

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. I'm very excited to have the opportunity to work with your child. Your support and understanding are vital this year for your child to have a successful 8th grade Math experience. There are some guidelines that I would like you to review with your child. Our math department goal is to give the students tasks of varying rigor in all units throughout the year, assessing the students' knowledge of target concepts taught. Higher order thinking questions and student led discussions will lead to an environment that values student engagement, where feedback is welcomed.



CLASSWORK:

The **Classwork Rubric** will account for 15% of the grade. The classwork rubric is completed quarterly and includes participation in whole class discussions, participation in small group discussions, completion of independent tasks, preparedness and notebook, and commitment to learning. It is essential that students come to class on time and get ready to work right away. Students must have the do now copied and completed with homework on their desk with the proper heading:

Name/student number

Date

Class

Assignment (CW, HW, Test, etc.)

An additional 10% of the grade will include **Graded assignments**. Examples of graded assignments include, but are not limited to: group work, tasks, sub work, etc., all which may be unannounced. All assignments are to be completed in pencil unless otherwise noted.

I am excited to announce our use of **Google Classroom**. Students are required to participate and will be graded accordingly in the classwork rubric. Important assignments will be posted on the site.

TEST:

Tests will be worth 60% of the quarter grade. Tests will be given every two weeks during double periods. All tests will include a cumulative section that will incorporate questions studied since the start of the school year. Students must come prepared with looseleaf paper and a pencil on all testing days. Parents will be notified by email when there is a test coming up a week before being administered. All tests must be signed, corrected and reflected upon the day they are returned. Quizzes can be unannounced, so students should be prepared at ALL times.

HOMEWORK:

Homework will count for 15% of your child's grade. It is assigned and to be completed on time every day. Excessive missing homework will affect grades. All homework is to be completed in **pencil, questions copied, and work shown**. Homework not completed accordingly will not get full credit. Students will be able to make up two homework assignments each marking period for full credit. If homework is late, it **must** be signed by a parent and handed in the next day. Each student should have the phone number of at least two other students in the class to get missed assignments in case of an absence. Students are expected to complete their own homework assignments- copying of another students' work is not permitted. Credit will be taken from both parties.

Weekly assignments will be uploaded to Google Classroom on Friday's to be returned the following Friday. All weekly assignments will be graded for mastery. If students score 6 and below on a weekly assignment, they are encouraged to redo the assignment. Half the points lost will be restored.

TEXTBOOK:

We are utilizing a Holt McDougal textbook that is aligned to the common core standards. Textbooks will be given out in early September and are to be left at home for the course of the school year. They should remain in the new condition in which they were distributed.

SUPPLIES:

All students need...

1 1" 3 ring binder used **just for math**

loose-leaf paper to fill the binder

1 package of section dividers with tabs labeled classwork, homework, and test/quiz

2 sharpened pencils with erasers, **everyday**

1 red pen

1 marble notebook

1 folder for take-home material

Scientific calculator

Donations of the following are greatly appreciated: box of tissues, white copy paper, graph paper

Units studied this year will include: The Number System, Linear Equations, Congruence and Similarity, Functions, and Geometry. The NYS Common Core Mathematics Assessment will take place Tuesday, April 21st - Thursday, April 23rd.

We are also excited to continue using Skedula/PupilPath as a means of communication to monitor student progress throughout the year. **Please make sure you are registered as both a parent and a student.** Communications including assignments, grades, and other important information about their children's academic progress in their classes will be sent in a variety of ways. I am looking forward to meeting you and sharing a special year with your child.

Yours truly,

B. DuBose

C. Rudolfsky

Please detach and return by Wednesday, September 11th.

Student's Name: _____ Class: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____