Math 6 Syllabus Yorba Linda Middle School

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Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Math 6 at Yorba Linda Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year! This class is designed to build strong math knowledge and implement 21st century skills (critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity) that will equip you to be successful. In order to accomplish this, each student will be expected to try their hardest.

The following syllabus will outline my policies and expectations for this class. Please read carefully and review together. I look forward to being your math teacher this year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Davison



ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

Materials

Students are encouraged to have the following supplies in this class. Please see the YLMS website for information about voluntary suggested school supplies. If you are unable to obtain the supplies listed below, please let me know privately.

- 1 single-subject spiral notebook, 8.5" x 11" or larger (we will be gluing full-sized 8.5" x 11" sheets of paper into it on a regular basis and the paper must not hang off the edges). Staples Accel, Wal-Mart Pen+Gear, and Five-Star are examples of brands that make this size. You will probably run out of pages in the spring, in which case it will need to be replaced. This notebook is only to be used for math, no other subjects.
- 1 pocket for loose math papers. This can be part of your spiral notebook, or a separate folder, but it must only be used for math.
- Pencils if you choose to use a mechanical pencil, you are responsible for bringing your own lead!
- Lined paper separate from spiral. Do not tear paper out of your spiral for this.
- NO CALCULATORS

Other useful materials (these will be provided but students sometimes prefer to have their own):

- Dry erase marker
- High-quality eraser (such as Pink Pearl, Black Pearl, or white Pentel)
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Highlighter
- Colored pencils/markers
- Pencil sharpener

Non-class-related items such as mints, chapstick, hairbrushes, mirrors, toys, etc. are not to be taken out of backpacks during class and may be confiscated if they are a distraction. Hats and hoods may not be worn indoors.

Course Content and Textbook

We will be addressing the Common Core standards for Mathematics. More information on the Common Core standards can be found at: http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/ccssmathstandardaug2013.pdf

Textbook: Big Ideas Math, Course 1 (green)

Online access

Most of our homework will be done online through the online textbook portal. Students will be expected to access the textbook website outside of class time on a regular basis. If internet access is not available at home, I can provide alternative assignments out of the green textbook, but the student is responsible for requesting them and correcting their answers. Computers are available in the classroom and/or library during break, lunch, before and after school, etc. Please notify me right away if you are having technical issues with the website.

The Big Ideas website is accessed through https://clever.com/pylusd. Students should first log in to their PYLUSD Google account, and then visit the Clever portal to get to the online textbook and its features.

Office Hours

Every YLMS teacher is available for scheduled tutoring or "office hours." Students are encouraged to come for any of these reasons:

- Specific homework questions or questions about a lesson
- Completing missing work
- Study help for an upcoming quiz/test
- Help with organization

I strongly recommend that students with a D or F come to office hours at least twice per week, preferably three times! My office hours are:

- Every day at break
- 3:40-4:15 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, unless I have a meeting. Please check with me ahead of time to make sure I am available. I will also list available times on the board each week.
- Before school by appointment.

Grading Policies

For all YLMS core math classes, letter grades will be assigned based on the following weights:

Homework/Classwork = 30% of the total grade Quizzes/Tests = 70% of the total grade

Grades will be updated online on AERIES weekly. Comments will be entered when assignments are turned in late, incomplete, returned to be redone, etc. Please contact the YLMS office if you are unable to access AERIES. Every YLMS student is expected to be able to access his/her grades online on a regular basis. Please keep all of your assignments and tests/quizzes until the end of each quarter so that we can clear up any discrepancies quickly and easily. If you cannot show me the assignment in question, then my records will stand.

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = Below 60% According to YLMS Math Department policy, grades will <u>not</u> be rounded up. For example, an 89.6% is still considered a B+.

Homework/Classwork Policies

- Homework will be assigned in accordance with district policies. Students should expect homework nearly every day (M-F).
- Assignments and their due dates will be listed on the board and on my web page. Students are
 expected to copy the homework assignment into their planner/agenda each day at the beginning of
 class.
- Late homework will be accepted until the day of the chapter test for ½ credit. Assignments turned in after the chapter test will not be worth credit, but will be accepted to clear up missing assignments ("red boxes") on AERIES.
- All written work MUST be done in pencil. Absolutely NO PEN (even erasable)! Work done in pen will be returned to the student to recopy.
- All work MUST be done in student's own handwriting. Work that is written by a parent, tutor, etc., will
 not be accepted.
- Written work that is incomplete, illegible, does not show work, or crumpled also may not be accepted, or will be worth 0 points.

