



Maria Montessori Academy Junior High 2016-2017

Math 7/8 – Math Syllabus

Teacher Name: Dave McConkey

Contact Information: dmcconkey@mariamontessoriacademy.org

Course Description: Math 7/8 extends students' understanding of numbers and computation to include integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers with applications in proportional reasoning. All concepts and skills are presented in the context of problem solving that requires the use of reasoning and communication. Areas of focus include: data analysis and probability; algebraic foundations such as equations and inequalities; functional relationships; arithmetic and geometric sequences; geometric precision, and measurement.

Course Expectations: Students are expected to come to class on-time with a positive attitude and a willingness to discover new concepts in their expanding mathematical world. Students will keep a notebook of notes for new terms and concepts presented in class. The majority of the work for this course will take place in the classroom and time will be provided for the students to ask assistance in a timely manner for additional instructing and/or demonstration.

Textbooks and Materials:

Textbook: Math in Focus (Course 2) and Math in Focus (Course 3) will be our textbook this year. This is a classroom set which means students will need to finish the assignments while in class or make time before or after school.

Materials:

- Three-ring binder with additional notebook paper (Does not have to be exclusive to this class).
- Composition notebook (used exclusively for this class).
- Protractor
- Texas Instruments Scientific Calculator (*Required*)

Students will be learning how to use a scientific calculator in class and be able to use it on assignments and assessments throughout the year including the SAGE testing. Most scientific calculators are universal in their abilities in functions, but the Texas Instrument style will be what we will be using as an example in class.

Grading Plan:

- MMA uses a Standards Based Grading System. Course standards can be found online at www.uen.org and the course blog.

What the Student Knows	Score	Traditional Letter Grade
------------------------	-------	--------------------------



Maria Montessori Academy Junior High 2016-2017

Exceeds Proficiency: In addition to Score 85, the student <u>uses inferences and applications that go beyond</u> what was explicitly taught in class.	95	A+
In addition to Score 85 performance, <u>partial success</u> at inferences and applications that go beyond what was directly explicitly in class.	90	A
Meets Proficiency: No major errors or omissions regarding any of the information and/or processes (simple or complex) that were explicitly taught.	85	B+
No major errors or omissions regarding the simpler details and process and partial knowledge of the more complex ideas and processes.	80	B
Approaching Proficiency: No major errors or omissions regarding the simpler details and processes but major errors or omissions regarding the more complex ideas and processes.	75	C+
Partial knowledge of the simpler details and processes but major errors or omissions regarding the more complex ideas and procedures.	70	C
Developing Proficiency: With help, a partial understanding of some of the simpler details and processes and some of the more complex ideas and processes.	65	D+
With help, a partial understanding of some of the simpler details and processes but not the more complex ideas and processes.	60	D
Even with help, no understanding or skill demonstrated.	59	F

Course Policies:

Student Work: Student work will consist of a balance of in-class activities, assignments and assessments. Homework should be an everyday expectation for practice and understanding. All class work will need to show the student's work in order to be graded for credit for SBG system. Students are allowed to use a calculator on all work for the class, but the student must still write up any applicable formulas and setup for their work to demonstrate understanding of the standard being taught.

Late Work: Life can be quite demanding at times for students and families alike and as such time can be limited in quantities for even important things like school work and homework. I have found great success in student independence and accountable when students are allowed to take the additional time they need to complete assignments and grasp a concept they find challenging without being penalized for pursuing additional knowledge. *Students who have not completed in-class assignments or homework by the suggested deadline for the assignment can still turn in the assignment for credit with no penalties from it being late.* However, the final deadline for all assignments is **the last day of the quarter**. No assignments will be accepted after that day.



Maria Montessori Academy Junior High 2016-2017

to

Portfolio: Students will select one piece of evidence of learning per cycle add to their on-going Jr High portfolio.

Group Activities: There will be occasional group activities, but most work will be done individually or in small groups of 2-3 peers.

Homework Expectations: Students will have a homework assignment each night which can take 30-45 minutes to complete. Students will have the option of working on the assignment in class during individual work time and get additional assistance from the instructor.

Extra Credit: Extra credit will not be offered this year with the new SBG system. With the multiple opportunities to demonstrate their understanding of content standards and the ability for the students to retake assessments, additional work to get credit outside the standard based system would be unnecessary.

Absences: This class will function as a workshop on a typical day. New information and skills are going to always being presented in class; as such, student attendance is vital. When a student misses a class, they are missing most of their time in which to demonstrate mastery of the learning standards. When possible, please notify the teacher in advance of absences so that preparations can be made to help you stay current with your work. If you unexpectedly miss class, it is your responsibility to meet with the teacher immediately upon your return to class to make a plan to be current with your work.

Citizenship Grade: The grace and courtesy you use toward your environment, classmates, and teachers will be factored into your citizenship grade.

Class Rules: Respect the environment and allow others to work. If the right to learn is being intruded upon, a verbal warning will be given so that the student is made aware of the behavior. If the behavior continues, the student will be asked to stay after class or after school in order to review the expectation. If more support is needed a letter will be sent home identifying the behavior in question, which will need to be signed by a parent and returned the next day. Unreturned letters will warrant a phone call home.

Class Materials:

All students will need the following: See above for required class room materials.

Donations of the following items are much appreciated:

I have read and understand the rules for _____ class.

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____ Date:_____

Parent/Guardian's Email Address:_____ and/or _____

Student Signature:_____ Date:_____