

Course Expectations
Mathematics 6,7,8
2008-2009
Mrs. Bieschke

I. Course Scope and Goals

A. Course Scope

This year long course is designed to build on previously introduced mathematics concepts covered in the middle school curriculum. Students will build on these previously introduced concepts and develop new skills and understanding in the areas of mathematic computation, decimal and fraction operations, percents, measurement, and geometric concepts. Problem solving, making connections, reasoning, and communication will be integrated within the courses mathematical content. The use of technology, such as calculators, computer software, manipulative, or other visual tools, will also be incorporated into the instructional design. All students IEP's will be followed with regards to goals and objectives, modifications and adaptations within the instructional program. Mathematics is a required course for all middle school students.

B. Course Goals

1. To reason mathematically and communicate that understanding in a variety of ways, including oral, written, and pictorial.
2. To build connections within mathematics strands and between content areas through problem solving situations.
3. To increase and develop greater efficiency and accuracy in using estimation and computational skills in the rational number system.
4. To reinforce and extend the concepts of number sense, number relationships, and estimation.
5. To explore methods to analyze, extend, and create multiple representations of mathematics patterns and mathematical relationships.
6. To extend and apply the concepts of measurement and geometry to practical problem solving.
7. To solve problems using mathematical tools, including calculators, computers, manipulative, and measuring devices.
8. To explore data collection and organizational methods to verify a hypotheses using statistical procedures.

II. Course Activities

A. Testing

1. Pre-Assessment

Each student will take a mathematics pre-assessment during the first week of school to determine the student's strengths in mathematics as well as areas that require improvement in accordance with Nevada State Standards and the individual student's goals and objectives.

2. Post-Assessment

Each student will take a mathematics post-assessment to determine individual growth in course content in accordance with Nevada State Standards and the individual student's goals and objectives.

3. Classroom Assessment

The teacher will administer tests and quizzes throughout the course of study to determine the individual student's progress and development as well as to reflect on the effectiveness of the teaching strategies and methodologies used. A semester exam will count for 10% of the final semester grade.

B. Assignments and Homework

Students are expected to work in class on assignments as time allows. Papers should be neat and legible. Assignments not completed in class will be assigned for homework. Every student is expected to do his/her own work. Any student sharing work will be given a zero (0) on that assignment, unless it is a cooperative learning assignment.

Students are expected to write the proper Bob Miller MS heading on their assignments. If a student does not put his/her name on an assignment, the paper will be placed in a "No Name Basket". The teacher may deduct up to 10% of the assignment's point value when a student fails to put his/her name on the assignment.

C. Make-Up Work (CCSD Reg. 5113)

Teachers shall provide an opportunity for a student to make up missed assignments due to an absence. **Students will be held accountable for making up the work.** After an absence, secondary students are required to initiate contact with the teacher(s) to obtain appropriate make up work within three (3) school days immediately following the absence. Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), make up work must be completed and returned to the teacher(s) within a reasonable amount of time to be determined by the teacher and communicated to the student and parent/legal guardian. The make up work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specific due date if it is to be acknowledged. Any work not made up will receive a grade of zero(0). Students shall be allowed a minimum of three (3) days to complete their make up work.

D. Homework

The purpose of homework is to reinforce the skills and concepts that are taught during class. Homework is class work that has not been completed during classroom instructional time. Students can be expected to have homework two (2) to four (4) times per week. Homework assignments will take an average of twenty (20) minutes to complete. If a student consistently takes substantially longer than twenty (20) minutes to complete his/her assignments, then contact should be made with the teacher via phone or email to discuss homework expectations.

Homework is ***expected*** to be turned in on the day it is due. Students should not turn in assignments late, however, homework will not be penalized for being turned in late due to the fact that mathematics concepts are reinforced through drill and practice. If a child fails to turn in homework on a regular

basis, their grade will be adversely affected and will be listed as missing in the grade book.

Current homework assignments for all teachers can be found by accessing www.schoolnotes.com, inputting the school zip code, 89052, and scrolling down to the teacher's name.

III. Course Topic and Sequence

1st Quarter

Data Analysis and Graphs
Decimal Concepts and Operations
Measurement
Rounding and Estimating
Whole Number, Properties, Place Value

3rd Quarter

Fraction Concepts and Operations
Ratios
Unit Conversions

2nd Quarter

Integers
Number Theory
Algebraic Expressions

4th Quarter

Percents
Geometry

IV. Evaluation

A. Criterion for Quarter Grades

1. Class work assignments will constitute 35% of the grade.
2. Homework will constitute 35% of the grade.
3. Tests/Quizzes will constitute 15% of the grade.
4. Participation will constitute 15% of the grade.

B. Grading System

A = 89.5-100%
B = 79.5-89.4%
C = 69.5-79.4%
D = 59.5-69.4%
F = Below 59.4%

C. Grade Reports

1. Grades will be updated and posted in the classroom by student number once per week.
2. Grade Day reports will be given two times per semester, mid way through each nine (9) week grading period.
3. Quarter grades will be given on a report card twice per semester.
4. A semester grade will be given at eighteen (18) weeks. The semester grade will be a combination of a semester exam grade and the grades for two quarters.
5. All students will receive a citizenship grade on their Grade Day reports and report cards. Citizenship will be graded in alignment with the teacher's expectations, school expectations, and classroom rule expectations.
6. Grades are updated on a regular basis and can be found on InTouch at www.ccsd.net/bobmiller.

V. Behavioral Expectations

A. Citizenship Grades

Citizenship grades are based upon a student's ability to follow classroom procedures and expectations. Students are expected to:

1. Come to class prepared and ready to learn.
2. Show respect to others and the learning environment.
3. Avoid academic dishonesty.
4. No gum, candy, or beverages allowed.

B. Classroom Rules

"Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe"

1. Arrive on time.
2. Follow directions.
3. Work quietly without disruption to others.
4. Be kind with your words and actions.

C. Discipline Procedures

1. Verbal Warning.
2. Conference with the student.
3. Phone call or email to parent/guardian.
4. Counselor's referral.
5. Conference with parent/guardian.
6. Dean's referral.

D. Tardy Policy

All students are expected to be in class on time. A student is considered tardy when both feet are not in the classroom when the bell begins to ring. Tardy students will be reported to the Dean and will receive consequences in accordance with the school wide tardy policy.

VI. Academic Dishonesty

If a student is found guilty of academic dishonesty (cheating), the teacher shall collect the assignment, mark a zero (0) for the work, and notify the parent/guardian of the consequences. A second offense of cheating or continued academic dishonesty may result in notice of required parent conference, at which time further consequences will be discussed.

VII. Required School Supplies

- 3 ring binder/notebook
- 3 ring lined college ruled paper
- 3-5 packages of 3X5 index cards (100 per package)
- 1 package of dividers per class
- 3 packages pencils
- 3 red pens
- 3 highlighters
- 1 ruler
- 1 calculator (inexpensive from the dollar store – basic functions)
- 1 plastic protractor
- 1 glue stick

Student Planner (first one is provided by the school-\$5.00 to replace at the school store if lost during the school year)

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Please sign and return this page after reading and discussing the course expectations with your student. The course expectations should be placed in the student's notebook for reference throughout the year.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email address: _____ (please print)

Telephone #: _____

Cell phone #: _____