Online Homework Policies

- <u>Late/Absent Online Work:</u> The Big Ideas site does not notify me if a student completes an assignment after a due date for any reason (even absence). I <u>will not know</u> that it was completed until the student notifies me. Students <u>must</u> turn in a completed "blue slip" to notify me. The grade will not be updated until a blue slip is turned in, then I will run a special report to see when it was completed and will grade it accordingly. This process can take several days or up to a week.
- <u>Grading:</u> Most homework and classwork assignments, including all online Big Ideas assignments, will be worth 10 points each. They will be graded as follows:
 - <u>10 points:</u> The work was completed on time. No problems were skipped, and the student scored at least 50% correct.
 - o **5 points:** The work was completed between one day late and the day of the chapter test.
 - O points: The work was completed after the chapter test.
 - Red box: To my knowledge, the assignment is missing.
 - If you have completed an online assignment and the box is still red, you need to turn in a "blue slip" to notify me.
 - If you think you have turned in a paper assignment and the box is still red, please check the "no name" papers. Paper assignments must always be labeled with student name (first and last!), date, period, and table number. Papers that are missing any of this information will be considered a "no name" and will not be graded until they are filled out correctly.
- Incomplete/Incorrect Homework: In order to encourage students to always try their hardest, online assignments will not be accepted if problems are skipped. It will also not be accepted if the student scores less than 50% correct. If either of these occur, I will send the assignment back to the student to complete. It will not be considered complete until all problems are attempted and the score is above 50%. If the student redoes the assignment after the due date, it will be counted late. Therefore, students are always encouraged to do their very best the first time and to ask for help if needed before submitting it.

• <u>Scratch Paper:</u> Students should <u>always</u> have their spiral notebook accessible while completing online homework, in order to refer to their notes and to use the left-hand pages as scratch paper. Students should never attempt to do all their problems mentally. In order to promote academic honesty and integrity, I will occasionally check scratch paper in addition to the online answers. Therefore, use the spiral notebook for scratch paper so that it always comes to school the next day. <u>Students who have no</u> work to show will not receive credit for that assignment.

Quiz and Test Policies

- Students will be given plenty of notice before all chapter tests and most quizzes. Upcoming quizzes and tests will be announced in class and posted on the calendar on my website.
- Tests will be given at the end of each chapter, approximately every 3-4 weeks.
- A quiz will be given approximately halfway through the chapter to assess student understanding.
- After quizzes, students scoring below 70% will have an opportunity to retake a similar quiz at a scheduled time (a break or lunch, depending on the length of the quiz). Students can earn a maximum of 70% on the retake.
- After every test, every student scoring less than 100% will be required to complete test corrections.
 Students scoring below 70% will also be able to use their well-done corrections to raise their score to a maximum of 70%.

Policies Regarding Make-Up Work Due to Absence

- For homework that is assigned on a day that you are absent, the district policy is two days' time for each day of absence from school to complete make-up work. If you are at school when homework is assigned but absent on the day that it's due, it must be turned in the day you return in order for it to be considered on time.
- The two days start counting the day you return, not the day you find out about something you missed.
- When you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the assignments, complete them, and turn them in
 within the specified time window. I will not be able to remind individual students to help them get
 caught up.
- If you are absent because of a field trip, you must turn in your homework before leaving campus or it will be considered a late assignment (in accordance with YLMS policy).
- If you are absent on the day of a test but have been in class for all of the notes of the chapter, you will be expected to make up the test on the first day you return to school. Students are responsible for making arrangements to make-up a test. If you have been informed of an upcoming quiz or test, and are absent for review on the day before the quiz or test, you will still be expected to take the quiz or test on time.
- If you are absent for the lessons leading up to the chapter test, you are expected to make up tests within one week of the test day and should make the necessary arrangements with me.
- Worksheets and handouts are located in the pocket folder at the front of the room.
- Late and absent work should be turned in to the LATE/ABSENT basket at the beginning of the class period. It should be stamped with the turn-in date. Assignments without a date stamp will be counted late. Please do not interrupt class to tell me that you have late or absent work.

Extra Help

I am here to help you succeed in your math class this year. If you need extra help, please don't be afraid to come see me. We will work together to find a time to get you the help you need.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Classroom Responsibilities

In our classroom we have "Bobcat Pride" = Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Safe

- 1. Respect others, their ideas, their property, and their right to learn at all times.
- 2. Use your time productively. There will **never** be a time when we are not working on something.
- 3. Try your hardest and ask for help if needed.
- 4. Follow instructions the first time they are given.
- 5. Bring all class materials every day.

Consequences:

Students who choose not to follow these expectations may receive:

- Verbal warning
- Seat change
- Behavior notice
- Detention
- Phone call or email home
- Severe Inappropriate Behavior = Student Immediately Sent to Administration

Citizenship Grades:

- Outstanding: The student has gone "above and beyond" the characteristics of Satisfactory (below). This includes frequently volunteering to answer questions, helping classmates and the teacher, leading group activities, coming in to office hours for help, and actively participating at all times.
- Satisfactory: The student consistently follows instructions, is prepared for class, participates in lessons and group activities, and is kind to others.
- Needs Improvement: The student has received one or more behavior notices or detentions for not
 following instructions or rules, or has otherwise received consequences for not following instructions
 or for being disrespectful to others.
- Unsatisfactory: The student has disregarded instructions or disrespected rules and other people so
 frequently that class time is being disrupted.

