

## Algebra I Policy

### **South Laurel Middle School**

(Starting Spring Semester 2018)

Rationale: SLMS students will be provided an opportunity to take an Algebra I course and receive high school credit. This opportunity allows a student to complete the mathematics AP course sequence of Algebra I (8<sup>th</sup> grade year), Geometry (9<sup>th</sup> grade year), Algebra II (10<sup>th</sup> grade year), Pre-calculus (11<sup>th</sup> grade year) and AP Calculus or AP Statistics (12<sup>th</sup> grade year).

Entrance Criteria to be accepted into 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I for high school credit course:

1. Students will be required to take an Algebra I entrance test at the end of their 7th grade year and must meet a set criterion score of 80%. Any 6<sup>th</sup> grade student may be eligible for the Algebra I class by taking the same entrance exam and meeting a set criterion score of 80%. Students who do not meet the criteria score of 80% may request the opportunity to retake an alternate entrance exam one additional time before the end of the school year.
2. Students must have maintained an A average in their math class throughout their 7th grade year. Students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade wishing to accelerate to Algebra I must have maintained an A average in their math class throughout their 6<sup>th</sup> grade year.
3. Parents and students must sign a contract stating that they understand the rigor and expectations of the course. By the first midterm report in the Algebra I course, students who are missing assignments and/or have a grade below a B will be advised that they need to improve their grade by the first nine weeks report card. If no improvement is evident at the end of the first nine weeks, the student may transition to a regular math class.