

Syllabus

Mr. Hart's 8th Grade Math

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Website: Can be accessed by go to the following website: <https://desertsky.dvusd.org>
Select 'Staff Websites' then find my name, Aaron Hart, then follow the links on the left hand side.

Welcome to a new and exciting school year! I am looking forward to working with each of you. This year, you will encounter new challenges as you prepare for high school. I am looking forward to an amazing year!

Description of Course:

The 8th grade math class is based on Arizona's Career and College Readiness Standards and the Deer Valley Unified School District Curriculum. The curriculum includes the following domains: **The Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.** The Standards for Mathematical Practice are embedded in all of the domains.

Important Materials

3-ring binder (1.5 – 2 inch)
Pencils and erasers (lots for whole year)
Loose leaf paper (lots for the whole year)
Calculator (TI-30X or similar **scientific** calc.) (Optional)
A Charged Chromebook

Please let me know if you need assistance with any of these items. Arizona law requires public schools to provide supplies required for academic success. This list represents optional, supplementary items which you may supply at your discretion

★ Determining Quarter Grade and Final Grade ★

Your student's official grade will be in **Power Schools, NOT Canvas**. Grades will be determined on the students' cumulative earned points and weighted by category.

Assessments:

Summative tests, projects

Coursework (check for understanding):

EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN CLASS.

Quizzes, independent practice, assignments, exit tickets, checks for understanding, and daily activities.

Practice (in the process of learning):

Student work that is completed inside or outside of class, such as classwork and homework.

Late Work/Missing Work

All practice tasks are expected on their assigned due dates. If students are absent on a date that an assignment was due, **the work is expected on the day of the student's return.** If a student is on campus, but not in class, the work must still be handed in on time. If a student is absent, the student will have 1 day for each absence to complete work that was assigned while absent. **Math concepts build upon each other and turning work in late could hinder students' learning of the concepts being taught.** This could mean a lower level of understanding the 8th grade math standards and lower performance on assessments which will affect the overall grade.

Missing Work: An assignment is considered as missing work when it is not submitted by the due date.

Late Work: An assignment is considered late work when the assignment is not submitted by the due date that was established, but is submitted within the late work timeframe listed below:

- **Assignment is not due within the class period**
- **Assignment is not a long-term assignment**
- **Assignment is turned in within 5 school days after the end of the unit**

Classwork: An assignment expected to be submitted within the class period.

Homework: An assignment expected to be completed fully or partially at home independently.

Practice (classwork/homework)

This category includes tasks, completed inside and outside of the classroom, that a student completes while in the process of learning specific skills. **Practicing in math is essential** for increasing and reinforcing student learning and achievement for course standards. Student participation is critical in order to receive specific feedback on how to improve and become successful in meeting course standards.

In addition, to increase student achievement, practicing also provides the student opportunities to develop critical, independent study skills and self-discipline for their own educational journey. In math, it is important to **show all work/steps/explanations when completing problems.** Doing this gives the teacher valuable information about levels of understanding and specifics on where a student needs help with his/her understanding. Not showing all work/steps **will result in no credit until the work/steps/explanations are shown.**

Feedback on assignments will be given in **Canvas** in the comment section of the assignment, as an announcement or as messages to students. It is **IMPORTANT** that students read feedback on a daily basis.

! Extra Credit !

A student's grade is based on his/her performance of the 8th grade math standards and therefore **no extra credit will be awarded.**

Classroom Environment

In order to be successful in learning 8th grade math concepts, students **MUST** engage in the learning activities. Engaging in your learning means: listening to the teacher and other students; completing tasks; asking questions of the teacher and of other students; presenting your thinking to other students and the class; and taking risks. Do not be afraid to make mistakes. **THAT'S HOW LEARNING HAPPENS!** **Disruptions to the learning environment are not acceptable and consequences will follow the school discipline policy.**

Absences

Students who are absent, are still responsible for the learning that occurs in class as well as any assignments that are missed. **Information about missed learning assignments will be available in Canvas under Modules by week.** You will find videos, notes, handouts and all of your practice assignments to complete.

If students are absent, they should complete the learning videos that go along with the unit binder and any tasks/assignments missed and turn them in. After completing the learning videos and practice, if students need help understanding, they should sign up and attend FLASH. Students must make up assessments missed due to an absence **within two weeks of the original assessment date.** Students should be scheduling and attending FLASH class to make up the assessment. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact the teacher to make other arrangements.

