

South Hills Middle School 2023-24

Suggested Supplies for Grade 8

SUPPLY NOTES: Students in grade 8 will have the opportunity to use a loaner Chromebook during the school year with parent/guardian permission.

The following items are suggested supplies for eighth graders. There may be teacher or subject specific additions to the list at the beginning of the school year. **Please read Page 2 about calculator use in 8th grade.**

Please clearly mark all items with the student's name before sending them to school.

General Supplies for all classes

- Several #2 Pencils (mechanical or regular)
- Erasers
- Colored pens
- Colored pencils
- Thin markers
- Loose leaf lined paper
- Pencil pouch
- Small handheld pencil sharpener (for colored pencils)
- Highlighters
- Post-it notes
- Scissors
- Glue

Math

- Graph paper spiral notebook (either 1/4" or 5 x 5)
- Math spiral notebook
- Straight edge protractor
- Pencils (mechanical preferred)
- Folder for handouts/homework
- TI-84 graphing calculator highly recommended (**see P. 2 for information about calculator use**)

Language Arts

- Composition notebook (not spiral)
- Folder for handouts/homework

Science

- Spiral notebook or composition notebook
- Folder for handouts/homework

American History

- Composition notebook (not spiral)
- Folder for handouts/homework

Bloomfield Hills Middle School 2022-23

Suggested Supplies for Grade 8

ABOUT CALCULATOR USE IN 8TH GRADE MATH CLASSES

This will be a year of exciting mathematical growth for your child. It will encompass much new information to prepare for the study of mathematics at the high school level. Additionally, we will spend a great deal of time working on problem solving strategies that will allow us to investigate more unique and interesting problems than those usually studied in middle school. For many years, we have allowed calculator use by students in the classroom setting and in most homework and testing situations. All of the available research and practice proves that this is a sound and recommended educational policy. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics supports calculator use by students of all levels of ability in many different problem settings. Advanced Placement, ACT and SAT examinations are now designed to incorporate calculators in the mathematics sections.

Some families may wish to invest in a TI 84 graphing calculator, and we encourage you to consider this possibility. These are extremely powerful tools that are used at high schools and universities in many mathematics classes. Teachers will use the overhead version for demonstration and discussion purposes in all classes. Because these are much more costly calculators, your child must be ready to assume responsibility for its care. We do have graphing calculators for student use available in the classroom for those who do not wish to purchase their own; however these may not be taken home.

Finally, we want to assure you that we also believe that not all mathematical thinking and work is appropriate for calculator use. There will be a great deal of emphasis on mental arithmetic strategies and estimation skills, as well as paper and pencil computation when advisable throughout the year. Part of becoming mathematically literate is in learning when to use which techniques and tools.