

**Course Expectations**  
**Pre Algebra 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 successfully complete algebra and geometry. This course builds on the concepts of number operations with integers, decimals, and rational numbers, word problems and reasoning skills, data analysis, probability, geometry, measurement, spatial sense, patterns, and beginning algebra. Problem solving using a graphing calculator as an instructional tool is an integral part of this course.

**Course Goals:**

1. To extend understanding of the real number system and its properties to include integers, radicals, powers, scientific notation, and rational and irrational number concepts. [NS: 1.8.1, 1.8.2, 1.8.3, 1.8.5, 1.8.7, 1.8.8, 3.8.4]
2. To represent and analyze relationships or patterns using models, tables, verbal rules, equations or inequalities, graphs, and functions. [NS: 1.8.2, 2.8.4, 2.8.5, 4.8.3]
3. To develop informal and formal strategies for solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities in one variable. [NS: 2.8.2, 2.8.6]
4. To apply the properties of real numbers when simplifying algebraic expressions and solving equations or inequalities. [NS: 1.8.2, 1.8.7, 1.8.8]
5. To add, subtract, multiply, and factor polynomials. [NS: 2.8.3]
6. To use algebraic techniques to solve problems involving geometric relationships including the Pythagorean Theorem and special right triangle properties. [NS: 4.8.7, 4.8.3]
7. To determine the slope of a linear relation from a graph or a set of ordered pairs. [NS: 4.8.5]
8. To solve problems using direct and indirect measurement techniques. [NS: 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.8.5, 4.8.1]
9. To identify congruent and similar two dimensional shapes by recognizing proportional relationships among angles, side lengths, and perimeters using hands on activities, sketches, and graphical representations. [NS: 4.8.2, 4.8.6, 4.8.8]
10. To measure angles, perimeter, area, and volume using correct size and types of units. [NS: 3.8.2, 3.8.3, 4.8.1]
11. To use formulas to calculate circumference of circles, area of triangles, parallelograms, and trapezoids. [NS: 4.8.6]
12. To conduct experiments and compare experimental and theoretical probability of an event. [NS: 5.8.3, 5.8.4, 5.8.5]
13. To collect, organize, display, and analyze data using graphical representations including line plots, bar graphs, stem and leaf plots, histograms, scatter plots, circle graphs, box and whisker plots, and pictographs. [NS: 5.8.1]
14. To develop and extend problem-solving skills in order to communicate and reason mathematically, and apply previously learned strategies. [NS: 1.8.6, 4.8.9, 5.8.6]

## 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**

- 1) Each student will be required to have a separate **section in a binder in which to keep notes and daily math work.**
- 2) 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.
- 3) Each student will be required to have and use an agenda daily.
- 4) Students will be expected to do all calculations manually at this level. A standard scientific calculator should be available for some assignments.
- 5) 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

\_\_\_\_\_

**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** \_\_\_\_\_