6th Grade Mathematics Syllabus

2014-2015 School Year

# Instructor Information

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| Instructor | Email | Text Reminder Account |
| **Mr. Owens** | justinr.owens@cms.k12.nc.us | Text @mrowens6 to 704-419-8724 to receive class reminders about Homework, and upcoming test, etc. |

# Class Website

www.mrowensmathematics.weebly.com

# General Information

## Course Description

## Sixth Grade Math reinforces basic mathematical concepts and introduces skills that are essential for all students.  Concepts, procedures, and vocabulary that students will need in order to be successful in upper-level algebra and geometry courses are introduced and continually practiced.  Students begin with a general review of the four basic operations. They are introduced to exponents, geometric formulas, algebraic concepts, ratios, percentages, and adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing signed numbers.  Sixth Grade Math students work extensively with fractions, mixed numbers, decimals, and estimating.  Problem solving strategies are also an integral part of the curriculum.

**Materials Needed**

* Pencils
* A one subject spiral notebook for journaling
* Small pencil sharpener (with cover)
* A spiral 5 subject notebook with pockets inside for notes, and vocab

**Daily Classroom Procedures**

BEFORE THE BELL RINGS:

* Any day homework is due; **have it on your desk.**
* Be seated in your **assigned** seat.
* Have all daily supplies out, and pencils sharpened.
* Begin working on warm-up.

AS THE BELL RINGS:

* Talking ceases.
* Continue working on warm-up.

DURING THE CLASS PERIOD

* Raise hand, and wait to be called on, if you would like the teacher’s attention.
* Be productive.
* Remain in your seat unless told otherwise.

END OF CLASS

* Please remain seated until I dismiss you.

## Homework

## Homework will be assigned with every lesson and will be essential to the success of the student. Students will typically have homework assigned Monday-Thursday. However there may be an occasional Friday homework assigned but that will be rare. Homework will be checked daily for completion and students will be given an opportunity to raise any concerns about specific homework problems. *Every two weeks a homework Quiz will be given where students are asked to complete specific homework problems from the assignments given over the previous two weeks.*

***Students who provide the instructor with their email address or sign up for text alerts, will receive reminders about due dates and upcoming test.***

**Warm-ups and Journal Entries**

The first ten minutes of each class period will begin with a warm-up activity. Normally the warm-up will consist of a review of the previous day’s lesson, or as an intro to the new material about to be introduced. Warm-ups will be graded and will be counted as part of an incentive program.

Journal Entries in a math class may be a new concept for students in the Sixth Grade. The journal entries allow students to reflect on the lesson, their findings, and their problem-solving processes. Students are encouraged to examine different problem-solving strategies and share their thinking with teachers and peers. Critical reflection in mathematics helps students gain insight into their strengths and weaknesses as learners. Journal entries will occur at the last ten minutes of some classes.

## Test and Projects

Tests will be given after every chapter, or material that has been grouped together. Any student who receives lower than an 80% on the graded test will take a re-test.  ***It is the responsibility of the student to request a retest.*** Before taking a re-test, students must correct any problems marked wrong on the first graded test***. Maximum grade received after the re-test is an 84%.***

Each quarter will feature at least one class project. Some of these projects will be assigned as cooperative work (group work) while others will be independent projects. ***These projects are geared towards helping students make the connections between the mathematics they are learning and its application in the real world.*** Students will be given ample amounts of in class time to work on and complete projects.

## Technology in the Classroom

Technology is an ever increasing important part of our society. It will be vital for students to learn how to use and manage technology to master the skills they need for college and for their future career. Technology of various forms will be integrated into this course. Many students have their own smart phone and or tablets. As a class we will look for ways to integrate these tools into the classroom. *However, it is not required for students to own a smart phone or tablet for this course****. Furthermore, if phones and or tablets are seen or being used in the classroom when permission has not been given, then students will be subject to disciplinary action.***

## Policies & Procedures

**Late Assignments**

Assignments turned in late will lose points off the earned grade for each day the assignment is late.

**Absent Work**

Students who are absent from class will be given an opportunity to catch up on missed assignments. There will be a section in the classroom labeled ***“While You Were Out”*** and it will feature a folder for each day of the school week. These folders will contain a copy of assignments given out for each day of the school week. ***It will be each student’s responsibility to check the appropriate folders for work they missed while absent.***

***Students can also check the course website, as often I will post updates and links to assignments that were given in the class that day.***

## CLASSROOM RULES

* Come to class on time-in your seat and begin Do Now when bell rings.
* Follow directions the first time given.
* Remain seated unless you have permission to do otherwise.
* Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself.
* No cursing, teasing or put downs or offensive language.

**CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATING CLASS AND SCHOOL RULES/POLICES**

First offense – Verbal Reminder of Rule

Second offense – Verbal Warning/ Student Conference

Third offense – Student Conference/Parent Contact

Fourth offense – Student Conference/Parent Conference

Fifth offense- will result in administrative referral

\*Severe discipline problems will be referred directly to an administrator.

**Conduct Rewards Program**

Northeast Middle School also focuses on students developing strong character traits. Each month a different character trait will be highlighted. Students who demonstrate these traits throughout the year will be able to earn Character Building points. These points can be spent on various incentives such as candy, and other prizes.

1/ Positive Praise Note
2/Positive Note Letter Home
3/ Good Behavior Certificate
4/Treat-For-Me-Box