

Pre-Algebra Course Overview

Mrs. Washington

2016-2017

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Room: | 201 |
| Conference Hours: | 2nd period |
| Tutoring: | by appointment only |
| Homework Help: | rotating schedule after school |
| Phone Number: | 936-709-2400 |
| Email Contact: | mlwashington@conroeisd.net |
| Website: | mathwithwashington.weebly.com |

Course Description

The eighth grade math course is focused on proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of real numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other. Students connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships, including equations and inequalities. Students begin to develop an understanding of functional relationships. Students use geometric properties and relationships, as well as spatial reasoning, to model and analyze situations and solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, representations of data, and reasoning to draw conclusions, evaluate arguments, and make recommendations.

Learning Goals

Students are responsible for mastering all Texas grade 8 math standards, set by the Texas Education Agency. A list of those expectations with clarification and examples of their meaning can be found at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/>.

Method of Instruction

Class time will be split between presentation of information, note taking, and developing understanding through individual practice, group explorations, and application activities. There is, however, a limited amount of class time which will result in homework to receive the practice necessary for full understanding.

Required Text

Students will be issued a math student companion. This book will remain in the classroom for the duration of the year. We will work out of the text in class, and homework may occasionally be issued from pages removed from the student companion book.

Determining Grades

District Determined Grading Scale: 50% Tests 30% Daily 20% Quiz

Attendance Expectations

Attendance is vital to your success in math this year. It is important that you are in class everyday, prepared with your supplies, to learn the new material presented. When you miss class, it is your responsibility to obtain the information for the day(s) you were absent. Tardy Policy- Please see Student Handbook

Make-Up/Late Work

According to district policy, if you are unable to turn in a daily assignment on time due to an excused absence, you will have one day for each day you are absent to make up the work. Failure to turn in an assignment on the day it is due will result in deductions. **It is the student's responsibility** to collect copies of work missed, make up notes, classwork, and schedule make up quizzes & exams with instructor.

Tutoring

The purpose of tutorials is to provide additional direct instruction and other assistance for students who are

experiencing difficulty showing mastery on current class concepts. Tutoring will be concept specific and drop-ins for homework help or make-up work will not be accepted. Homework help is daily, before or after school, with rotating 8th grade math teachers. Mandatory tutoring will be communicated to both students and parents in a timely fashion.

Daily Expectations

What you can expect from me:

1. I begin and end class on time.
2. I come to class prepared.
3. I am accessible during the school day, and after school hours by school phone or e-mail.
4. I will treat you with respect and offer you encouragement.
5. I will hold you to a high standard.
6. I will be fair. REMEMBER: Fair is not giving every student the same thing, fair is giving every student what they need to be successful.

What I expect from you:

1. Respect with both words and actions at all times.
2. Your best effort. Honor the time you are in my class. Do your work. Do all required assignments and turn them in on time.
3. Show your thinking, be willing to make mistakes, and then correct and learn from them. Be a risk taker!
4. Responsibility for your materials. Bring them daily and use them appropriately. You will need your interactive notebook & a pencil EVERYDAY to be successful. We do math in pencil only. You are expected to come to class prepared.
5. Raise your hand to speak and listen when others are speaking.
6. Be on time. Class starts when the bell rings. You need to be in your seat, with all of your supplies, and ready to work. You need to use the restroom and get a drink during your passing time. Passing time is when I use the restroom, and that is what I expect of you.
7. Do not enter the class without the instructor in the classroom. The instructor will invite you into the room, just as the instructor will dismiss you when class is over- not the bell.
8. If you miss class, you are responsible for the material covered.
9. Team work: it is a requirement on the job and in this class. You will spend as much time interacting with others as you will spend working individually. When you are assigned to work with others, work cooperatively.

Classroom Policies

- ★ Students must sit where they are placed on the seating chart. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- ★ I will take any electronic device or related item that I see. Electronic devices and related items are iPods, headphones, cell phones, video game players, tablets, etc. There will be no warnings given and there is no room for negotiation. Each time I take an electronic item from you it will be left in the assistant principals office.
- ★ Dress Code must be adhered to at all times. That means no hats, hoods, etc. If you are in violation of the dress code, you will be sent to the assistant principals office until you are in compliance - missing valuable class time.
- ★ No food or drink is allowed in my classroom.
- ★ Body spray, lotions, beauty products, etc are not allowed in the classroom. They can create health concerns for others and will not be tolerated.
- ★ Cheating is unacceptable. Cheating will result in a zero on the assignment, test, or quiz.
- ★ Students are expected to be seated and engaged in their learning at all times. Permission must be granted prior to moving about the classroom.

Student Signature

Parent Signature