



8th Grade Mathematics Classroom Standards

Union Middle School

2017-2018



Dear Students,

Welcome to 8th grade math! I look forward to a great year of growing and learning together. This is an important year as it will be your launch pad into high school and beyond. Our goal for this class is to provide you with challenging opportunities and useful tools to increase your understanding and ability with numbers, patterns, and important algebra and geometry concepts. We want to create a challenging environment because that is how we learn. The most important thing you can do is to have a positive attitude and participate even when it feels too difficult.

A key aspect of being successful in mathematics is understanding *how* we learn math:

Standards of Mathematical Practice

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Student Role:

You have the most important job in this class. You will be successful when:

- you show up for class prepared every day (homework complete and with needed materials)
- you learn as much as you can (be curious, ask questions, participate)
- you are a nice person!

Mistakes:

We believe that effort and motivation are extremely important in life and that all real learning comes from pushing yourself to that next level and allowing yourself to make mistakes. Mistakes make your brain grow! No matter how you currently feel about math, we are hopeful that this class is going to stretch your abilities and grow your math brain.

Materials

The following materials are recommended to be in your backpack by **Monday, August 21, 2017:**

If you need assistance acquiring these materials, I will be glad to do so for you; just see me at break.

- Fully Charged Chromebook (provided by UMS)
- UMS planner
- 2 pencils with erasers (lead if you have mechanical pencils)
- **GRAPH PAPER notebook.** You'll need at least 2 for the year. **MOST IMPORTANT STUDENT SUPPLY!**
- 1" - 2" three ring binder (may be shared with your other classes)
- 2 dividers (Label them: math work, math resources)
- binder paper (just keep some in your binder)
- Graph paper (just keep some in your binder)
- red or blue pen for correcting
- highlighter
- Ruler or protractor (cm and inches)
- white board marker
- earbuds (optional, but helpful)

Please Bring the Above Materials to Class Daily



Daily Agenda Slide

Each day, when students arrive in class there will be an agenda slide displayed on the TV monitor. This slide will have materials needed for class, homework and daily classwork. This Daily Agenda Slide is linked to teacher website and Google Classroom.

Google Classroom and Teacher Website

Google Classroom will be used to post assignments and materials. There, you will find assignment details and directions. The teacher website (linked to UMS website/staff directory) is a location where resources like the daily class agenda, videos, classroom policies, Remind signup info, and other information are stored. Generally, Google Classroom is where information pertaining to daily assignments will be found and the website is a permanent resource where more general information is found.

Notebook/ Toolkit

We will take notes in class on a regular basis. Notes are a valuable resource and contain review problems, academic vocabulary, examples, and test preview problems. Notes will be taken in a graph paper notebook that will be used the entire school year. You will also have a toolkit with learning logs and additional math notes which will be collected for a grade.

Binder

Each student needs a binder with two dividers. Save all returned papers and put them in your binder in order by date. Keep all notes, classwork, homework assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. Your binder should be neat, organized, and complete. We will clean out our binders together in class each quarter.

Homework

Because the concepts in math are often cumulative, it is very important that you complete your homework daily. Assignments will sometimes take the shape of traditional practice problems, activities, written reflection, or another project. Homework will be assigned daily and is due the next school day. Late assignments will only be accepted one day late for late credit.

All assignments are to be labeled with the proper heading (first and last name, date, period), title of assignment and problem numbers, and each original problem in an organized manner. **You must show all work for every problem.**

Absences

If you are absent please consult the Daily Agenda Slide and reliable classmate(s) to find out what you missed. Also, borrow and copy the notes/classwork you missed. It is your responsibility to talk to your teacher regarding a due date and any assistance you may need. **Students who attend a field trip** are responsible for turning in the work before they leave, have it delivered by a friend/classmate, or turn it in upon their return to school that same afternoon.

Quizzes/Tests

Quizzes are given periodically and will not always be announced ahead of time. Homework quizzes (with problems taken directly from homework) will be given every week. Tests are given at the end of each unit. Study all notes, quizzes, and homework assignments to prepare for tests. Re-take quizzes/tests and quiz/test corrections are not available.

Grades

- Grades are weighted accordingly: Assessments 50%, Homework/Classwork 25%, Project/Problem-Solving 25%
- A traditional grading scale will be used: (90-100%= A, 80-89%= B, 70-79%= C, 60-69%= D, 0-59%= F)
- **Check your grades weekly on PowerSchool. Talk to your teacher if you have any concerns.**

**** Sign this and place in your binder for future reference.****

 print student first & last name

 date

parent/guardian **signature**

 date

