Genoa Middle School

Ms. Liz Stimer Math 7 2019-2020 Syllabus

E-Mail: stimere@wcsoh.org

Class Website: On the school's website under staff websites or use the following link: http://www.westerville.k12.oh.us/olc/4216

Remind: To get daily/weekly text message reminders from me for HW, tests and other info, text 81010 using the correct message for your child's class.

Period 1: Text @stimer1 Period 2: Text @stimer2

Period 4: Text @stimer4 Period 6: Text @stimer6

Course Description:

I am very excited for the upcoming school year! This will be a great year in math as we make sure every student graduates with the mathematics skills they need to be productive members of society. Ohio's new learning standards for mathematics consist of two parts; the practice standards and the content standards. The eight Mathematical Practice Standards indicate "HOW" students will demonstrate their understanding and the Content Specific Standards detail "WHAT" mathematical concepts and procedures students will learn. If you would like more information regarding the new state standards, please visit: www.corestandards.org.

Course Objectives:

In this course, students will be focusing primarily on eight mathematical practices as outlined by the new state standards curriculum. These practices are as follows:

1. MAKING SENSE of problems and PERSEVERE in solving them
2. REASON abstractly and quantitatively
3. CONSTRUCT viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. MODEL with mathematics
5. USE appropriate tools strategically
6. ATTEND to precision
7. LOOK for and make use of structure
8. LOOK for and EXPRESS regularity in repeated reasoning

Course Outline: Time frames are not set in stone and will change as needed.

First Semester

- Chapter 1: Probability
- Chapter 2: Fractions and Integer Addition
- Chapter 3: Arithmetic Properties
- Chapter 4: Proportions and Expressions
- Chapter 5: Probability and Solving

Second Semester

- Chapter 6: Solving Inequalities and Equations
- Chapter 7: Proportions and Percents
- Chapter 8: Statistics and Angle Relationships
- Chapter 9: Circles and Volume

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Class Supplies

1 ½ inch Binder (to be used **just** for math—highly recommended but not required. It makes organization easier for the students!)
5 Binder Dividers
Loose-leaf Notebook Paper
2 or 3 One-subject Spiral Notebooks

- (One will not be enough for the year and they are significantly cheaper right now).
- **A multiple subject spiral notebook is not suggested, but can be used. Students will keep the spiral in the binder. The notebook MUST only be used for MATH class.**

Grading Pens (any color but blue or black)
Pencil Pouch
Pencils and erasers – supply for the year

Suggested Supplies for Home

Colored Pencils
Ruler (cm & inches)

Donations Requsted!

Please help us with:
Large boxes of tissues
Sanitizing wipes
Hand sanitizer

Classroom Routine:

The mathematics classroom will be designed to help students take responsibility for their learning. The course is structured around problems and investigations that build conceptual understanding of topics and an awareness of connections between different ideas. Students are encouraged to investigate concepts, communicate their thinking and generalize.

Students will be expected to work in Study Teams on a regular basis. Lessons are structured for students to collaborate actively by working in study teams. During class time, students work in study teams on challenging problems that introduce new material. The teacher will continually provide support and guidance and help facilitate learning. Team roles will be assigned. This will not only help students master mathematical concepts but also promote development of the 21st Century skills needed to be successful in college and the work force.

Assessment Types:

Homework (10%)

The homework is assigned from the "Review & Preview" section of each lesson and reinforces previously introduced skills and concepts and prepares students for new ones. The homework problems also allow students to apply previously-learned concepts and skills in new contexts and deepen their understanding by solving the same type of problem in different ways. These problems spread the practice over several days and weeks so that students have time to become proficient with ideas and skills. This promotes the retention of the big ideas throughout the course. Students should check their homework and access helpful hints through the CPM website or their e-book.
http://www.cpm.org/students/homework/ **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

- HW from the textbook will be scored on a 5pt rubric when assigned. Students are responsible for knowing how HW will be graded. *The rubric will be discussed in depth in class.*
- Additional HW assignments (not from the textbook) may be assigned throughout the year and grading expectations will be discussed at the time the HW is assigned.
- ALEKS will be utilized this year and will be graded as homework. Goals and expectations will be explained further when we begin the program.
- ***Significant effort and follow-through on homework and its completion will directly affect performance on quizzes/tests and students will feel more confident in their math abilities.***

Participation (5%)

- Participation grades will be given and will be assessed on the appropriate classroom norms. Examples of appropriate norms are as follows: not talking outside your assigned team, keeping your conversations centered on math, explaining and justifying your ideas, being an active participant in your group and performing your team role daily, completing discussions on Schoology, bringing supplies to class and being in your seat when the bell rings ready for class to begin.

