

7th Grade Math Syllabus

Ms. Meredith Wood
Inza R. Wood Middle School
2017-2018

Welcome to the 7th grade! I am looking forward to a great year together. Let me briefly introduce myself. Let's start with the question you all are wondering, was the school named after Ms. Wood? Sadly no the school was not named after me, but it is neat to work at a school with the same name as me. I received my masters from Lewis & Clark College and attended University of Oregon for my undergrad (Go Ducks!). When I am not teaching I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, playing soccer, and playing taiko (Japanese Drumming). As a 7th grader, you will explore statistics and probability, the concept of ratios and proportions, be introduced to geometry, begin your learning in expressions and equations, and so much more! The goal of the year is to expand on what you learned in 6th grade all while preparing you for 8th grade and beyond! For this reason, you are encouraged to ask questions and when needed, come in for help outside of class during my office hours posted on the board in the classroom.

Contact Information:

Email: woodm@wlwv.k12.or.us (This is the best way to reach me!)

Phone: 503-673-7500

Room: 156

Website: mswoodmath.weebly.com

Class Materials:

- Scientific Calculator
- Ruler
- Pencil (for the whole year)
- Spiral (pay \$3)
- Glue stick (we will be doing lots of gluing this year!)

Classroom Expectations:

1. Students and staff recognize that what others think, feel, say, and do matter.
 - a. Students agree to respect classmates with their words and actions and to fully listen to others before responding, even when they may not agree with them.
2. Students will recognize that it is the impact of our words and actions that is more powerful than the original intention.
3. Students will come to recognize mistakes as a sign of academic growth, not failure, and to not give up when something challenges them.
4. Students agree to participate fully in class each and every day by engaging in classroom conversations and activities to whatever level they can at that time. I recognize we all have our off days, but that does not mean we can completely shut down.
5. The classroom is a positive learning environment.
 - a. Students agree to come to class ready to learn and help peers.
 - b. Students agree to remember that we all learn differently and that there are multiple ways to answer or solve a given question.
 - c. Students agree to ask questions, seek answers, and push themselves and their peers to be better academics and people.

6. Students are expected to practice academic honesty by not cheating, plagiarizing or misrepresenting their coursework in any way. If at any time you are not sure about your work, please ask your teacher for clarification.

Grades:

At the end of each quarter students will receive a letter grade, work habits grade and time effectiveness grade. A student's letter grade will be made up of scores from quizzes, tests and projects.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given every Friday. These quizzes will cover learning targets covered on the homework and in class. When you receive your corrected quiz back, you should write your score down on your STAMP CARD. You should keep all quizzes at least until the end of the unit or quarter. For most quizzes, no notes are allowed.

Tests/Projects: For Unit Tests, no notes are allowed. Unit Tests will cover all learning targets from a unit. When you receive your corrected test back, you should write your score down on your STAMP CARD. Projects will have individual guidelines to follow and specific due dates.

Make-Ups/Retakes: I believe that cultivating the desire for high achievement is of great importance for middle school students. I know that some students struggle with certain concepts and only after much time and effort manage to master them. To reward that effort, I allow students to retake tests for a reasonable period of time after the initial test. You may retake assessments on individual learning targets. To retake you must have all your homework turned in and do test corrections on your original test. Test corrections should be done in a colored pen (something other than black), on your original test or on a separate piece of paper. ***Please do not erase any of your original work!*** If you miss a test or quiz because you were absent, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with me to make it up. This must be done within a week of returning to school.

Homework:

I firmly believe that reviewing concepts learned in class at home is a critical part of the learning process but should not be experienced as a burden. Homework is an opportunity to practice, make mistakes and learn from those errors. Just as an athlete, musician, or performer puts in daily practice prior to games or performances, I see homework as a means to improve and solidify understanding. I know outside of school you may have extracurricular activities such as music, sports or other activities. I also know some of you have other responsibilities at home that require your time after school. With that in mind, my homework policy is as follows:

- Nearly every Friday students will be given a homework paper that contains all homework problems for the week. This paper is due at the start of class on the next Friday (students get 1 week, including a weekend, to work on their homework assignment).
- Homework will reflect material covered in classes previous as well as what is being worked on during the given week.
- The required sections of the homework should **take you no more than 1.5 hours to complete**. If it is taking longer, please come see me. **Challenge sections are optional**. If you feel like you want to challenge yourself and are looking to EXCEED beyond the standard PROFICIENT, do the challenge sections.
- Students will be provided with the opportunity to ask questions every day in class leading up to Friday, where they will be given a quiz that closely reflects the homework.

- My belief is that successful completion and understanding of the homework will be reflected in student quiz results.
- Homework is graded for completion and goes into students' work habits grade.

Class Policies

Electronic Devices: Cell phones, headphones and any other personal technology are to be silenced and put away out of sight in the classroom as well as the hallway. If a student has their personal technology out during class, it will be confiscated and put in the office for student pick up at the end of the day. If personal technology becomes a problem, a parent/guardian will be required to pick up the technology from the office.

Food & Drink: In general, food and drink are not allowed in class. Water and gum are ok, but please throw your gum in the trash can when you are finished chewing it. Chewing gum in class is a privilege, if gum becomes a problem, it will not be allowed. There may be a designated snack time during the day where food will be allowed. Snack time is a privilege. Snacks should be fast and easy to consume. You are expected to clean up after yourself.

Tardies: Students are expected to come to class on time. In the event that you are late to class, grab a tardy slip by the door and sit down in your seat quietly. Fill out the tardy slip, sign it and hand it to Ms. Wood. Then take out your spiral and get to work on the task at hand. Repeated tardies will result in disciplinary action.

Late Work: Whether your work is late due to absence or other reasons, you are expected to fill out a "late work" slip and attach it to the front of your work you are turning in. Late work should be turned in to the "Late Work" bin. Unless prior arrangements have been made, late work will only be accepted up to 1 week after the due date. I would rather have you turn in whatever you have on the due date, rather than turn in late work.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____