

Jefferson County Middle School

3232 State Highway 296

Louisville, GA 30434

8th Grade Math Syllabus 2020 - 2021

Teachers:

Courtney Burten

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School phone number: (478) 625 - 7764

Office Hours: 7:45AM - 3:45PM

GSE Mathematics Grade 8 Unit descriptions:

The eighth grade standards are designed to prepare students to bridge from middle grades mathematics to high school courses that will ensure all students are college and career ready by the conclusion of their fourth high school course. In grade 8, the focus is on three critical areas: (1) Using linear equations and systems of linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems. (2) Grasping the concept of a function as a rule that assigns to each input exactly one output. (3) Using ideas about distance and angles, how they behave under translations, rotations, reflections, and dilations, and ideas about congruence and similarity to describe and analyze two-dimensional figures and to solve problems. integers and algebra, and early proportional, statistical, and geometric thinking.

Teaching and Learning: This is not a course where we, the instructor, will “teach” you. Rather, we will do our best *to help you to learn*. You will be largely in charge of what you learn, and whether you learn enough to pass or do well in the course. We focus on creating independent learners that will be able to function in real world situations. We also focus on a student driven learning environment.

Learning from Home: ClassLinks will be the main access for all the students' work. Students must access all online work via the ClassLinks platform. Failure to do so will result in reports of student inactivity. Lessons will include instructional videos, daily and weekly assignments and Google Meets. Lessons will be approximately 30 minutes each day. All assignments are to be completed and turned in to Google Classroom.

Text and Resources:

ActivBoard

Composition Notebooks

Pencils and Erasers

Manipulatives

Chromebook/Google Classroom

School Agenda

Instructional Philosophy:

Direct instruction is the primary method of instruction. It includes students working together to derive rules/algorithms for solving mathematical problems. It will be accompanied by modeling, the use of manipulatives as well as concrete models, and directed practice. Individual instruction is provided as needed. Accommodations and modifications are made to meet individual needs and to address the goals and objectives of each individual student's. **Teachers differentiate or adapt instruction to fit each learner's needs, styles and abilities (individual or group work).**

Notebooks and Studying

Students are required to keep both a virtual notebook AND a physical math composition book. Students are responsible for keeping up with their notes and studying 5-10 minutes each night. Pop quizzes will be given on a regular basis. Anything covered up until that day could be tested. The purpose for the notebook is so that the student can use it as a

guide at home to assist them with homework and to study for upcoming tests. **Parents you can check the daily lessons and the students activities in the Google Classroom.**

Classwork

Students are expected to submit all assignments on or before the due date. All virtual assignments will be due Sunday of each week by 11:59 p.m. All assignments must be done in **pencil** unless stated otherwise. Missing or incomplete assignments will receive a failing grade. All class work assignments should be done in their class work notebook. Teacher will check the notebook on a daily basis.

Group Work

During many lessons there will be opportunities to work in groups with fellow classmates. Sometimes we will allow students to select their partners, while at other times we will be assigning students to groups. We ask that everyone respect one another when working together. Please do not express disappointment or disapproval of other students within the class. In addition, all students are expected to contribute to the activity with no one person taking charge of the entire group, and no students relying on other students to do all the work. Remember we work together, and we answer apart.

Grading Scale/Policy

Because all assignments and assessments are products of standards based instruction, all of the aforementioned will be graded and weighted equally.

Absence Make-Up Procedure Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the **student's responsibility** to contact the teacher to request make-up work. If the student is absent on the day an assignment is given, he/she will have time to complete the assignment according to the school make-up policy. The student must complete make up work within the allotted time specified by the teacher. Make-up work submitted late may receive a zero.

Behavior

Follow all rules as stated in the JCMS Student (Agenda) Handbook.

Additionally, I expect my students to enter my room quietly, get materials out, have a sharpened pencil, and begin working on the daily starter. Students are here to learn and it is imperative that our time be used for this purpose. With hard work and perseverance, any child can be successful in math. The more we communicate, the better it is for your child. Our goal is to help your child be successful by encouraging, challenging, holding accountable, and working hard; We truly believe that each child will have a successful year!

Contact Us

Please feel free to contact Ms. Burten and Mr. Tillman at any time throughout the year.

We want you to know that we are committed to helping you and your child out in any way possible, so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Together we can make a difference!

We're excited about this new school year and we hope you are too. **Please return this syllabus signed by you and your parents on the second day of school. Together we can make a difference!**

Students and Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Please sign the appropriate sections below and return this sheet to me. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

Student

I, _____, agree to the following course guidelines and I will do the best that I can to be successful in this class.

Signature _____

Parent/Guardian

I, _____, agree to the following course guidelines and will do the best that I can to help my child be successful in this class

Signature _____

Contact information:

Parent Name(s) _____ (please print)

Phone Number(s) _____

E-Mail Address _____

Preferred way of Contact (please circle)

Phone

E-Mail

If you prefer to be contacted by phone what is the best time to reach you? _____

Parent Name(s) _____ (please print)

Phone Number(s) _____

E-Mail Address _____

Preferred way of Contact (please circle)

Phone

E-Mail

If you prefer to be contacted by phone what is the best time to reach you? _____

Is there any other information we need to know about your child? Please list below.

