and create projects to encourage exploration and experimentation at appropriate levels.

### Program Vision

- ▶ Provide an opportunity for advancement to meet the requirement of the Accelerated Placement Act and Board of Education policy.
- ▶ Mathematics: Increase the percentage of students successfully completing our Foundations of Algebra course in eighth grade so they have the necessary skills for Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 1 in high school.
- ▶ English Language Arts: Increase academic rigor as students transition into English 1 or Honors English 1. The writing and grammar expectations increase in this course.

## **5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Identification Process**

- ▶ The intent of the screening procedure is to identify students who demonstrate a high level of performance, but do not necessarily meet the criteria for the Summit Program.
- ▶ Students will be identified for accelerated placement at the end of grades 4, 5, 6, and 7 for entry into the next grade level.
- ▶ Students will be eligible for ENTRY and EXIT each school year.
- ▶ When screening students for identification into the Accelerated Program, the following criteria are utilized:
  - District benchmark assessment scores
  - State assessment performance level
  - Teacher rating of student attributes
- ▶ Students who qualify will receive a letter indicating they have been identified for the Accelerated Program.

**Transfer Students:** Upon parent or teacher request regarding a transfer student, the building administrator will conduct a file review to gather necessary data in order to place data on the identification form to determine eligibility. Transfer students will be considered for entry into the Accelerated Program.

## **Program Goals**

- ▶ Students will apply knowledge of disciplines to produce work that reflects individuality and creativity and is advanced in relation to other students of similar age and experience.
- ▶ Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to develop the ability to identify the problem, define the problem, analyze problem and solution interactions, and determine and assess possible solutions.
- ▶ Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to develop the ability to use critical/reflective thinking focused on deciding what to do or believe. This includes supporting ideas with facts and/or logic and explaining relationships.
- ▶ Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to make decisions and act as responsible members of society.
- ▶ To provide challenging learning experiences beyond the regular curriculum.
- ▶ To provide opportunities to develop self-awareness, autonomy, and self-direction.

## Curriculum Modification

- ▶ The Illinois Learning Standards (Common Core) are the core of our curriculum and will guide instruction.
- ▶ The curriculum involves the use of the same content and materials as those for the on-grade level program of instruction. However, the instructional pace is faster and/or deeper.
- ▶ Differentiation of instruction is the overriding philosophy for every classroom. Specific principles for the differentiation of curriculum, identified through research, are put into practice throughout Summit Hill School District 161. Differentiating the curriculum so that it is appropriate for accelerated students implies modification of student goals and objectives, instructional strategies, learning experiences, and evaluation. Differentiated curriculum is provided in accelerated classes, as well as in the on-grade level program.

## Program Design & Structure

- ▶ Summit Hill School District 161 is committed to providing an educational program in which students may grow to become productive and contributing members of society. To encourage optimum achievement, the school learning environment must provide challenging learning opportunities matched to the needs and talents of students with high potential. Student-centered program goals, educational needs, and a collaborative planning process determine program content. The program is designed to provide an array of learning opportunities that help students realize their potential, instill a desire to develop their talents and abilities, and encourage scholastic rigor.
- ▶ Mathematics Program:

	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8
<b>Accelerated Math (pace, rigor, and depth)</b>	Gr. 5 standards T1, T2, and half of T3; Second half of T3 – begin Gr. 6 standards	Gr. 6 standards T1, T2, and half of T3; Second half of T3 – begin Gr. 7 standards	Gr. 7 standards T1, T2, and half of T3; Second half of T3 – begin pre-algebra / Gr. 8 standards	Foundations of Algebra

- ▶ ELA Program:
  - Grade-level standards will be followed with the addition of a culminating project. (Passion Project: research / text extension / writing project linked to higher level Depth of Knowledge)

### **Appeals Process / Opt-in Waiver**

- ▶ The opt-in waiver is not a guarantee of placement in the accelerated program.
- ▶ The parent / guardian contacts the building administrator and has a conversation about the Accelerated Program placement concerns. The building administrator will pull data to review and discuss placement options.
- ▶ If the parent / guardian feels the concern needs to be further addressed, the parent / guardian will submit an opt-in waiver form to the building administrator outlining the rationale for considering a change in the child's placement. By providing the opt-in waiver, the parent / guardian acknowledges that they decline the good-faith recommendation from District 161 educators. This form must be submitted by June 10 of the previous school year.
- ▶ The building administrator will send a written letter informing the parent of the placement outcome.
- ▶ Enrollment by opt-in waiver is subject to space availability.
- ▶ Student progress will be reviewed after Trimester 1 Mid-term and/or up to 45 instructional days. Please refer to the next section, Exiting the Accelerated Program.

### **Exiting the Accelerated Program**

- ▶ In the event a student is not demonstrating success in the Accelerated Program, the school team will contact the parent. The school team will determine whether or not to continue in the Accelerated Program and develop an academic plan to support the student.
- ▶ Every effort will be made to support a smooth transition out of the Accelerated Program. This may include waiting until the end of a chapter, topic, or grading period.



## SAMPLE Identification Criteria Math / ELA Accelerated Program

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Teacher Rating of Student Attributes:

Learns Rapidly	Motivated	Focused	Organized
Minimum repetition is needed to learn new concepts	Self-starter; completes tasks; hard worker	Able to spend time on one activity	Can find papers and uses time correctly; organizes work and notes
Yes      No	Yes      No	Yes      No	Yes      No

### Local Math / Reading Benchmark Scores:

Spring (*previous year*)

Fall (*current year*)

Winter (*current year*)

Average (*current year*)

PR

### IAR Math / ELA Score:

Performance Level

Previous Year

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### Additional Comments (optional):


Send Math / ELA Notification for Acceleration:    Y    N



SUMMIT HILL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 161

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## Accelerated Program – Opt-in / Waiver Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent / Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parental opt-in /waivers are allowed under the following conditions:

1. The opt-in waiver is not a guarantee of placement in the accelerated program.
2. The parent / guardian contacts the building administrator and has a conversation about the Accelerated Program placement concerns. The building administrator will pull data to review and discuss placement options.
3. If the parent / guardian feels the concern needs to be further addressed, the parent / guardian will submit an opt-in waiver form to the building administrator outlining the rationale for considering a change in the child's placement. By providing the opt-in waiver, the parent / guardian acknowledges that they decline the good-faith recommendation from District 161 educators. This form must be submitted by June 10 of the previous school year.
4. The building administrator will send a written notification informing the parent of the placement outcome.
5. Enrollment by opt-in waiver is subject to space availability within the program.
6. Student progress will be reviewed after Trimester 1 Mid-term and/or up to 45 instructional days.

Desired Accelerated Placement Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Rationale/Reasoning for Granting Request: \_\_\_\_\_

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Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_