

**Course Expectations**  
**Mathematics 8**  
**Ms. Rikki Johnson**  
**Bob Miller Middle School**

**Course Scope:**

This one-year course is designed to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to be prepared for Algebra. It is intended to increase mathematical fluency in problem solving, logic, reasoning, and effective communication. This course builds on the concepts of number operations with integers, decimals, rational numbers, data analysis, probability, geometry, measurement, spatial relationships, patterns, and algebraic concepts. The use of technology, including calculators and computer software, is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the mathematics requirement for eighth-grade students.

**Course Goals:**

1. To extend understanding of the real number system and its properties to include absolute value, radicals, powers, scientific notation, squares, square roots, order of operations, estimation and computation with rational and irrational numbers and integers. [NS: 1.8.3, 1.8.2, 1.8.3, 1.8.5, 1.8.7, 1.8., 3.8.4, 3.8.5]
2. To compare, order, and translate between and among fractions, decimals, and percents. [NS: 1.8.2, 1.8.3, 1.8.7]
3. To identify, describe, and apply patterns, sequences, relations, and functions. [NS: 2.8.1, 2.8.4, 2.8.6]
4. To develop strategies to use and solve formulas, interpret graphs and tables, and solve one and two-step equations and inequalities. [NS: 2.8.2, 2.8.3, 2.8.5, 3.8.3]
5. To determine the slope of a linear relationship from a graph or set of ordered pairs. [NS: 4.8.5]
6. To solve problems using algebraic techniques and geometric relationships including the Pythagorean Theorem, distance formula, and midpoint formula. [NS: 2.8.2, 4.8.6, 4.8.7]
7. To apply measurement concepts and skills using the customary and metric systems with an emphasis on understanding of precision, error, and tolerance. [NS: 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.8.3, 3.8.4, 3.8.5]
8. To solve problems in two- and three-dimensions using coordinate planes, models, and geometric tools. [NS: 4.8, 4.8.2, 4.8.3.4, 4.8.6, 4.8.7, 4.8.8]
9. To measure and compute perimeter, area, volume, surface area, and angles using appropriate units. [NS: 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.8.3]
10. To collect, organize, display, and analyze data using graphical representations including line plots, bar graphs, stem and leaf plots, box and whisker plots, histograms, scatter plots, and circle graphs. [NS: 5.8.1, 5.8.2, 5.8.3, 5.8.6]
11. To conduct experiments and compare the experimental and theoretical probability and calculate the number of permutations and combinations of an event. [NS: 5.8.4, 5.8.5]
12. To develop and extend problem-solving skills in order to communicate and reason mathematically and apply previously learned strategies. [NS: A, B, C, D]

## **Class Policies**

### **Grades:**

Points earned on class assignments, projects, tests, quizzes, and homework will be averaged to determine grades as follows:

90% -100% = A

80% - 89% = B

70% - 79% = C

60% - 69% = D

59% or below students will not pass this course.

Grade Break Down:

Unit Test .....40%

Quiz.....30%

Class/homework.....20%

Completion/participation.....10%

## **Policies and Procedures**

\***Homework Help** will be available in my classroom Tuesday and Thursday after school from 2:15 to 3:15.

\***Homework:** Any unfinished class work and additional home-practice is expected to be completed daily (Monday through Thursday), and returned to class the following day. For occasional missing assignments, late work will be accepted up to one week from the due date. **Late work is marked down 10%, of the assignments earned grade, for each day that it is late, after 5 days it will receive no credit.**

\***Absent policy:** Students have **3 days** to initiate contact with a teacher after they return to school from being absent. Upon initiating contact, the teacher and student will develop a reasonable timeline for missed work to be completed and submitted.

\***Tests** can be retaken within **one week** from when they are graded and returned to the student. The original test grade and the retake grade will be averaged for a new grade.

\*Upon completion of each semester, students will take a **comprehensive exam**, which will be worth 10% of the semester grade.

\***Citizenship grades** will reflect student participation, cooperation, respect, effort, and ability to conduct oneself appropriately during each class. Students should expect to receive an “S” for displaying these characteristics. Those students excelling in these characteristics should expect an “O.” Students needing constant reminders of expected conduct should expect to receive a “U.”

\***Gum Policy:** A student’s citizenship grade will be affected if they are caught chewing gum in class, according to the following:

1<sup>st</sup> citation: warning, “S” in citizenship grade

2<sup>nd</sup> citation: “N” in citizenship, letter home to parents

3<sup>rd</sup> citation: “U” in citizenship, another letter to parents

4<sup>th</sup> citation: Dean’s referral

**Any student caught chewing gum twice in one class period will automatically be given a Dean’s referral.**

### **Expectations of student conduct:**

- 1) **RESPECT** – All students’ and teachers’ rights will be respected. Behavior, which interrupts the learning process, will not be tolerated. Students will follow rules for appropriate school behavior outlined in our daily agenda, as well as those described by the Clark County School District.
- 2) Students are expected to be in the classroom when the bell rings. At the bell, students should complete the daily agenda, have homework ready to correct, and work on the warm up exercises.
- 3) Students are expected to raise their hand and wait to be called upon before sharing.

**Discipline Policy:** Any behaviors that interrupt the learning environment will be addressed according to the following progression of consequences.

- 1) Warning and reminder of expected behavior.
- 2) Teacher detention to be held after school for thirty minutes. A letter will be sent home describing behavior and expected changes. A student who does not attend a scheduled detention will be referred to the dean.
- 3) Phone call to parent or guardian.
- 4) Referral to counselor.
- 5) Referral to dean.

### **Materials and suggestions**

Each student will be required to have a separate **section in a binder in which to keep notes and daily math work.**

- 1) Each student is responsible for having plenty of **note paper** (spiral paper will not be accepted) and a **pencil** every day of class. Pens may be used for written assignments like vocabulary or reports, and grading work, but will not be accepted for daily math work.
- 2) Each student will be required to have and use an agenda daily.
- 3) Students will be expected to do all calculations manually at this level. A standard scientific calculator should be available for some assignments.
- 4) It is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** each student should save all graded work until report cards are distributed should a question of grades arise. Graded work is collected approximately every two weeks in a packet.

If you have any questions regarding this information or throughout the school year, please contact me through

e-mail: [RLJ269@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:RLJ269@interact.ccsd.net) or school phone, 799-2260

Course Expectation Cover Letter:

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child's first homework assignment is to read the attached course expectation sheet with you and return this form to me within two days

Yours truly,

Ms. Rikki Johnson  
Math teacher

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Our signatures below show that we have read these course expectations and agree to follow them throughout the school year. If we have any questions or concerns we will contact you at the school.

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

Print parent or guardian name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Numbers:

day \_\_\_\_\_ eves \_\_\_\_\_