

***South Charlotte Middle School: Math 1 Syllabus***

***Mrs. Courtney Ballard ~ courtneyl.ballard@cms.k12.nc.us***

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**Major Instructional Goals:** The North Carolina Common Core Standards for Math 1 as well as the Charlotte Mecklenburg curriculum guides will be used for this class.

*Parent Initials*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* **Required Materials**

2” Binder, 2 Composition Notebooks, Pencil Pouch, Dividers (5), Pencils, Erasers, Ruler, Graph Paper, Glue Sticks, Ti 83+ or 84+ Calculator (Optional), Notebook Paper, Expo Marker

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Calculators**

During the first week of school, students will be given the option to use their own calculator or be assigned a classroom calculator. If a classroom calculator that students are assigned to goes missing or is damaged, they will be responsible for covering the cost of a new one. Students will also be responsible for providing their own batteries if using a classroom calculator. If the student chooses to use his/her own calculator throughout the course, he/she will not be assigned a classroom calculator. They will be expected to bring the calculator each day to class. Please be mindful that before each formal/informal the calculator will be cleared of all memory and applications.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Homework**

Homework will be assigned Monday through Friday. All homework and projects will be posted on each teacher’s website. To locate teacher websites, o to South Charlotte Middle School, Faculty and Staff, and click on the website symbol beside the teacher’s name. Homework will be graded on a daily and weekly basis through the homework check. Students are required to copy all homework questions and label them clearly in their 2” binder section under the homework divider. They will be asked to write out certain problems daily. The points given on daily homework will include 5 points for the original problem, 3 points for work that makes sense and 2 points for the answer. Students will not be allowed to use their books, Chromebooks, or calculators for the homework check- only their written or printed homework.

 Homework will be gone over daily to give students the opportunity to correct work and answers. Then there will be a weekly homework check over the assignments on the daily homework sheet. The problems at this time must be complete and correct. There will be no partial credit given on the weekly homework check. In order for students to receive full credit for the homework problems, they must have the original problem, the correct answer and work that gives the correct answer.

 If students are given a homework assignment on Tuesday and are absent from school on Wednesday, the homework assignment given on Tuesday is due the day they return to school. The homework assigned on Wednesday and Thursday is due on Friday. Students have the responsibility of looking on the teachers website and on the board to see what assignments they have missed. There will also be a notebook available before and after school for students to obtain notes that are missed due to an absence.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Notebooks**

Notebooks will consist of daily notes and activities completed in class. Students will turn in notebooks to be graded during every formal assessment. Notebooks will be graded based on neatness/organization (4), content accuracy (4), required elements (4), and illustrations and diagrams. If students write neatly, organize notebook according to teacher instructions, record content accurately, update table of contents daily, number pages, don’t skip pages, include titles for lessons, and illustrate diagrams clearly, they will receive the full 16/16 points for the notebook check. Notebook checks will be an informal grade. Students are responsible for copying notes and complete missing assignments in notebooks within 2 days of returning to school from an absence.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Group Evaluations**

Students will be working in groups. They will evaluate one another in the groups given the rubric provided. This will be done on a two week basis. Students will also evaluate themselves. I will also evaluate the students in the four areas provided. The scores will be added together to give the final grade. Student evaluations will be written with specific documentation about the activities that take place within the group settings among four areas. Students will then be given the evaluation scores only so that they know which areas to improve upon. The written evaluations will be kept anonymous so that students may be completely honest.

 The ability to work in a group or team setting is a vital 21st century skill. Most jobs require communicating with others in a collaborative setting to reach a common goal. Communicating about the mathematics introduced is just as important as being able to work a problem. Allowing students other ways of communicating in mathematics is essential to their success in all classes.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Tutoring**

Tutoring is offered by every math teacher to ensure that the students get the help that they need to be successful. Students who stay after school must be picked up on time – failure to do so may remove afternoon tutoring as an option for your student. Students MUST sign up no later than the day before tutoring. If a student shows up for tutoring without signing up, they will not be permitted to stay. Students may attend any math teacher’s tutoring session. All teachers collaborate and are teaching the same concepts. Students must make it a priority to seek the help they need during the times provided below:

**Jessica Aycock Math 8 Tutoring:** Tuesday Afternoon 3:45 – 4:30

**Courtney Ballard Math 8 Tutoring:** Thursday Morning 7:30 – 8:15

**Karen Conlan Math 8 Tutoring:** Thursday Afternoon 3:45 – 4:30

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Retests**

If a student scores a 79% or below on a test, he/she will be able to retest. Tutoring is mandatory before retesting. There will be a packet given that students will be expected to complete before retesting. There will only be one retest day and students must have accurately completed the review packet prior to retesting. If students fail to complete the packet and do not show up on the scheduled retest day, there will NOT be another opportunity. Students may come to tutoring to receive assistance on this packet, but they must at least attempt all problems prior to tutoring.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Extra Credit**

I do not give any one student extra credit that is not offered to the entire class. Students will be given opportunities to earn homework passes and a bad test day ticket. Each formal test grade will also have an extra credit problem to be worked. If students are present on the day of a test, three points will be added to their test score.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Student Planner/Agenda**

Every student will have the responsibility of keeping a student agenda with them at all times. This is a wonderful resource that includes the student handbook, rules, and dress code, as well as, a record of daily assignments and projects. It is also the tool that allows teachers to communicate with you as parents. Your child is responsible for keeping up with the planner and having it everyday in every class.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Expectations**

***Classroom Rules***

1. *Be prepared, be polite, and be prompt.*
2. *Respect yourself, others and our environment.*
3. *Follow all teacher directions and school rules.*

As a team we have set the highest standards and expectations for your child in preparation for the high school environment.We will expect and encourage appropriate behavior in all areas of the school and in all aspects of the school day. Students will be expected to follow all South Charlotte Middle School and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools rules and regulations regarding behavior and dress code.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Communication**

We are extending an invitation to you to become involved in your child’s learning. Question them about what they are learning and set up some household rules concerning reading and studying. Also, please feel free to call or e-mail us for any questions or concerns. Below are our e-mail addresses. The school number is 980-343-3670. We welcome your concerns and look forward to working with you and your child this school year.

Courtney Ballard ~ courtneyl.ballard@cms.k12.nc.us

Karen Conlan ~ karenw.conlan@cms.k12.nc.us

Jessica Aycock ~ jessicam.aycock@cms.k12.nc.us

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Remind 101**

Another form of communication will be through text message. If you wish to receive text message updates from Mrs. Ballard with important news and information, please send a text message to the number with the message listed below according to the math course your child is taking (students and parents may sign up).

**Block 1: Text @cballard1 to 81010**

**Block 3: Text @cballard3 to 81010**

**Block 4: Text @cballard4 to 81010**

***Please sign and return this syllabus by Wednesday, August 26th. A copy of this syllabus is located on my website.***

*I have read and discussed the above discipline procedures with my child.*

Child’s Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Will your child have Internet access at home to access my website for homework and various other resources? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No