 Ms. Dallon’s 2014-2015

Disclosure Document

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Welcome! Here are some guidelines and information to help make this year in math successful.

**Classroom Instruction and group work:**

Students will work in collaborative groups on a regular basis and approach problems conceptually. The only way students will master the concepts is by being actively involved in their learning. I will be responsible for guiding, supporting and summarizing at all times.

**Daily Assignments** will be given to practice and master the skills we have learned in class.

**Student Assessments** will be given at the end of each unit and may include multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions. This is a balanced program where skill development is based upon problem solving and understanding. I will be giving students a unit schedule that will include practice assignments and the Utah State Standards they will be learning.

**Parent Involvement:**

The following are suggestions that will help students be successful and have a positive experience in 8th Grade.

* Encourage and support risk taking on practice assignments and while working in class.
* Talk on a regular basis about concepts being taught
* Read and discuss the student toolkit and journal entries on occasion
* Create an atmosphere at home where there is a designated study space and study time
* When students are asked to teach you new concepts, be enthusiastic and attentive
* Offer help with practice and suggest that students get help at school when necessary
* Look through your student’s binder on occasion and ask about organizational strategies
* Don’t throw away math papers, have the student place them in the appropriate section of the binder
* Please check your student’s grades on Skyward frequently.
* Never, never, never tell or imply to your student that it is acceptable to not do well in math or that math is unimportant. A student that is comfortable with mathematics can choose and be successful in any career.

**Textbook:**

We will be using the Glencoe 8th grade textbook. There are online book resources that will help your student and you when you may have questions. The web address is: [www.connectED.mcgraw-hill.com](http://www.connectED.mcgraw-hill.com).

I will also include any worksheets we do in class or for practice on my webpage.

**Attendance:**

Please encourage your student to be in class every day. A student will not be successful without regular attendance.

**Classroom Supplies:**

Students will need these materials for math by Friday of the first week of school.

1. 2.5” to 3” 3-ring binder
2. Zippered pencil pouch
3. A bound quad rule notebook (with holes punched in it) of graph paper.
4. 2 packages of pencils (one for the student, one for class use)
5. A scientific calculator (TI30xa is the least expensive and is excellent)
6. Colored Pencils

**Students will be graded on the following:**

**Homework** (15%)

Homework assignments will be given most days and will always be due at the beginning of the following class period. COMPLETING HOMEWORK IS CRITICAL FOR STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN MY CLASS. NO INCOMPLETE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. All work must be completed with at least 80% accuracy to count for credit.

**Term Exam** (15%)

Each term will end with a final test. These tests are comprehensive and **cannot** be retaken for a higher score.

No minimum score is required.

**Mastery Quizzes** (25%)

 Students will need to score 80% or higher on this quiz to show “mastery” of that topic and get a score in Skyward

 These can/should be retaken as many times as needed until 80% is reached.

 Passing mastery quizzes will be recorded on a student’s grade using the following scale:

* 10/10 Passed the original quiz with 80% or higher
* 9/10 Passed a retake before the EMT
* 7/10 Passed a retake after the EMT
* \*0/10 Mastery not yet shown. \*A 0/10 on a quiz **DOES NOT** mean a student got a 0 on the quiz, it means they are not finished learning and mastering this material

**Participation/Toolkit** (10%)

Participation is an important part of learning. A participation grade will be given most classes. If a student is tardy or unprepared for class, they may lose participation points. Participation grades **cannot** be made up for a higher score.

It is expected that students bring their Math Toolkit with them everyday and keep it current including the Table of Contents. The Toolkit will be checked/graded periodically during each term.

**EMT’s (Essential Mastery Tests)** (25%)

 Benchmark test at the end of a unit – a BASICS test

 Students must pass EVERY EMT with a minimum of 80% to pass this class

* If an EMT is NOT passed, the student’s grade with be switched to an “I” until the EMT is passed.
* To retake an EMT, all assignments must be turned in and test corrections completed and checked by Ms. Dallon. If the student needs to retake an EMT a second time, Mastery Quizzes for the unit must be passed. For the final score I will average all retakes (or give 75% - whichever is greater).

**Grading Scale:**

* + - A 93-100
    - A- 90-92.9
    - B+ 87-89.9
    - B 83-86.9
    - B- 80-82.9
    - C+ 77-79.9
    - C 73-76.9
    - C- 70-72.9
    - D+ 67-69.9
    - D 63- 66.9
    - D- 60-62.9

**Term Deadline Dates**: (1 week before the end of term for HW and 2 school days before for tests)

* + Term 1: End of Term is Fri., Oct. 24th
  + Term 2: End of Term is Mon., Jan. 12th
  + Term 3: End of Term is Fri., March 20th
  + Term 4: End of Term is Fri., May 29th

Please sign and return this portion. Keep the disclosure document as a reference.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print and sign clearly)

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Home or Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Please check the address skyward has and make corrections if needed.