To: Parents of Secondary Students  
From: Charles Ryder, Principal  
Date: Monday, April 18, 2016  
Re: Mathematics Area Competency to Receive Course Credit Using an End of Course Exam

The purpose of this letter is to provide you information regarding the opportunity for students to receive course credit by demonstrating subject area competency through the End of Course Tests (EOCE).

The standard path that all Meridian School students have followed to this point is to take pre-Algebra in 7th grade, Algebra 1 in 8th grade, Geometry in 9th grade, and Algebra 2 in 10th grade. This is a more advanced path than that taken by the majority of students in traditional public schools. To provide additional opportunities for Meridian’s most skilled math students, however, last year we began offering students who demonstrated readiness to advance the opportunity to take a math course one year more advanced than that which Meridian students at their grade level normally take. Taking this more advanced path means taking a more advanced preparation for IB DP courses in the 10th grade year, such as Statistics or Pre-Calculus, and could possibly enable Meridian to offer these students Mathematics Higher Level in the IB Diploma Program their 11th and 12th grade years.

Students currently in 6th grade may take an EOCE for 8th grade math, and be placed in Algebra 1 in 7th grade.
Students currently in 7th grade may take an EOCE for Algebra 1, and be placed in Geometry in 8th grade.
Students currently in 8th grade may take an EOCE for Geometry, and be placed in Algebra 2 in 9th grade.
Students currently in 9th grade may take an EOCE for Algebra 2, and be placed in Pre-Calculus in 10th grade.

Student Eligibility Requirements:
• The student has never been enrolled in the course for which the EOCE is being taken.
• The student must have earned a minimum numerical grade of 85 in a prerequisite course/exam in the same content area.
• The student must receive recommendations from his/her school counselor AND from his/her teacher for the prerequisite course.
• The student must receive parent/guardian permission if the student is less than 18 years of age. Students 18 or over and emancipated minor students may complete the permission form themselves.

At Meridian, there are two options offered to students desiring acceleration. Option one; students should participate in an accredited course. For example, many universities offer flexible, online courses for high school credit.

Several options are listed below:

• K-16 Education Center at the University of Texas at Austin  
  [http://www.utexas.edu/ce/k16/](http://www.utexas.edu/ce/k16/)
• Texas Tech ISD  
  [https://www.depts.ttu.edu/ttuisd/](https://www.depts.ttu.edu/ttuisd/)
• MIT, Highlights for High School  
  [http://ocw.mit.edu/high-school/](http://ocw.mit.edu/high-school/)

In most cases, these courses are offered in two parts, semester one and semester two. Students must complete these courses by the new school year and receive an overall grade of 85 or higher.
Option two for acceleration, students can complete an independent, self-study over the summer and take a credit by exam offered through Meridian. A score of 85 or higher on the exam is required for acceleration.

The Credit by Exam will be held Friday, July 29, 2016. Students should report to the secondary lobby at 9:00 am. Exams will be proctored by Ms. Riley and will begin promptly at 9:30 am. Students arriving after 9:15 am will not be allowed to test and will be enrolled in the appropriate grade level course during the 2016-2017 school year.

For more information, please contact the secondary office or Ms. Riley at w.riley@mwschool.org.

Sincerely,
Charles Ryder
Secondary Principal
Course Acceleration Permission Form

Course for which credit is sought: _____________________________________________

Approval Signature of current Meridian Math Teacher: ____________________________

Approval Signature of Meridian Academic Counselor: ____________________________

Authorization of Parent / Guardian

I authorize my child to complete the requirements for enrollment in a math course one year more advanced than that in which other Meridian students are enrolled. They will do so by the option checked below:

☐ Receive a grade of 85 or higher on a placement exam (EOCE) for the course listed above, administered by Meridian School. This exam will be administered on Friday, July 29, 2016. Students not arriving by 9:15 am will not be allowed to test.

☐ Receive a grade of 85 or higher for both semesters of a correspondence course for the course listed above. Documentation for both semesters of this course must be submitted to the secondary office (principalsecondary@mwschool.org) by July 29, 2016.

I understand that if my child does not meet the deadlines shown above or does not meet the grade requirement, they will be enrolled in the appropriate grade-level course during the 2016-2017 school year.

Student First ___________________________ Student Last ___________________________ Student Signature ___________________________

Parent / Guardian First ___________________________ Parent / Guardian Last ___________________________ Mother / Father / Guardian ___________________________

Parent / Guardian Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________