

Math 7 and Accelerated Math Syllabus

Ms. Foley

Welcome to the start of a new school year! Math is all around us, and is used everyday, which makes this course vital to both students' academic and social lives. This year, students will investigate mathematical ideas within the context of a realistic problem, as opposed to looking only at numbers. Some problems involve real world application or unusual situations, while others are purely mathematics. I hope to provide a positive, fun and unique class experience that students will enjoy! I look forward to a successful year for all our students!

Course Description and Objectives

This course is a requirement for all 7th graders and is in alignment with the California State Standards on Common Core Mathematics. According to the California Department of Education, students in Math 7 should focus on four critical areas:

- (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships
- (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations
- (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume
- (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

These areas and standards are fully explained on the Common Core California Standards website

<http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Content/7/introduction/>

Grading Policy

Please note that tests and quizzes account for a large portion of a student's grade. At the end of every chapter, students must demonstrate their understanding.

Participation is a key part to learning; a student who actively participates in class (asks questions, seeks afterschool help, completes homework assignments, participates in warm up exercises, etc.) will do well in this class. In addition to regular classwork, students will participate in group projects to develop their collaboration skills. You can access your students' grades through ARIES. Ms. Foley's grades are updated *every two weeks* on Sundays by 10:00 pm.

Grades are weighted by the following:

Cumulative Chapter tests	= 30%
Quizzes	= 10%
Participation	=20%
Projects	=20%
Homework / Classwork / Notes	= 20%
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Total	= 100%

Homework

Students will be completing most of their assignments from the consumable workbook "McGraw-Hill Course 2" Volumes 1 & 2. The first copy is free but if a student loses their workbook they will be responsible for purchasing a replacement for \$10. Students are responsible for writing down their homework in their planners. I will also be posting homework on my website. It is the student's responsibility to take an active participation in their own learning.

Homework is graded as follows:

- Complete assignments = Full credit (10 points)**
- Half completed or no work shown = ½ credit (5 points)**
- Assignment NOT done = No credit (0 points)**

Attendance/Absences and Late Assignments

It is crucial that students attend class regularly, so they do not fall behind. If a student is absent, they have as many days as they were absent, to make up the work. (For example, if a student was sick and missed two days, they have two days to make up the homework.) Parents may request homework during a student's absence and may pick it up in the office. Please allow teachers time to gather assignments. ***I will not accept late assignments***, but I understand life happens. I will give students 2 late passes a quarter, with no questions asked. In addition, students will receive 1 homework pass that allows them to skip a homework assignment for full credit and give themselves a break. With these passes, students are responsible for knowing the material in preparation for a quiz/test. If these passes are lost, replacements will not be given...they will have to wait to receive new ones the following quarter or earn them in our weekly class drawings.

Make-up Tests:

Make-up tests will only be given in the case of an excused absence (I will need a signed note from a parent and an explanation for the absence). However, I will give students the opportunity to make Test Corrections. Middle school provides students the ability to practice and prepare themselves for high school. This involves being responsible for completing assignments, attending class regularly, and study for tests & quizzes.

Discipline:

Our classroom rules use the school wide M.I.N.E. acronym and are the following:

Make Safe Choices:

- Respect other's space
- Use classroom materials for work

Interact Respectfully

- Treat others the way you would like to be treated
- Communicate
- Be kind

Need to be Responsible:

- Be prepared and ready to learn
- Arrive on time
- Use cell phones courteously

Engage in Learning:

- Participate in class activities
- Be proactive about your learning
- Be positive

In order to be successful in this class, it is important that students follow the rules and respect others' right to learn. Failure to follow the procedures and rules of the classroom will result in a behavior violation. I keep a record of all infractions. Here is what happens when students choose to break the rules...

- **1st infraction:** Verbal warning (You will be given ONE verbal warning)
- **2nd infraction:** A student/teacher conference and possible detention
- **3rd infraction:** Student sent to buddy room
- **4th infraction:** Parent contact with detention
- **5th infraction:** Major referral
- **Severe infractions** (fighting, cussing teacher out, leaving class without permission, etc.) will result in an automatic MAJOR referral with parent phone call.

Do you M.I.N.E.? BDMS has implemented a program using "Diamond Dollars" in which students receive a "dollar" for exhibiting good behavior and demonstrating the appropriate MINER behaviors. Teachers will be handing them out to deserving students. These dollars are good at our Student Store. Additionally, Ms. Foley will be rewarding those deserving students with extra homework passes, sweets (sparingly), food, or class materials. I will also be using Preferred Activity Time Points (P.A.T. points) which will be explained more on Back to School Night.

Cell Phones

In this day and age, cell phones are valuable tools. In my classroom students will have to learn to use their phones courteously. This means that phones are either put away in their backpacks or they are face down on their desks. Volume is turned off and music can only be listened to when they are working on **Independent Work**. If students can not respect these guidelines, their phones will be confiscated and given to the office to pick up after school. The school is not liable for any lost phones; if this is a concern, we recommend phones are not brought to school.

Math Help

Every student needs help at some point during the school year. It is up to the student to come in and ask for help. Unfortunately, we only have 50 minutes each class period. Students are encouraged to attend any after school help available. Ms. Foley will be available **Monday's, Tuesday's and Thursday's from 3:15pm – 4:00pm.** *In emergency situations, I will post a sign in the window as well as on my website warning students that I am not available for after school help.*

Student/Class Supplies:

The supplies that I have on hand for the students is limited (pencils and erasers to borrow and paper). Each student will be expected to have their own supplies and will be personally responsible for replacing any items they run out of. Because we are constantly learning it is essential that all students come to school prepared every day with all required supplies and be ready to work. The following is a supply wish list:

Strongly Suggested Supplies	Optional Supplies
These items will be used everyday: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Assignment planner● 1½” or larger three-ring binder- <i>Our school has adopted a one binder system, therefore students will only need one binder for all of their classes</i>● Lined Paper● Two pencils● An eraser● A book to read	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Scientific calculator- <i>highly recommended</i>● Binder dividers (<i>one tab for each class</i>)● Folders (for all classes)● zipper pouch to put in binder

If you have any questions or need anything, please contact me and I will be happy to help. To get a faster response, email works best. I look forward to working with you and your student.

Happy New School Year,

Arielle Foley

Room 406

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----- Cut and Return this -----

Please sign acknowledging you have read and understand the class procedures for Ms. Foley's class. Have your student return this to earn extra credit points!

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____