***** Being absent does NOT exempt you from the learning or the assignments. *****

Please remember math concepts build upon each other and missing lessons taught by the teacher will make learning new concepts difficult and can affect your understanding of the math standards.

Plagiarism

All tasks should be completed by the student. Any practice and/or assessment that has been plagiarized (copied) from any source i.e. apps that give answers, other students, or the internet may receive consequences as noted in the district policies and the student may have to complete an alternative task to demonstrate his/her knowledge. This includes getting answers from others off of social media applications. Turning in work that is **NOT** your own **IS plagiarism.**

A.I.

After careful consideration and in alignment with the developmental needs of our students and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), DVUSD has determined that the use of Large Language Models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, are not suitable for students in grades K-8 and will not be utilized or endorsed in academic contexts.

Additional Help

Extra help is for students who **are engaging** in class learning activities but continue to struggle with specific math objectives. Make sure to always complete ALL assignments, even if they are difficult, and then ask for help in class and/or schedule and attend FLASH for additional help.

Assessments

Assessments must be completed the day they are given within the class period. The only exception is if the student misses the previous TWO days before the assessment. An absence the day before the assessment may not excuse the student from the assessment.

Reassessments

In order to ensure mastery of the standards for which a student did not demonstrate proficiency; students may be required to make corrections on assessments, complete missing assignments (**not for credit but for learning**), complete alternate learning tasks/assignments, and/or meet with the teacher to explain misunderstandings. Then, they may take an alternate assessment of the same learning targets.

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Classroom Policy

Cell phones and technology are a large part of our world today. There are times that using cell phones/electronic devices are permitted during the school day and during class learning experiences at the discretion of the teacher. Cell phones/electronic devices are expected to be turned **OFF** upon entering the campus and are expected to be placed in the students' backpack. This includes ear-buds, air-pods, and head-phones. The only time a cell phone/electronic device should be out or in use is when the teacher has specifically stated that it may be used for educational purposes. If the cell phone policy is not followed, the following consequences may occur:

- 1) **Verbal warning and documentation**
- 2) **Incident report and/or phone call to parent**
- 3) **Turned into office for student pick-up at the end of the school day**
- 4) **Turned into office – follow school discipline procedures for cell phones/electronic devices**

Canvas (Deer Valleys Learning Management System)

Deer Valley USD uses Canvas to support the district's technology initiative. Designed specifically for K-12 teachers and students, Canvas is an easy-to-use, cloud-based learning management system (LMS) that connects all the digital tools and resources teachers use into one simple place. It integrates seamlessly with hundreds of apps, empowering teachers and students with countless tools to make teaching and learning easier and more engaging. The Canvas grade book is connected to our student information system, PowerSchool. Parents can create a Canvas parent account to observe progress, view grades and sign up to receive teacher announcements and notifications. Observers can link their Canvas account to their student's account so they can see assignment due dates, announcements, and other course content. Observers can view the course content but cannot participate in the course. When your student logs into Canvas, he/she should go to "account", then "settings", then "pair with observer" and this will give you a code where you can link your parent account to your student's account.

Students, when you are using Canvas, and other applications like Khan Academy, Quizizz to complete assignments, tasks, quizzes, assessments, etc. the teachers can see when you log in, how long you are logged in, what pages you are visiting, how long you are spending on those pages, and how long it takes you to answer each question on quizzes and assessments. Please be mindful of this as math should ALWAYS have work associated with each of the problems. Questions **SHOULD NOT** be taking 1 to 5 seconds to complete. If this is happening, then it is likely that you are guessing only, not showing work, and possibly plagiarizing by getting answers from other sources. Please remember that when you don't complete the learning on your own, you are **NOT** really learning and you are only cheating yourself from your education and learning. When you make mistakes, you learn from them and your knowledge grows.

Student Responsibility

I will do my job, which is to teach you math, but you will need to do your job. Your grade is the pay you receive for doing your job. The more you put into it, the more pay you shall receive (or the higher the grade!). How can you be successful in math?

1. Be prepared for class
2. Pay attention in class
3. **Fully engage in class activities**
4. **Complete all learning progressions on your own or according to directions**
5. Study at home for all tests
6. **ASK FOR HELP IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND**

Remember, I cannot read your mind. If you do not ask questions, I assume that you understand the material. Math concepts build upon each other. If you don't understand a concept, don't let it go by. It will come back up again and if you didn't learn it the first time, you will have trouble again.

The only stupid question is the one that goes unasked!