Quizzes (20%)

- Team quizzes are designed to inspire in-depth conversations and collaboration around essential mathematics. They promote higher level thinking, collaborative skills, and self-assessment. **The team quiz provides each individual student with necessary insights to help them prepare for the individual test.**
- A Team Quiz will be graded primarily on mathematical content. There are several options that may be used for grading a Team Quiz:
    - Examples include but are not limited to: randomly choose one paper, grade one problem on each team member's paper, grade each team members paper individually, or give only one copy per team to complete
- Individual quizzes may also be used throughout the year when necessary.

Tests (65%)

- Individual tests are given several days after the completion of the team quiz. In most cases, a new unit will be introduced before the individual test is administered. This allows students time between the team test and the individual test to prepare sufficiently.
- To promote long term retention of concepts, every individual assessment will be created using approximately 60% of previously taught material and 40% new material. Recently introduced material will most likely not be assessed until the next unit to allow ample time for students to achieve mastery.

- To study: review class work, homework, quizzes, notes & vocabulary which are all found in a student TOOLKIT. (Each student has been given one.) Visit http://www.cpm.org/students/extraByCourseCC.htm for extra practice and review problems by chapter/strand.

In an effort to provide both students and parents with an accurate reflection of each student's content knowledge, grades will be based heavily upon tests and quizzes that have been created to identify mastery. While homework and participation will only make-up a small percentage of the final grade, they are an essential strategy that each student must implement to master the content.

Student grades will be available to parents and students on Power School. Contact the front office to obtain your username and password.

NOTE: Students MUST complete schoolwork after an excused or unexcused absence to include suspensions, vacations, illness, etc. Please see the Student Code of Conduct for further details.

Textbook Website/eBook Login:

Our textbook is called *Core Connections, Course 2*. The publisher's website is www.cpm.org. The website has student and parent portals that can be accessed for free. The student portal gives students the ability to download resource pages for assignments, offers skill builders with explanations of course topics and examples along with extra practice problems and their answers as well. (http://www.cpm.org/parents/pguides10.htm) Students may also use this website for explanations of homework problems and videos that provide visual understandings. (http://www.cpm.org/students/homework/)

The text is structured to actively involve every student in the process of learning mathematics. The problem-based lessons provide a balance of basic skills, conceptual understanding, and problem solving strategies. Each lesson has a mathematical objective and focuses on one or more of the mathematical practices. **There is a parent section on the website with additional information about the design of the text, its research base, Parent Guides, Homework Help and much more.**

Electronic versions of the textbook will be provided for each student. Students will create accounts in class.

Teacher Info:

My name is Liz Stimer. This is my 13th year of teaching. I graduated from Otterbein University in 2003 with a BA in Psychology and in 2007 with a Master of Arts in Teaching. I also obtained a TESOL Endorsement from Otterbein. I am originally from Michigan and am a Wolverine fan. Outside of the classroom, I have worked with children of all ages as a piano teacher. Volunteering and working to make a difference in the lives of others is one of my passions and I will work to bring that into the classroom. I have two dogs and two cats. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, traveling, playing the piano/composing, camping and being outdoors.

I am the advisor of LEGACY: Leaders Engaging Globally as Community Youth. It is a service-learning student club/group at Genoa. For one of our projects, we have a community garden at our school. All of the produce is donated to WARM. We do many other projects throughout the school year. It is an excellent way to be involved at Genoa and in the community! Please e-mail me if you would like more information or would like to help out! I am also the coach/facilitator for Genoa's new Student Technology Team.

Thank you for giving me the honor of working with your child. I look forward to having a great year!

Parent Signature:_____

(Please do not detach this section. I will not be collecting the syllabus. I will check to make sure it is signed and give it back to your child to keep in his/her math binder. You may also e-mail me for an additional copy.)