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**2014-2015**

**7th Grade Advanced Mathematics**

**Instructor:** Ms. Sara Gibbs  **E-mail Address:** Sara\_Gibbs@scps.k12.fl.us

**Location:** Concretable 2 **Phone:** (407) 746-3954

Welcome to 7th Grade Advanced Mathematics! I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer. I am sure that you will find this course challenging, but I am also sure that you will enjoy it and have some fun while we work together. This year you will master all of the 7th grade mathematics skills and become proficient in many of the 8th grade skills as well. Be sure to do all homework assigned as it serves as critical practice for what was learned in class. Our team purposely chooses critical problems and we expect you to complete them on time.

Be sure to ask questions and for extra help if you need it. I cannot provide assistance as you learn unless you let me know that you need it. I am confident that through practice and experience, you can and will master every essential mathematics skill.

**Website:** [**http://msgibbsmath.weebly.com/**](http://msgibbsmath.weebly.com/)

**All assignments for the upcoming week will be posted on Monday morning for the current week.** You can access my website at any time without a password. Simply follow the link on the school website or type in the web address listed. All assignments will be kept on-line all year. Upcoming due dates and important information are indicated in red.

Many of the common rules, answers to questions about procedures and student forms can be downloaded from my site. You may email me through this site as well as through the school’s website.

**Text:** Florida Math Connects – Course 2 – Glencoe McGraw-Hill

 Every student will have a copy of the text book to keep at home until the end of the year. They **will not** need to carry it to school as I have a class set.

**On-line Text:** [www.connected.mcgraw-hill.com](http://www.connected.mcgraw-hill.com)

The on-line book is an ***excellent*** resource. It contains practice quizzes and on-line tutorials. More information will be provided about how to access it in a few weeks.

**Workbook:** The student workbook contains most of the homework assignments. This workbook should be carried to and from school every day.

**Materials:**

1. Two spiral notebooks. All in class notes will be taken in a spiral notebook.

2. Two 2-pocket folders. Students are expected to bring one of these folders to class every day. The other folder will be kept in class for tracking progress.

3. Lined notebook paper. All homework problems will be worked showing each step on lined paper.

4. Pencils. Students are expected to supply themselves with 2 pencils with erasers for every class.

1. 4-Function Calculator.

**Critical Parent Information:** *Use* ***Skyward*** *to track your child’s progress!*

It is essential to your student’s academic success to sign up for family access to skyward. Please visit the front office to obtain a login and password. Through Skyward, student attendance, assignments and grades can be monitored. If you would like more information regarding family access to skyward please visit <http://www.milwee.scps.k12.fl.us/bin_docs/academics/SkywardFA.pdf>.

**Course Description:**

The Grade 7 Advanced Mathematics course will focus on five critical areas: (1) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; (2) drawing inferences about populations based on samples; (3) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (4) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (5) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

**Grading Policy: Grading Scale:**

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| --- | --- |
| Assessments | 50% |
| Assignments | 25% |
| Homework | 5% |
| Standards Based Assessments  | 20% |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A** | 3.45 – 4 |
| **B** | 2.45 – 3.44 |
| **C** | 1.45 – 2.44 |
| **D** | 0.45 – 1.44 |
| **F** | Below 0.45 |

1. **Assessments (50%)** A large portion of the grade will be based on student performance on the standards taught in this class. This will include all individual assessments used to measure mastery of the material covered. Students will be given multiple opportunities to reach mastery.
2. **Assignments (25%)** Becoming responsible for your learning is an important part of the middle school process. All tasks require student engagement and cooperation. Bell work and cooperative assignments performed in class will be included in this category.
3. **Homework (5%)** Repetition and practice is vital to fully understanding mathematical concepts. To enhance your understanding, you need to complete homework. Homework will be checked on a regular basis and is a very important factor in being successful in this class. Not only is it worth 5% of the final grade but it will also be a determining aspect on whether the student is successful on tests/quizzes.
4. **Standards Based Assessments (SBA) (20%)** This category **will not** be used in this course.

**Cooperative Learning Group Rules:**

Students will be expected to work together to complete assignments throughout the semester. Students are to maintain all classroom rules during these group sessions. ALL students MUST participate and ask each other questions **relating** **to the math topic**.

**Showing Your Work:**

In order to receive credit, students will be expected to **show all steps** when solving problems. We are building a foundation for all future mathematics classes. Students should begin this process now in order to be successful in higher level courses. **Calculators will be permitted at times in class, but all steps must still be shown.**

**Academic Dishonesty (Cheating):**

Cheating is a violation of the student’s code of conduct standards. If a student is caught cheating he/she will be disciplined appropriately. Forms of cheating which are unacceptable include:

1. Unauthorized assistance. (Ex. Communicating to a friend the answer to test questions through oral, written, or electronic means.)
2. Plagiarism. (Copying someone else’s work.)
3. If you allow another student to copy your work, you are also in violation of the code of academic dishonesty, and you will suffer the same consequences as the offender.

-------------------------------------------- **Please return to Ms. Gibbs** -------------------------------------------

We have read and discussed the mathematics academic plan in Ms. Gibbs’ class. This signed policy will be collected by the teacher and kept on file.

**Student Name (Printed)** **Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)**

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**Student Signature** **Parent/Guardian Signature**

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***\*Internet Access is available at home yes no***

Parent/Guardian Name(s): Phone Number(s) and Email Address (es)

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