

8th Grade Math

Laguna Middle School, 2014 - 2015

Mrs. Ferrell

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Room G-11

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Welcome to 8th Grade Math

Welcome to middle school and 8th grade math! This year, we will be using the new Common Core State Standards, which will allow us to take a deeper look at the skills being taught.

This syllabus will answer many of your questions about how this class works: what you need to bring, how you'll be graded, and what is expected of you.

What is expected of me?

I expect this to be a positive environment where we are free to learn without being afraid of being teased or hurt.

- 1) Speak respectfully. Only speak kind words to each other.
- 2) Come to class, on time, prepared, and ready to work.
- 3) Actively participate in class.
- 4) Treat others as you wish to be treated.
- 5) Do not talk when I am talking. Raise your hand when you have something to say.
- 6) Keep your hands to yourself- I have absolutely no tolerance for violence – kidding or not.

What if I'm absent?

It is your responsibility to ask for missed assignments or check the class website.

You have one day for each day missed to make up any missing work for full credit. If you have missed an activity, presentation, quiz, or test, please see me to schedule a makeup time or activity.

Grading Scale

90-100%	A	60-69%
D		
80-89%	B	<59%
70-79%	C	F

What do I need to bring?

It is your responsibility to bring the following supplies everyday:

- Binder & Dividers
- Notebook Paper
- Planner

A pencil pouch or plastic bag containing:

- Pencils (*At least 3. Work is to be completed in pencil only.*)
- Extra eraser & lead
- Red Pen (*for correcting*)
- Glue stick
- Dry erase marker

You may wish to bring the following items, however they are not required:

- Ruler
- Scissors
- Small pencil sharpener
- Crayons or colored pencils

What about homework?

Homework is very important! It allows you to practice new skills and strengthen old ones. I strongly believe in learning by doing. In order to learn math, we have to do math.

All work must be done in **pencil**. Please show ALL work! Homework that does not show all work, will NOT receive credit.

How will I be graded?

You will have a variety of ways to show me what you know:

Notes: 15%

This class requires you to take Cornell notes. Most nights, you will be asked to answer an essential question and write questions to help you study.

Homework: 25%

Homework is a chance for you to practice your math skills and see what you understand and where you need help. It is to help you become master mathematicians.

Tests & Quizzes: 50%

You will be given a weekly quiz every Friday. It is a short quiz that shows me what you know. In addition, you will be given a test at the end of each unit.

Projects, Presentations, & Participation: 10%

I expect you to be actively involved in this class. You will earn participation points by completing class work, group work, coming prepared, a completing your daily warm ups. In addition, we will have a variety of projects and presentations. This allows you to show me what you know without doing it on a test or on homework.

Substitute Points:

You can earn extra credit when we have a substitute teacher. If the substitute tells me that you were exceptionally helpful, you will get an additional 10 points; however, if the substitute tells me that you were not respectful, or misbehaved, I will deduct 10 points.

Rewards:

Hard work will be rewarded in a number of ways. One way is class thank yous. You can earn thank yous by participating in class, answering questions, helping others and a variety of other ways. Thank yous help you earn prizes (stickers, pencils, HW passes) or class rewards (use pen, use Mrs. Ferrell's chair, pick your own partner)

Consequences:

- Verbal warning
- Note home
- Reflection Essay
- Parent Contact
- Detention
- Removal from classroom
- Referral

A note on cell phones...

We will occasionally be using cell phones in class. When not being used for educational purposes, they must be **turned off**. If you are caught using a cell phone for non-educational purposed during class, it will be confiscated.

This is your first homework assignment. Please review the syllabus with your parent/ guardian and sign it. Return this page to me and keep the rest in your binder for future reference.

Agreement – Due 8/26/14

I have read and understand the rules for this classroom. I agree to follow the rules, be respectful to my peers, my teachers, myself, and my materials, and come to school prepared and on-time. If I choose not to follow the rules of this classroom, I am prepared to accept the consequences.

Student Signature

Period

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Parent Name(s): _____

Parent Phone: (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Parent Email: _____

Preferred method of communication: ☐ Email ☐ Text (#: _____) ☐ Phone

Language Spoken at Home: ☐ English ☐ Spanish

Anything else that I need to be aware of: _____
