

August 20, 2018

Dear Parents,

Now that we are beginning our 1st full week of school, hopefully everyone is getting back into their school year routines. I wanted to introduce myself and provide you with a few resources to make you and your child's year in 7th Grade Math a successful one.

This is my 29th year of teaching in MVUSD and my 1st year at DMMS. I began teaching 4th grade at E. Hale Curran, then moved to Murrieta Elementary where I taught 3rd grade for 17 years. In 2009 I decided it was time for change, so I moved to Shivela Middle to teach 6th grade math & science. After 3 years, I graduated to 7th grade math & science. I then decided to focus solely on math, and I taught Math 7 and Adv Math 7. For the past 5 years I have been a member of the District Math Advisory Committee representing 7th grade and served as the Math Department Chair at Shivela. Beginning this year, I have taken on the position of 7th Grade Math Lead for the District.

I am a native of Southern California, and only departed the area for the 4 years I attended UC Berkeley, where I met my husband of 29 years. We have lived in Temecula for 27 years and have 2 wonderful daughters. Our oldest just graduated from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana with a Kinesiology major and an Anthropology minor. She is currently living and working in Indianapolis. Our youngest daughter is just graduated from TVHS. She is currently a freshman attending Butler University in Indianapolis. As a family, we enjoy traveling to tropical locations where we spend as much time as possible at the beach and on the water.

My philosophy is to teach students to be self-sufficient, responsible learners. I am very routine oriented and students, once they know my routine, are expected to show maturity and take ownership for their learning. This is demonstrated by students completing HW on time, participating in lessons and class activities, taking pride in their work, and following classroom and school expectations.

Part of this responsibility includes checking grades on Aeries on a daily basis and understanding their own progress in class. My PowerSchool Learning site is used not only for HW assignments and notes, but is also my tool to communicate with students and to provide helpful math links. Students are asked to check PowerSchool Learning frequently, as sometimes I send group messages to their inbox. I also use Remind 101 to help students as well as parents remember important dates.

Students will need access to 4 online sites for math: Aeries, PowerSchool Learning, Big Ideas, and Imagine Math. Big Ideas is the website for our math book. Not only does the site have the book online, it has tools and math help for the students. I would highly encourage you to sit down with your child and look through the Big Ideas website together so that you are familiar with the tools the site offers.

As a parent you have access to Aeries, PowerSchool Learning, and Imagine Math.

Seventh grade is a very interesting year. If this is your first experience as a 7th grade parent, you are in for a treat! Many changes occur during this year, some for the good and some not so (but those we can fix!). Students need to be given the opportunity to show they can be independent, yet responsible. Students can do this by checking their own grades, however, they still need parents also checking up on them. Each child is different, and at this age very

few are capable of being 100% independent and responsible. Here are couple links for articles on 7th graders. I have also posted the links on PowerSchool Learning in the Parent section.

<http://www.schoolfamily.com/school-family-articles/article/10627-seventh-grade-social-changes-what-to-expect>

<http://www.bradenbell.com/bradens-blog/middle-school-mondays-what-to-expect-from-your-seventh-grader>

<http://www.parenttoolkit.com/index.cfm?objectid=11D8DA50-1360-11E4-98390050569A5318>

All of my classroom policies are posted on PowerSchool Learning. Good Luck with your 7th grade year! Please feel free to email with any questions.

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Math 7

District 7th Grade Math Lead

