

Welcome to 7th Grade Math

With Mrs. Chotkowski!



Contact Information:

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Materials

Each day you are responsible for bringing the following to class:

Textbook

Binder

Record and Practice Journal

Lined Paper

Pencil

* All work must be completed in pencil. No pencil = no credit!

Binder

We will be arranging our binders together, as a class. It is very important to keep your binder organized. Your tabs should be labeled as: Guided Notes, Practice, Assessments and Resources (RAP and Paper are optional)

Grading Policy

Your grade will be weighted as follows:

Practice (i.e. classwork or work that needs to be completed at home) – 20%

Assessments (Concept Quizzes) – 70%

Unit Tests (District Common Assessments) – 10%

Concept quizzes can be retaken multiple times. You will have 3 in-class opportunities to quiz on a particular concept. After that it is up to you to arrange a time with me to do a retake (a 24 hour notice is required).

Unit tests will be given at the end of each unit. They may only be taken once.

Grading Scale

A 100% - 93%

B 86% - 83%

C 76% - 73%

D 66% - 63%

A- 92% - 90%

B- 82% - 80%

C- 72% - 70%

D- 62% - 60%

B+ 89% - 87%

C+ 79% - 77%

D+ 69% - 67%

E 59% or below

Weebly

Weebly is an excellent online resource for you. I will update our Weebly page daily (chotkowski.weebly.com). It will contain assignments and announcements such as upcoming assessments. In addition, our textbook information will be available on our site as well as links for worksheets that are handed out. In the event that you are absent, you should check Weebly to find the work you missed to avoid falling behind.

Text/E-Mail Reminders

Remind101 is a one-way text or email message that allows me to easily communicate with you and your parents. With Remind101, I will send out reminders for work that needs to be completed at home, upcoming concept quiz dates and other important information. To sign up, follow the directions on the next page.

Electronics Policy/BYOD

There will be times you can utilize your phone in class. I will be clear when those opportunities are. On a day-to-day basis it is my expectation that if you bring your phone to class, you are putting it in the caddy for the hour. Headphones are not permitted.

Practice

Assignments are worth 5 points each and based on effort. Assignments are not necessarily easy – they are an opportunity for you to practice the material as well as discover what you understand and what you don't. By figuring this out, you are better prepared to ask questions and learn from your mistakes.

If you are confused about a problem or not sure what the problem is asking, you should show what you tried, write down what you did not understand or write out specific questions you have. That way, I can see you put effort into completing the assignment.

While the class is going over the assignment, you should be checking your work, making corrections and asking questions. Failure to do so could result in losing the effort points you earned from completing the assignment. I expect all assignments are completed on time. Late work will be accepted for half-credit.

Absent Work

It is your responsibility to find out what was due on the day you were absent as well as what assignments were given. Absent work should be turned into the appropriate drawer by the student station. When you are absent, you can check Weebly as well as our class bulletin board.



I am looking forward to a great year!

Standards Based Grading

Throughout the course, students will be graded using a Standards Based Grading model. All of the content that is covered in class will be broken down into specific concepts. Students will be scored on their knowledge level on each of the concepts. Students may earn a 5 – 9 on any particular concept. Each concept will be scored out of ten points. To earn a ten, students must demonstrate a high level of understanding on two assessments, by receiving a nine twice. Once a student earns a ten, he or she does not need to complete that concept on future assessments. The table below provides information on what each concept score means in terms of student comprehension.

Score	Level of Comprehension
10	Advanced Proficient – Student has earned a 9 on a particular skill twice, showing that they have mastered the concept.
9	Proficient – Student shows a deep understanding of the concept by completing higher level problems. Student is able to apply both critical thinking and problem solving skills to the concept.
8.5	Proficient – Student shows a deep understanding of the concept by completing higher level problems; however, the student has made a minor mistake not related to the specific concept. Student is able to apply both critical thinking and problem solving skills to the concept.
8	Partially Proficient - Student has a foundational understanding of the concept. Student may not be able to complete higher level problems and may have errors which are related to the specific concept.
7	Not Proficient – Student shows signs of partially understanding the concept. Student may have other errors, not related to the specific concept.
6	Not Proficient – Student is beginning to show signs of a basic understanding of the concept.
5	Not Proficient – Student shows no signs of even a basic understanding of the concept. This may be due to lack of effort or attendance.

Students will have the opportunity to receive help on any particular concept they may be struggling with. Students will also have the ability to improve their scores on particular concepts by re-taking them. A Standards Based Grading model benefits students by not penalizing them for learning the material at a different pace as other students.

Students have an unlimited number of attempts on a particular concept; therefore, they will not be permitted to use their binders on assessments. This will allow me to fully understand if students have mastered each concept without the aid of using examples to guide them. As a student re-tests on specific concepts, I will only keep the highest grade they earn and record it in Skyward. Each concept will be scored out of ten points in Skyward.

Standards Based Grading provides a great opportunity for students to celebrate their growth, as opposed to focusing on the process. Because of this, I am less concerned with students learning a concept on a particular timeline. Instead, I am more interested in students mastering concepts at a pace that is appropriate for their individual needs. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

*****This is for the Remind101 info sheet*****