

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Eighth Grade Mathematics
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Room 101

I. Course Overview:

The Eighth grade math course builds on previously introduced mathematical content and skills and continues with an exploration of the Real Number System, Expressions and Equations in all iterations(1 step, 2 step, multi step), Triangles and the Pythagorean Theorem, Transformations, Congruence and Similarity, Volume and Surface Area and Data Analysis. The course will move at a comfortable pace and will include weekly homework assignments, and an assortment of formal and informal assessments such as quizzes, tests and performance tasks that exercise our students' ability to use the concepts learned in real world applications. This year begins our students' experiences with mid-term and year end exams to prepare them for the rigors of their upcoming high school years. Generally speaking I try to give an assessment weekly in the form of a quiz, or the use of exit slips to gather information and adjust instruction to reach all students. With the implementation of the Common Core Standards students will be expected to :

- *Seek the meaning of a problem and look for efficient ways to solve it.*
- *Reason abstractly and quantitatively*
- *Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others*
- *Model with mathematic, using all representations to solve a problem*
- *Use appropriate tools, manipulatives, and technology*
- *Refine their mathematical communication skills by using clear and precise language.*

II. Overall Course Objectives (Common Core Standards)

- *The Real Number System*
- *Expressions and Equations*
- *Triangles and The Pythagorean Theorem*
- *Transformations, Congruence and Similarity*
- *Volume and Surface Area*
- *Data Analysis*

III. Material Required:

- *Students will be expected to have all needed materials on a daily basis. Textbook should be brought to each class meeting unless otherwise specified.*
- *Three ring binder (1-1.5in is sufficient)*
- *Spiral Bound Notebook (single subject)*
- *Pencils and erasers (enough for the year)*
- *Calculators, rulers, protractors, etc. will be supplied in class(students can use their own as well)*

IV. Class/Behavior Expectations:

Students are expected to follow the behavior guidelines that have been developed and approved in the district and provided in their handbooks. I only ask that my students be Responsible, Safe, Honest and Respectful to each other, our staff members and the faculty and administration in accordance with our school's social and civic expectations. On a daily basis I will expect each of my students to:

- *Do their best on each assignment*
- *Do their own work so that I will never have to question honesty and integrity*
- *Be courteous to me and to each other at all times.*
- *Abide by all rules in the school handbook.*
- *Come to class each day prepared with all supplies and textbook and homework completed.*

V. Attendance Policy – as stated in handbook:

A maximum of twenty (20) absences (excused or unexcused) will be permitted without academic penalty. Students who exceed the maximum twenty (20) days may be considered for non-promotion. In an effort to inform parents/guardians of the importance or regular school attendance the school will:

1. Inform the parent/guardian in writing after ten (10) absences are recorded.
2. A meeting will be scheduled with the parent/guardian after fifteen (15) absences are recorded.
3. A letter will be sent to the parents/guardians after twenty (20) absences have been recorded indicating that the child may be considered for non-promotion.

VI. Grading Policy (percentages, points, etc.):

Grades are calculated on a total point average. Homework, special assignments, quizzes, and tests are given a point value. All assignments and grades are posted to Power School with their designated point value and the value earned by the student. Grades are updated daily or as close to daily as possible and are always available to student and parents in Powerschool.

Grading Example:

Homework : 5 points

Any Formal Assessment (test or quiz) : 100 points (test/quizzes or performance tasks are Formal Assessments)

Student A earns 850 points out of the possible 1000 points of material assigned.

$850/1000 = .85(100) = 85$, or a B for the course the quarter.

Exams will be taken at the mid-year point and at the end of the year. These grades only affect semester grades and for the 8th grade only count for 10% of that semester grade.

Quarter 1 & 2 = 45% per quarter(x2)

Mid Year Exam = 10%

Quarter 3 & 4 = 45% per quarter(x2)

Final Exam = 10%

Total 100% per semester

VII. Academic Integrity Statement:

The faculty and administration of Wheeler Middle/High School demand high standards of academic performance and academic honesty. Anything less would jeopardize quality education and allow our students to deny themselves needed skills and knowledge. For this reason students who cheat on their assigned work, reports, research papers, quizzes, tests or examination risk prompt and punitive action by both their teacher and the school. Examples of violations may include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving aid on tests and graded assignments
- Unauthorized talking during tests
- Copying regular homework/exercises
- Unapproved discussion of examinations/assignments contents
- Cheating on peer reviews of student work
- Misuse of technology

Documentation of all sources is important to avoid plagiarism, which is the stealing of another's ideas, words, writing, or academic work, and implying that it is original. Both quoting and paraphrasing information from an outside source, including any technology without crediting that source is a form of plagiarism. Students who are found cheating or plagiarizing will be subject to the following guidelines:

First offense:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.
- Administration notified (by teachers completing a discipline form).

Subsequent offenses:

- Academic penalty up to and including zero.
- Parent contacted.
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Disciplinary action by administration which may include office detention or suspension

VIII. Teacher Availability for Extra Help (Day and Time):

I am available for help during class, break, one day per week during SRBI and after school with proper notification (one day in advance will suffice). Also, REMIND provides a great avenue for after school help. I have used that extensively with my students as it is quick and convenient. I make myself available to my students as much as is needed and encourage my students to seek extra help. Please take full advantage of REMIND and my willingness to work with my students as much as needed.

IX. Wheeler Academic Expectations met by this course:

- *take responsibility for their learning and demonstrate independent learning*
- *listen and read actively and critically: write and speak effectively: view media perceptively*
- *think critically, make decisions, reason and solve problems independently*
- *demonstrate the ability to evaluate and critique their own work and the work of their peers*
- *use appropriate technology in preparation for life-long learning*