

A RELATIVE MAXIMUM

Dance freshman **Oliver Chase** took AP Calculus BC after many years of accelerated learning

During the weekdays of school, an uncommon sight could be seen in math teacher Timothy Freeman's AP Calculus BC class: a blue lanyard. Dance freshman **Oliver Chase** completed geometry before entering sixth grade, so he was on track to complete Calculus AB before high school.

"In 99% of things in life there are always exceptions, but in math there are rarely exceptions," Chase said. "I enjoy the problem solving aspect. You get out what you plug in."

Chase started the year in math teacher Traci DeLeon's AP Calculus AB class, but quickly showed mastery on the tests. He was moved to Mr. Freeman's Calc BC class. Mr. Freeman said that the first day he was moved into BC, he blended into the crowd, and answered questions like everyone else.

"Oliver is among the faces where if he doesn't immediately get it, I'd see that spark of recognition after I give a clue," Freeman said.

Dance senior **Josie Chase**, Oliver's sister, was in the class Differential Equations while he was in Calc BC, and they often helped each other study and understand complex topics. Chase, being a year behind his sister in content, can help his sister with math problems by viewing them from a different perspective.

"If she's having trouble with a question, I can look at it from a different way," Chase said. "She's thinking 'I have to use one of these formulas,' but I look at it and say 'What if you do this first?'"

Chase picked up math quickly as he saw the logic. Using the right terminology, Mr. Freeman said that kindergartners can understand college level math.

"It's all logic and reason," Chase said. "I picked it up and it would just stick. I'd be like, 'Okay, what's next?'"

By Ben Seelig