

MATH 6
2022-2023 Course Overview

Dr. Rachelle Feiler
Thompson Middle School

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of Math 6, including the broad objectives, learning and grading practices, and home/school communication. A Suggested Supply List is included. Weekly Agendas and details for all course assignments will be posted in Canvas. Grades for assignments are posted in Canvas, but AERIES is the official grade book for the course. If you have any questions about the course, please email me at any time (rfeiler@murrieta.k12.ca.us).

OBJECTIVES

The study of mathematics teaches us to reason quantitatively, abstractly, logically, spatially, and critically. Becoming a powerful user of mathematics allows students to better understand and impact their world.

The broad objectives of this course are for students to be able to:

- (1) Use concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems, particularly with percents;
- (2) Understand division of fractions;
- (3) Extend the rational number system to include negative numbers;
- (4) Write, interpret, and use expressions and equations;
- (5) Develop statistical thinking;
- (6) Develop formulas for areas of polygons, and surface area and volume of prisms;
- (7) Make sense, reason, communicate, and model with mathematics.

The specific learning targets for Math 6 are attached and on Canvas.

Textbooks

Please keep the math Course 1 hardcover textbook at home. Please do not write in the textbook! You will be charged for any damage, including excessive marks in the textbook, when you return your books at the end of the year.

Homework

Math requires practice, and students will be required to complete practice assignments at home. Students should expect to spend 20-30 minutes on their math assignments at home on Monday – Thursday. If students are spending longer than 30 minutes on average on assignments, please reach out to me so that we can resolve the issue.

Grades

Math grades are made up of Assessments (70% of class grade) and Practice (30% of class grade). Students may revise an assignment to improve their grade and may retake tests to show improved mastery. Instructions for retakes are on Canvas and will be reviewed in class after our first test. Late work is accepted for full credit any time up to the Friday before the last week of the semester. However, assignments are designed to support learning and mastery prior to a test. Students who complete assignments on time are more likely to be successful on assessments.

Home/School Communication

Making the transition to middle school is a significant event for students. Our first six weeks of school will include many classroom activities designed to help students understand how to be successful in middle school and to build our classroom community of learners. Students are also expected to be familiar with school rules and policies, which can be found in the Handbook pages included in the TMS Student Planner students receive at registration/textbook pickup.

The most important expectation in our class will be **communication**. Our school district provides many tools for students and adults to stay informed. Please be sure that you have access to Canvas (adults can be observers for their students' courses) and that you have set your communication preferences in AERIES so that class updates and messages about you or your student reach you. Directions for setting up your access can be found on the TMS website. Please contact the school office if you need assistance with getting access.

Most concerns about learning, the classroom experience, and grades can be resolved with timely communication. Students may feel nervous or embarrassed to talk with the teacher. This is a learning opportunity to practice how to ask for help or get information. Please know that I welcome questions and feedback from students and adults. The more I understand the needs of my students, the more effective I can be. The best way to reach me for an immediate response is through email (rfeiler@murrieta.k12.ca.us). I also check messages in Canvas. I am happy to schedule in-person, telephone, or video conferences as needed.

Suggested Supply List for Math

Bring to school every day:

- 3-ring binder with dividers for classes
- Plenty of paper - graph paper recommended, but not required
- Pencils with erasers
- Pencil sharpener that can catch its shavings, or extra lead for mechanical pencils
- Colored pens/pencils or fine-tip markers
- Highlighters
- 6-inch or 12-inch ruler

Have at home:

- 3-hole punch
- stapler
- scissors
- tape or glue stick

I appreciate your support if you can consider purchasing extras of any of these supplies to donate to our class, especially paper, pens, highlighters, and pencils. Expo whiteboard markers are also helpful.

If you need assistance with obtaining class supplies, please let me know.