

Dear Parent/ Guardian(s),

My name is Ms. Brzezinski, and I will be your child's mathematics teacher at Middle School 74 for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with your children. I hope to enable them to incorporate their unique creativity into our mathematics classroom. My expectations for the students are high, and I look forward to being a facilitator of learning by allowing the students to explore mathematical concepts and by strengthening their problem solving skills. I plan to work closely with not only the students, but the parents and guardians as well. I believe in having a strong home/school relationship in order for students to be successful.

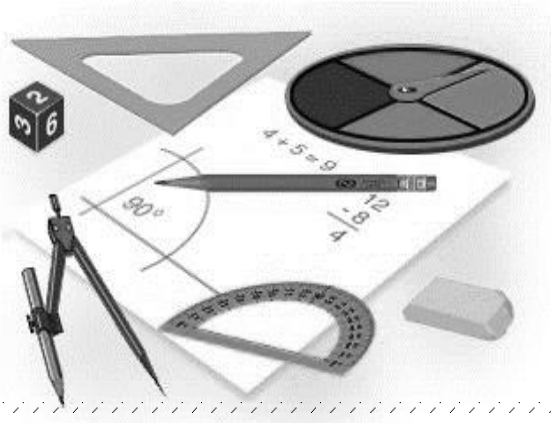
By being attentive and actively participating in class by taking notes and contributing to class discussions, along with completing homework in a timely manner, students will be able to earn a significant portion of their quarterly grade. Not only do classwork, participation, and homework serve as 40% of each student's grade, they also provide students with the practice that is crucial for mastering a concept. By being proficient, the students will be able to perform better on the other forms of assessments that will be given. The students will be preparing for the sixth grade New York State Mathematics Assessment which is scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup>, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and April 23<sup>rd</sup> (the test will be administered on two of these days; specific dates TBA).

**Grading Policy**

- 60% Tests and Quizzes
- 15% Homework
- 15% Classwork Rubric
- 10% Graded Classwork

When students enter the classroom, they will be expected to quickly sit in their assigned seats and copy down the day's aim, and copy and complete the 'warm-up' question(s) that will be displayed on the Promethean Board. All pages should be dated. The students will also be expected to copy down homework and assessment dates into their planners. In addition, students should take out their homework from the previous night and have it out on their desk for me to check. The 'warm-up' questions will be reviewed before we begin the day's lesson. Homework assignments will also be reviewed the day that the assignment is due. Students should always use pencils in math class. Students are expected to come to class each day with their math binder and pencils. The math binder should be separated into two sections. One section will be for class notes, classwork worksheets, and homework. This section should be kept in date order. This should make it easy for the students to locate all materials that relate to specific topics within the unit. The other section will be used to store their graded math homework assignments, which are known as 'math weekly' assignments. Students should also come to class with their math folder to store tests and quizzes. Students will periodically be given graded classwork tasks during class and they will be expected to complete the assignments before class ends. The classwork rubric will be completed quarterly. This rubric encompasses participation in whole class discussions, participation in small group discussions, completion of independent tasks, preparedness, daily classwork, and commitment to learning.

We will be utilizing the *Holt McDougal 6<sup>th</sup>* grade text book this year. Students will receive homework assignments at least four times each week. Students are required to complete assignments in pencil. Students are expected to have each homework assignment completed by the next class and I will circulate around the classroom each day to ensure that the assignments have been completed. When homework is spot checked, the maximum amount of points that can be earned is 1 point and the score is primarily based on effort. All work must be shown in order to receive full credit. Incomplete homework assignments will not receive full credit. If a student misses a homework assignment, he/she will be able to hand it in late for half-credit, or half a point. I will be accepting late homework assignments to stress the importance of practicing for success. In order to thrive in the mathematics classroom, it is essential for students to fully grasp each concept because as we move on, the new material will build upon the old. In addition, homework questions may be similar to questions that will be asked on tests or quizzes, so it is in the best interest of each student to make an attempt to solve each question. Homework assignments may be collected and graded. The collection of homework assignments may or may not be announced in advance. Only if a student is absent, for a valid reason, will he or she be able to receive full credit for homework submitted after the due date. If a missing homework assignment is not made up by the end of the marking period, the score given for that assignment will be zero.



⬠	⬡	⬡	⬠	18
★	●	●	★	18
⬡	●	★	⬠	18
★	★	●	★	21

● =

★ =

⬡ =

⬠ =

⬠ < 6

21
16
16
22

Students will receive math weekly assignments throughout the year to help reinforce the mathematical concepts that they will be learning. Each math weekly assignment will consist of ten questions and will be counted as a graded homework assignment. The maximum amount of points that can be earned for a math weekly assignment is four. During school breaks, students will be given homework packets for extra practice and for continuity of learning. These packets will be distributed a few days prior to each break and will be due a few days after we return to school in order to give those who spend the break away from home ample time to complete the packet.

**Materials**

- Pencils
- Blue Binder (the binder should be divided into two sections: 1. Notes/classwork & homework 2. Weekly assignments)
- Blue Folder
- Students will be given a calculator to be used during class. It is recommended that students have a TI-30XIIS to use at home.
- Package of loose leaf for classroom use (not required)
- Package of copy paper for classroom use (not required)
- Box of tissues for classroom use (not required)

**Units of Study**

- Unit 1** – Multiplying & Dividing
- Unit 2** – Ratios
- Unit 3** – Introduction to Rational Numbers
- Unit 4** – Expressions
- Unit 5** – Equations
- Unit 6** – Concepts in Geometry
- Unit 7** – Introduction to Statistics

**Units 1-6 will be covered before the state test.**

**Extra Help**

I encourage all of my students to come for extra help. I will be available Thursday mornings from 7:30 – 8:00 am. It is necessary for students to inform me a day in advance if they wish to attend an extra help session so that I can assign a pass.

**Contact**

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me by phone at (718) 631-6800 or by email at [gbrzezinski@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:gbrzezinski@schools.nyc.gov).

I can also be contacted through PupilPath. PupilPath will be updated frequently so that you can track your child's academic progress in math class. I will also be using PupilPath for communication between me and your home.

**This year in MATH students will...**

- engage in student-led discussions where the teacher will play the role of the facilitator
- complete common benchmark assessments and performance tasks designed to provide meaningful results
- have a set of clear expectations as to what standards-based instruction will take place in their Math classrooms on a daily basis.

**Students are required to complete all classwork and homework assignments in pencil.**



I am looking forward to working with your children and having a rewarding and successful school year for us all.

Sincerely,

Ms. Brzezinski

**Please sign, cut, and return the bottom portion by Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**Ms. Brzezinski**

**Room 102**

**I have read this letter with my child and reviewed its contents with him/her.**

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Name (printed):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_\_