

Mrs. Drauden's 8th Grade Math Classroom Expectations and Guidelines

Conference Time: 2nd block • Tutorial Times: Every morning at 8:15am
Phone: (682) 314-4400 • Email: christinadrauden@misdmail.org • Website: <http://mrsdrauden.weebly.com/>

Course Information:

Eighth grade mathematics includes a review and a more in-depth, rigorous study of the concepts and skills presented in the seventh grade. The focus of the eighth grade curriculum is to prepare students for high school mathematics, especially Algebra I, by analyzing proportional and non-proportional relationships as well as slope, rate of change, direct variation, and linear equations. Emphasis is also placed on problem solving techniques, numerical reasoning, geometry and measurement concepts, data analysis, and personal financial literacy. This course will include the appropriate use of graphing technology.

The 8th grade math STAAR test will be administered on Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

Tentative Schedule:

A detailed scope and sequence of 8th grade math can be found at the following website and is a guide as to how concepts are taught and reinforced throughout the year. <http://www.mansfieldisd.org/mathcurriculum>

Required Daily Materials:

In addition to the general supplies for school, each student will be required to bring the following items to class **daily**:

- 1.) A paper folder without prongs for the Outstanding Math Guide that will be created and added to throughout the year
- 2.) An unlimited amount of pencils
- 3.) Two red grading pens
- 4.) District provided iPad
- 5.) Markers, crayons, colored pencils, glue, ruler, scissors, etc.

Students will need a scientific calculator at home to complete assignments.

Textbook Information:

Each student will receive a copy of the 8th grade Motivation Math workbook. This book may not leave the classroom until the end of the school year. Students will also receive a username and password to be able to access a digital copy of the Texas Go! Math textbook.

Additional Resources:

There are many online resources with video tutorials or practice problems related to the topics studied in 8th grade. Some great resources include The Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.org), Prodigy Math Game (www.prodigygame.com), Purplemath (www.purplemath.com), and Cool Math (www.coolmath.com). Mansfield ISD is not affiliated with these outside websites and is not responsible for their contents.

Classroom Procedures:

The class will remain the same throughout the year except in cases of tests and/or special projects.

1. Warm-up/Journal writing
2. Review/grade homework and/or previous class activities
3. Introduce, explore, and practice new topic
4. Assign homework (as needed)

Students will participate in structured interactions with their classmates during class time. We will learn together and become better mathematicians together.

Class participation is a key to success in the classroom. Students should be actively engaged in all class activities. Failure to do so will be reflected in daily grades. Grades for participation will be determined via daily activities, exit tickets, teacher observation, and/or peer feedback (with group activities).

Classroom Expectations:

Lifelong success often depends on learning to make responsible choices. With this in mind, I have developed a classroom management plan that enables every student to make good decisions about his or her behavior.

- **I will** be in my seat before the tardy bell rings.
- **I will** always have my supplies and homework with me.
- **I will** show respect to other people and their property both in my words and in my actions.
- **I will** respect the rights of the learner to learn and the teacher to teach.
- **I will** obey all school rules, classroom procedures, and adult instructions.

Linda Jobe Middle School uses 4th down discipline for its classroom behavior intervention plan. If a student chooses not to follow the classroom rules, he or she will be given a down. Each down involves one or more consequences for the student's behavior.

1st down: Warning and reminder of the rule and expectation

2nd down: Parent contact

3rd down: Teacher detention/loss of privileges/additional assignment **and** parent contact

4th down: Office referral

**Severe infractions will be immediately referred to the office.

If needed, the teacher, parents, and/or administration will determine additional consequences beyond those of 4th down if a student continues to choose not to follow classroom rules.

Positive Reinforcement:

To encourage students to follow classroom expectations, I will recognize and reinforce appropriate behavior with special recognition, class rewards, privileges, good citizenship grades, positive notes, and phone calls to parents/guardians.

Grade Calculation and Distribution:

Grades for each grading period for this course will be calculated as follows:

Daily Work/Homework/CBAs/Quizzes: 60%

Major Tests/Projects: 40%

- A semester final exam will also be given and will account for 10% of the student's grade per semester.
- Progress reports will be issued at the halfway mark for each grading period.
- Report cards will be issued at the end of each grading period.

Numerical grades will be given for assignments. Below is an explanation of these numerical grades.

