Sinaloa Middle School
A California School To Watch
A California Gold Ribbon School
2026 - 2027

6th/7th Grade SAI Mathematics
Ms. Shaw
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School Website: sinaloa.simivalleyusd.org

Welcome to the 2026 -2027 school year! I am so excited to have your student in my class and to be partnering with you in an effort to ensure that he or she makes great progress! This will be my 17th year teaching. I taught elementary students for 7 years, middle school students for 9 years, and my 2nd year here at Sinaloa. I have a passion for inspiring our youth to believe in themselves and for helping them to become the best that they can be which is why I chose to become a teacher.

I. Course Standards, Rationale and Objectives

Educational standards describe what students should know and be able to do in each subject in each grade. In California, the State Board of Education decides on the standards for all students, from kindergarten through high school. Information regarding specific standards can be found at www.cde.ca.gov

This course will address symbolic reasoning and calculations with symbols that are central in algebra. Through the study of algebra, a student develops an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and the sciences. In addition, algebraic skills and concepts are developed and used in a wide variety of problem-solving situations.

Students will gain not only conceptual understanding of mathematical principles but also knowledge of and experience with logical reasoning. The logical reasoning inherent in the study of mathematics allows for applications to a broad range of situations in which answers to practical problems can be found.

II. Classroom Management and Expectations

Student Responsibilities

Sinaloa's **SABER CODE** is the foundation for behavior expectations on our campus. This Code, along with the standards for citizenship/work habits grades, the school tardy policy and the school discipline policies are included in the Agenda Book which can be found online at sinaloa.simivalleyusd.org.

Students are expected to arrive at class on time. Students will be given a day notice if they need to bring their math book to school. It will be written on their agendas. Nonetheless, it is still the student's responsibility to keep all issued textbooks covered and in good condition regardless of whether the books are kept at home or brought to school. Students will also be expected to support a positive learning environment for all by giving their best effort and also by respecting the rights of others to learn.

Regular use of an agenda book is extremely valuable in terms of helping each student develop organizational skills necessary for success at the secondary level. It can also serve as an effective tool for communication between parents/guardians and teachers. Students are therefore expected to use an agenda book in class each day and will be required to record any assigned homework or lack thereof (i.e.,to indicate 'no homework'). The agenda book may also be used to record important upcoming tests/project dates.

Classroom Rules

In this classroom, it is the expectation that all students will be respectful and responsible. That means that each student will be prepared for class with materials and the proper attitude to learn; that each student will be in his/her seat when the bell rings. Proper language, tone and behavior must be evident. Reinforcement for positive behavior may include notes or phone calls home, increased privileges, and in-class tangible rewards as deemed appropriate by the teacher.

Our classroom also follows the Simi Valley Unified School District discipline policy as reflected in the student agenda book which can be viewed on our school's website. As such, a teacher consequence and parental contact will have been made prior to issuance of any disciplinary referral to administration.

Consequences for not following classroom rules are:

1) Verbal warning
2) Phone call home
3) Phone call home *and/or* detention
4) Disciplinary referral

The only exceptions will be in the case of total defiance, abusive behavior, physical threats and fighting. In such cases, immediate referral to our administrative team will be made.

III. Grading Policy

The student's degree of mastery of the California Academic Standards is the critical element in determining the letter grade in this class. Grading will be by points earned and will reflect a letter grade, from 'A' through 'F', on report cards. Your student will demonstrate mastery in this class by maintaining a grade point average for the class of 80% or higher.

My grading scale is as follows:

93 – 100= A	78 - 79 = C+	60 – 62 = D-
90 – 92 = A-	73 – 77 = C	59 – below = F
88 – 89 = B+	70 – 72 = C-	
83 – 87 = B	68 – 69 = D+	
80 – 82 = B-	63 – 67 = D	

Students will be graded on all classwork and homework assignments, special projects, and tests. Each assignment will have a point value. Grades are weighted as follows:
Tests/ Projects: 40%
Classwork/ Homework: 50%
Participation: 10%

Work habits, effort and citizenship are assessed for the report card as well.

We will be utilizing **Aeries** in our classroom. All students and parents are expected to have a login and sign in to the website. Computers are available in my classroom and on campus, if needed.

Students in this class must rely on their own talents and abilities to complete academic work at a level in which they take pride. Cheating offenses may include but will not be limited to the following; copying someone else's work, allowing someone to copy your work, cheating on a test or quiz, plagiarizing and or forgery, and submitting work that they received substantial assistance. If any of these situations arise, consequences will include the following: parents contacted, grade of "F" or fail on the assignment, citizenship will be lowered to an "N" for 1st offense in class, second offense will result in a "U" in citizenship. The student will also be referred to the office and the offense will be recorded in the students file. For more information regarding Academic Dishonesty, please refer to the Agenda Book.

IV. Communication

ParentSquare will be used by Sinaloa this year and most of the communication will be sent through this app. It is important to have access to the app. Please let me know if you need help setting up access. Parents/ Guardians are advised that the regular use of an agenda book, spiral notebook or day planner is extremely valuable to review assignments, test dates, and notes from teachers. Parents may contact me through ParentSquare or by email. I will reply either via ParentSquare, email or phone call within 48 hours.

V. Attendance and Tardy Policies

Absence Policy: Good attendance is crucial to the success of the student, as new information is presented daily. If a student is absent, the student will have the same number of days to complete missed assignments that he/she was absent. The student is responsible for making up all missed assignments.

Tardy Policy: On-time arrival at every class is a component of school citizenship (see the Agenda book). More than three tardies to class each quarter will result in an "N" (Needs Improvement) grade in Citizenship. More than four tardies to class will result in a "U" (Unsatisfactory) grade in Citizenship.

I look forward to a positive and successful year!

Thank you,
Ms. Kristine Shaw