## **Explanation for Math Placement**

The first column on the placement chart (orange) connects to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student's current math course. If the student is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Common Core math, then the first set of yellow blocks to the right will provide information to place the student. If the student is in Algebra I, the second block contains the placement information, and if the student is in geometry, the last block contains placement information.

The yellow blocks contain placement scores for the MDTP (Math Diagnostic Test) and Let's Go Learn (a computer-adaptive, online placement test). Smarter balanced scores are not used yet for placement. The highest score is used for placement, whether the score is generated from the MDTP test or the Let's Go Learn test.

## <u>MDTP</u>

The highest score a student can receive is 40. The cutoff scores are based on an evaluation of four years of data provided by Barrett Consulting. This is a pre-algebra test that tests a student's readiness to participate in and succeed in an algebra course.

## <u>Let's Go Learn</u>

For students currently in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Common Core or Algebra I, this computer adaptive test has two parts:

- BMS: Basic math skills. This portion tests basic math skills such as integer operations, fractions, decimals, comparing/converting and estimating/rounding. The highest score possible on the BMS is a 5.
- PAS: Pre-Algebra Skills. This portion tests exponents, ratios and proportions, linear functions, simple equations, geometry, and probability among other topics. The highest score possible on this test is a 9.

Students currently in Algebra I and above take an Algebra diagnostic exam

• Algebra: This test includes topics such as evaluating advanced exponents, solving and graphing linear equations, functions, and systems of equations. The highest score possible on this test is an 11.

The last columns (blue) list the courses for student placement for the 2015-2016 school year and whether the student needs a support class. Teacher recommendations may move a student to a higher math course.