90-100: Outstanding progress

80-89: Good progress

70-79: Satisfactory progress

69 and below: Failing

I: Incomplete (not an academic grade; indicates incomplete work)

Please Note: Students with a grade of "I" or with a grade of 69 or below are ineligible for extracurricular activities.

Assignments:

- **Homework** will frequently be assigned with an announced due date. When completing your homework, you must show all work. **No work = No credit.** Math homework will cover concepts/skills that have already been addressed in class as well as any prerequisite skills.
- **Skill Homework** is a district-mandated assignment that will be given out each Wednesday and due the following Wednesday. The Skill Homework problems are designed to reinforce concepts from previous grades. As with all other assignments, **No work = No credit.**
- **Quizzes** will be given to assess the acquisition of a skill. Quizzes can be announced or unannounced.
- **Tests** will be recorded as major grades. Advance notification will be provided to all students before tests.
- **Projects** may be given every grading period and will be recorded as major grades.

*** All math work must be done in pencil unless otherwise specified.

Late Work Policy:

All assigned work is given with the purpose of increasing student learning and preparing students to demonstrate proficiency on assessments. Therefore, the expectation is that all students will turn in all assigned work at the beginning of class on the day that it is due and will give their best effort on each assignment. If an assignment is not complete on the day that it is due, points will be deducted as follows:

- 1 day late: Loss of 15 points (Maximum grade of 85)
- 2 days late: Loss of 30 points (Maximum grade of 70)
- 3 days late: Loss of 45 points (Maximum grade of 55)
- More than 3 days late: Grade of 0 will be given

Retake Opportunity:

Tests with a grade below 70 can be retaken for a higher grade not exceeding 70. This does not include final semester exams. Retakes must be completed and turned in within one week of receiving the original graded test.

Prior to retaking a test, the student must complete one of two tasks:

- 1) Attend morning tutorials on the designated day(s) for extra help on the topics covered ***OR***
- 2) Create a video and email it to the teacher explaining how to solve each of the originally missed test questions

After completing one of these tasks, the student may complete a test retake during tutorials on the designated day(s).

If a student did not understand an assignment, missed an exam, or missed instruction, the student is expected to attend tutorials from 8:15-8:40am in room D-104.

Makeup Work:

- If a student is absent, he/she will be allowed to make-up the missed work.
- The amount of time given to complete makeup work is equivalent to the number of days missed.
- It is the **student's responsibility** to obtain the missed work. When returning from an absence, the student must get his/her missed work from the appropriate folder in the Absent Work Wall. Please see Mrs. Drauden during tutorials with questions about the missed assignment(s).

****Read the school handbook thoroughly.** All rules and regulations in the handbook will be strictly adhered to.

For more information, please visit my website at mrsdrauden.weebly.com or scan the QR code below.



Calculator Contract

I will be assigned a calculator number. I will use only this calculator during class all year.

I understand that:

- Only myself and up to 5 other students will use this calculator this year.
- If I notice something wrong with the calculator, I will tell Mrs. Drauden immediately, or I will be held responsible.
- I will not write on the calculator lid, buttons, screen, or any other part of the calculator.
- I will not remove the battery cover, batteries, keys, labels, or any part of the calculator.
- I will keep all parts of the calculator together at all times.
- This calculator is never allowed outside of the classroom for any reason.
- This calculator is a tool for learning, not a distraction.
- I will lose my calculator privileges if I use it as a distraction (texting on the calculator, performing off-task activities, etc.).
- I will lose my calculator privileges if I am careless with the calculator (throw it, forget to put it away, etc.).
- I will lose my calculator privileges if I take the wrong calculator and do not immediately get the correct one.

I also understand that if I do not agree to these conditions, it will be my responsibility to provide my own comparable calculator (TI-84 plus or above) throughout this school year.

***** Please fill out and return this page *****

Due: _____

Printed Student Name _____

Printed Parent/Guardian Name _____

Part I. Contact Information:

Home Phone Number	
Cell Phone Number	
Email Address	
What language are you most comfortable using to communicate?	

Part II. Syllabus and Calculator Contract Awareness:

You and your student have both reviewed the syllabus and calculator contract in depth. Your signatures below attest that you and your student have been made aware of and will abide by all expectations for this school year.

Today's Date _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by phone at (682) 314-4400 or email at christinadrauden@misdmail.org. I believe that a strong link between the school and home environment is essential to the optimum success of your student.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Drauden
8th Grade Math
Linda Jobe Middle School

***** Please fill out and return this page *****