

**Course: Accelerated Math 8**  
**Mrs. Keeker**

Welcome. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the guidelines for Math 8. It is very important that all students and parents go over the expectations and requirements together, as there are some changes to the math grading policies this year.

**Materials needed:**

**This course will cover many standards. It is critical that your student start school with a graph paper spiral and loose leaf graph paper as many of the standards include graphing and many examples and problems will be going into the spiral notebook as notes. We will start using these right away, so please be sure they have them at the start of the school year.**

Graph paper spiral (preferably a metal bound one, the others tend to fall apart) **Available in school store.**

Loose-leaf ¼” **graph paper** for homework and **regular lined** paper

Pencils

Red grading pens

Calculator (not a graphing calculator)

Ruler

Highlighter

Set of thin colored felt pens or pencils for graphing

4 AAA batteries for the graphing calculators we will be using during class

**Assessment and Homework/Classwork Policy:**

- Classwork and homework will be worth 20% of a student’s overall grade. It will be given regularly and expected to be completed on time. When homework is not completed on time, the discussions that follow are not meaningful to the students who have not done the work and are not familiar with the problems. **Only completed assignments with work shown will be accepted. Homework that is not complete will be handed back to finish and recorded as HB (handed back) until it is completed and turned back in.**
- Homework may be collected on the due date, or collected in a homework packet on Friday. Students should be writing down all homework in their planner, as we take time in class to do this daily.
- **Late homework** will only be **accepted until Friday of the week that it was assigned.** It must be **complete** and will be given a maximum of 2/4 points.
- **Absent work** may be turned in for full credit within a reasonable amount of time (3 days).
- Assessments will be worth a total of 80% of a student’s overall grade. Quizzes will be worth 20% and may not be retaken and Unit Tests will be worth 60% and there will be an opportunity for one retake only after all of the homework from that unit is completed and turned in.
  - At the end of each semester, there will be a final exam covering the semester standards which may not be retaken.
  - Semester grades will be cumulative. Each grading period will add on to the previous one, instead of starting over each 6-weeks.

- The grading scale for proficiency based grading is as follows (partial points may be assigned):

**Assessments:**

- 4: Advanced proficiency
- 3: Proficient
- 2: Basic proficiency
- 1: Below basic proficiency
- 0: Did not attempt

**Homework/Classwork:**

- 4: **Complete** and shows advanced proficiency
- 3: **Complete** and shows proficiency
- 2: Late and shows proficiency
- 1: Late and shows basic proficiency
- HB(0): handed back due to incomplete/no work shown
- NHI(0): not handed in

- The class grading scale is as follows due to the standards based grading system:

- A 87.5% - 100%
- B 69.0% - 87.4%
- C 50.1% - 68.9%
- D 37.7% - 50.0%
- F Below 37.7%

**TAG/IEP Considerations:**

**IEP:** I will be reviewing IEP files the first couple weeks of school and will be in close contact with the LRC staff to ensure I am meeting student needs. I work hard to support unique student learning needs and meet them where they are in their learning process.

**Tag Considerations:** Students and parents are welcome to give input if they feel the student's needs are not being met in the classroom. These are strategies that I use in my classroom to meet the varying needs of students:

- \*Assignment Modification – The regular assignment may be modified to meet the needs of the student. There will sometimes be enrichment problems given for these students to choose to do on their own for enriched learning.
- \*Cluster/Small Grouping – Grouping students with similar needs, interests, and/or abilities.
- \*Enrichment – Activities that add or go beyond the existing curriculum.
- \*Flexible Grouping – Students are grouped together to receive appropriately challenging instruction.
- \*Learning Styles – Different approaches or ways of thinking, i.e., auditory, tactile kinesthetic, and visual.
- \*Higher Level Critical Thinking – Higher order thinking skills to gain understanding of complex problems.

***Please feel free to contact me at any time.***

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***Thank you and I'm looking forward to a great year!***

***Mrs. Keeker***