

Mrs. Kahangi

Math 8

Dear students & parents:

Welcome to room 206 where we learn mathematics. I'm delighted to be teaching mathematics and look forward to a productive & successful year. Education is a three-way partnership among the student, parents, and me- I look forward to creating a thriving partnership with each and every one of you.

Maximum attendance is a necessity in this class; assignments pile up when students are absent and it becomes a real chore to catch up with the class. In mathematics we build upon previous concepts taught; so, it is imperative that students complete assignments on time. Late work is a huge detriment to student learning; homework assigned with a lesson helps cement concepts in students' minds while still fresh.

All assignments are available in a binder labeled "Worksheets" in the back of the classroom AND on my school website under "Documents". It is the student's responsibility to find the assignment missed. Missing assignments lower grades dramatically.

Homework is assigned Monday thru Thursday. The week's agenda will be written on the board; students should copy that down into their student planner. Also, my school website has homework listed under the "Homework" tab and worksheets have been uploaded under the "Documents" tab.

Homework papers:

1. First & last name; Date; Period
- 2. Copy all problems & show all work**
3. Homework is due at the **beginning** of class.

Homework is scored as follows:

5 points- problems copied down, work is shown & all problems are attempted

3 points- work is incomplete, directions not followed, no corrections done the next day in class

1 point- Late homework without a "late pass" -Students receive one extra day per day of absence-

0 points-answers only (no work shown), no name, or no homework

Each quarter, students may submit up to 4 homework assignments late (with a "late pass" attached) and still earn full credit. Each unused late pass will earn extra credit points at the end of the quarter.

When we do Problem Solving, we typically spend about 70% of the time solving via group collaboration. First, students are given "silent individual think time", then we move on to collaborating within a group (2-4 members) in order to solve the problem. Groups are also allowed to visit other groups and explore how they have solved a particular problem. About 2-4 days of class time is given;

then, it is graded (sometimes only one worksheet is turned in and all group members receive the grade on that one worksheet turned in). Students cannot re-do assignments in this category.

Quizzes or tests will be given about every 10 days. If a student misses a quiz or a test he/she will need to make arrangements to make it up after school. Students earning less than 80% on an assessment may earn half the points lost back following "Guidelines to earn points back..." (on my website under the tab "Documents" & a hard copy was given to your student.)

Dreambox: Dreambox is an adaptive, online program designed to complement classroom instruction. Students should be using the program for at least 45-60 minutes per week.

Classroom expectations:

BE INTENTIONALLY:

Respectful

Responsible

Kind

Safe

Ready to Learn

If you are struggling in math, ***get help right away!*** Ways to get help:

1. Schedule time to meet with me before or after school.
2. Get help from another student or family member.
3. Ask questions in class.
4. Come to our FREE homework help after school (3pm-4pm).
5. Visit and play in Dreambox, Khanacademy.com
6. Our eBook has many resources (short videos, live tutors, "Skills Review Handbook").

Grading:

Homework	15%
Assessments:	50%
Projects/Problem Solving/Participation	35%

Next year's math placement:

Majority (almost everyone) of Math 8 students will take Algebra I next year at Las Lomas High School.

Communication between home & school is vital to the success of every student. My e-mail is gkahangi@walnutcreeksd.org.

I look forward to an exciting and rewarding school year for all of us. I am eager to meet all of you parents at Back-to-School night on Tuesday August 27th .

Sincerely,
Gitta Kahangi
Mathematics Teacher

We have read and discussed the introductory letter sent home by Mrs. Kahangi and agree to enter into a three way partnership of student, teacher, and parent to promote_____’s education as a top priority.

Student signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

This sheet is due-SIGNED-by Friday, August 23theasy 5 points!