GRIT

This year, we will be emphasizing "grit" – in other words, determination and perseverance when things get tough. As a family, I ask that you try to keep a positive outlook about math at home. Comments such as, "I was always bad at math" (from both student and parent!), "You're never going to use this," and negative comments about Common Core plant the idea in students' minds that it's okay to give up far too early. Instead, some of the best homework experiences at home happen when parent and student work together to seek out an answer, and some of the most exciting moments of the year happen when a student masters something that they first thought was beyond their reach. If homework is a struggle at home, PLEASE contact me for assistance. I check my email on a daily basis and will try to answer any questions that you might have.

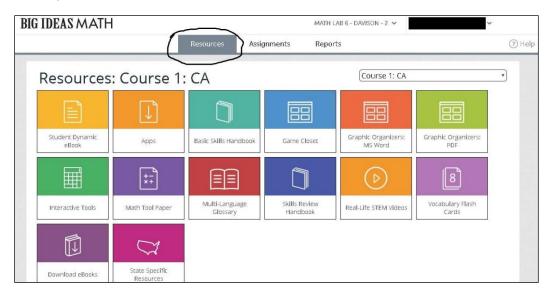
BIG IDEAS ONLINE HOMEWORK INSTRUCTIONS

Accessing Assignments

Students access Big Ideas online assignments and all textbook resources through the Big Ideas link on their Clever dashboard. The Big Ideas site has three tabs: Resources, Assignments, and Reports. Parents should check these tabs frequently to monitor which assignments their students have completed and which still need to be done.

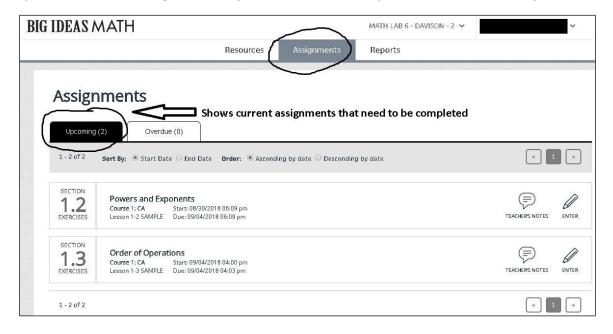
Resources Tab

This page contains multiple resources that students can use to study, such as an electronic copy of the textbook, glossary, and vocabulary flash cards.



Assignments Tab

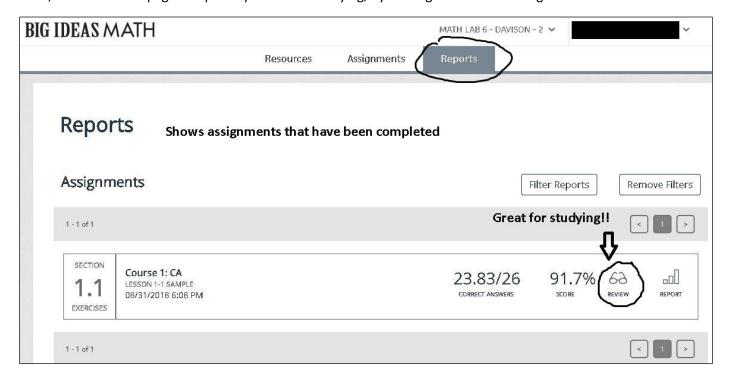
This page has two sections: "Upcoming" and "Overdue." Upcoming assignments are current ones that are not yet completed but are due soon. Overdue assignments are not yet completed and are past their due date. **When a student completes an Overdue assignment, they must fill out a blue slip in class in order to notify me.**





Reports Tab

This page shows assignments that the student has completed and submitted. It shows when it was submitted, the score earned, and more. This page is especially useful for studying, by clicking on the "Review" glasses.



Ms. Davison

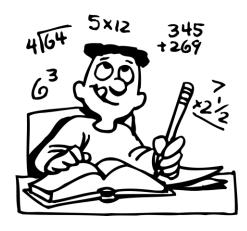
SIGN AND DETACH THIS PAGE FROM THE PACKET. KEEP THE REST OF THE PAGES IN A SAFE PLACE AT HOME SO BOTH PARENTS AND STUDENT CAN REFER TO THEM DURING THE YEAR. ONLY THIS SIGNATURE PAGE IS TURNED IN.

Student: I have read and reviewed the information in the course syllabus. I will abic and strive for excellence in this class.	de by these procedures and expectations,
Student's Name:	Period:
Student's Signature:	Date:
<u>Parent:</u> I have read and reviewed the information in the course syllabus. I underst follow these procedures, and I will support him/her so that he/she will be	
Parent's Name:	
Parent's Email (please print neatly):	
Parent's Signature:	Date:
Does the student currently have reliable internet access at home? (Circle a	all that apply):

Smartphone

Tablet

Computer



None/It is unreliable