

# Mr. Arnot's Course Syllabus for Common Core Math 8

## Contact Information

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I would like to welcome all of you to Common Core Math 8 at Pacific Cascade Middle School! We will build upon what you have learned in previous years in order to make new discoveries about math and the world around us.

The Connected Mathematics Project 3 (CMP3) curriculum demands a high degree of focus, participation and dedication to completing all assignments.

## **GRADING POLICY**

The purpose of grading in Issaquah School District is to show your current level of academic performance of students. Not that behavior and work habits are not important, but they are different than academic performance and should be communicated separately.

### **Assessing your Academic Learning: The Letter Grade**

This class is a Standards Based grading class. That means that the letter grade is based on how well you are able perform clearly defined learning targets.

This class will use a logic rule to determine your grade instead of averaging. Like other classes, you will have many learning opportunities (assignments, homework), and opportunities to show what you know (learning checks, tests, final). You will be maintaining a digital portfolio of your learning. You will use this portfolio to help you reflect on your learning. The digital portfolio (SeeSaw) will also help to communicate with your parents, and school administration.

Your overall grade will be viewable in Skyward report card at Mid-tri and the end of the Trimester. Prior to that you should keep track of your learning progress on your tracking sheet and in Seesaw.

HOWEVER, your learning is much more important to me than your grade. It is silly to reduce the intellectual work of an entire trimester to a single letter or number, because your learning is so much more than that. I want to talk about your grade as little as possible. I would much rather talk about learning.

To determine your grade you will look at your learning tracking sheet and determine how many standards you have met for the standards assessed so far for the trimester.

Standards Met	Grade
All, or all but one	A
Not yet on 2 standards	B
Not yet on 3 standards	C
Not yet on 4 standards	D
Not yet on 5 or more standards	F

## **TEST RETAKE OPTIONS**

You will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate your learning throughout the trimester. When I determine your grade I will focus on your most recent work but may consider all of your work in determining your current level of understanding and grade.

## **GRADING OF QUIZZES, TESTS AND TRIMESTER FINALS**

For each quiz/test, you will receive multiple grades based on the standards that are being tested on that assessment. Each standard will be marked as Met or Not Yet. In skyward for each standard you can drill down to the score which will be listed as a 1 for Met or a 0 for Not Yet.

### **Learning Opportunities (0%)**

Additional learning opportunities beyond classwork will be available when students have had sufficient practice in class in order to be successful at home. Answer keys will be provided online for students to check their work and post questions through the website when needed. For communication with families the following scores will be marked in the online gradebook for each learning opportunity. If students are not being successful in meeting standard and are not taking advantage of learning opportunities then a meeting may be setup to discuss next steps for the student.

Learning opportunities will receive a score based on effort and the following rubric:

- 4: All problems are completed, all work is shown, and complete sentences are used when necessary.
- 3: Most problems are completed, all work is shown, and complete sentences are used when necessary.
- 2: Less than half are completed, all work is shown, and complete sentences are used when necessary.
- 0: No attempt or missing

## **Assessing the Student's Non-Academic Performance**

Evaluation of behaviors not reflective of academic learning will be clearly separated to get a clearer picture of your strengths and weaknesses as a student. You will be evaluated in the following four non-academic areas. Each of the four areas will be reported on the report card comments based on the following three-point scale

Consistently	Sometimes	Rarely
3	2	1

**Work Habits** – Reveals how well you come to class prepared and turn in quality, complete, on-time work. A score of “3” indicates that you consistently come to class prepared and produces high quality, complete, on-time work.

**Initiative** – Reveals how active you are in taking charge of your learning. A score of “3” indicates that you consistently ask questions, seek help, use the feedback from learning checks to improve on the unit tests and turn in missing work when given the opportunity.

**Collaboration** – Reveals your ability to fully participate in class discussions and group activities. A score of “3” indicates that you consistently participate productively, stay focused and work in an inclusive manner.

**Citizenship** – Reveals your discipline and self-control in the routines of class. A score of “3” indicates that you consistently follow rules, respect others and complete work with integrity.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Clear communication is critical among students, parents, and teacher. I am available through voicemail or email, although email is the most efficient way to contact me.

### **DAILY SUPPLIES**

These supplies are your responsibility to bring **daily** to math class:

- correcting pen
- graph paper
- 3-ring binder
- pencils (mechanical preferred)
- planner
- scientific calculator (TI-30XIIS recommended)

### **EXPECTATIONS**

In order to be successful, everyone needs to feel like the classroom is a safe place to learn, experiment, and make mistakes without worry. To this end, I will hold you to the following expectations at all times:

#### **READINESS** *I am responsible for being prepared*

- Be prepared for class each day with needed materials and completed assignments.
- Be ready to learn, with a positive attitude and hard work.

#### **RESPECT** *I must not prevent others from learning*

- Respect the classroom by handling materials and supplies properly
- Respect your classmates by listening, working cooperatively and refraining from negative comments and actions.
- Respect the teacher by listening carefully.

#### **Learning** *I am responsible for my own learning*

- Complete all homework, projects, and assignments on time.
- Keep track of assignments in your planner.
- Make-up all work missed due to absence.
- Study for quizzes and tests.
- Participate in class discussions and activities.
- Try your hardest and do your best work at all times!

## **FIRST ASSIGNMENT**

Please read over the syllabus with your parent/guardian. Detach this page, fill-out, sign and return it to Mr. Arnot by **Friday, September 13, 2019**. If you have questions or concerns, at any time, I can be reached through the contact information at the top of the syllabus. I am looking forward to working with you and your family this year!

Student's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Mom's/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Dad's/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Which email/phone number is the best way to reach a parent/guardian? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have internet access at home? (check one box) Yes ☐ No ☐

Please use this space to help me understand your student as a math learner :

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Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

