

Course Information
Math 7
2008-2009
Mr. Stefanek

Welcome to Math 7!

This course will serve as an important foundation to help you prepare for more advanced math classes that you will encounter in later years. We will investigate key math topics such as algebraic equations, geometry and coordinate geometry, exponents, integers, ratio and proportion, percents, organizing data, and probability. In addition, we will continue to expand our ability in answering open response questions. As you improve your mathematical reasoning and problem solving ability, it is my hope that you will enjoy mathematics and apply its purposes for situations that you will encounter both in the classroom and the outside world.

Materials Needed

- Your assignment notebook (planner)
- A spiral notebook that is used only for Math
- A pen and pencil
- Your textbook

* Students will have access to an online version of *Impact Mathematics* by using the following steps.

- a) Go to <http://www.impactmath.com>
- b) Click on *Course 2*
- c) Click on *Online Student Edition*
- d) Enter the following in the *Access Code* field:
F436BA4A4B

The online version of the textbook will allow students to leave their textbook in school while using the online version for homework if they so choose.

Grading

Unless otherwise announced, tests will have double the weight of quizzes. Quizzes will normally be scored on a 50 point scale, while tests will be scored on a 100 point scale. Open response questions will receive either one-quarter or one-half the weight of a test. Other assessments will be weighted according to the difficulty level and effort required.

Homework Policy

All Math 7 students will complete homework according to the Manchester-Essex Middle School Math Department guidelines. The guidelines are included in this Math 7 course introduction. You will receive a separate homework grade for each quarter, which will be equivalent to one test. Homework will be assigned nearly every night and completed in your notebook. I will announce if a particular assignment will be collected. All students will begin with a homework grade of 100. For each missing homework, you will lose six points on your homework grade. For each incomplete homework, you will lose three points on your homework grade. **Students with incomplete or missing homework may be required to stay after school with Mr. Stefanek to complete the assignment.**

** If after 35-40 minutes you are unable to complete your homework, please have your parent sign the homework. If you have put in an honest effort we will arrange a time to meet after school to complete the work and you will receive full credit for the assignment upon its completion.

Classroom Rules

The following are the list of classroom rules that students must follow to keep an orderly, productive learning environment

1. Be seated when the bell rings to start class.
2. Follow directions.
3. Listen to the speaker at all times.
4. Raise your hand to participate in class discussion.
5. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
6. Respect other people and their property. (i.e. No teasing of others, no foul language, etc.)

Consequences

Students who break classroom rules will be subject to the consequences below. The consequence a student receives will be based on the severity and frequency of rule-breaking in class.

1. Warning
2. Discuss behavior after class
3. Detention
4. Contact Parent
5. Meeting with the Principal Mrs. Raucci

*** Any serious rule-breaking will result in an immediate trip to the office.**

Time on Learning

It is vital that students are in class and participating in all classroom activities. To minimize the time that students leave the room, they may have two bathroom emergencies per quarter. Please let me know if there would be any extenuating circumstances that would make this policy difficult for a particular student.

Reward System

For proper behavior, academic achievement, and effort, students can receive raffle tickets. The raffle tickets may earn them prizes such as bonus points on a test or quiz and homework passes, among other prizes. Raffles are generally held on the last Friday of the month.

Extra Help

Students are encouraged to set up an extra help session of their own with Mr. Stefanek *as soon as they realize* that they are having trouble in class, rather than waiting for the end of a unit.

If a student has scored below 70 on a math assessment, they are encouraged to come to extra help and correct the assessment. Students can raise failing tests to passing grades if they correct assignments either at extra help or at home independently.

I am generally available from 2:15-2:45 most days, although at times I will stay until 3:00 if there is sufficient turnout. Students should let me know *in advance* if they choose to stay for extra help.

Contacting Mr. Stefanek

The Middle School telephone number is (978) 526-2022. My email address is stefanekk@mersd.org. It is my preference to speak to parents by phone, particularly when addressing sensitive issues. When emailing me, please provide a telephone number and a best time to reach you. I will do my best to help make your child's transition to middle school a successful one.

I have read the Math 7 Course Information Page:

Student Signature

Parent Signature
