



Math 8 Interactive Syllabus

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Math 8

Math 8 is a pivotal year in mathematics. Over this course, students will encounter an introduction to content and standards that will continue through each of their High School math courses. It is not strictly “PreAlgebra” so expect a variety of topics to come across the desks. In addition to the Common Core Standards for 8th Grade Math, we will work on the Standards of Mathematical Practice throughout the year. These are: 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively. 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others. 4. Model with mathematics. 5. Use appropriate tools strategically. 6. Attend to precision. 7. Look for and make use of structure. 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

The content and standards for this course are very rigorous. Please expect to work toward mastery of the material and to utilize the supports that are offered early and often to accomplish our academic goals.

The 8th Grade Math Standards will be covered through the following units:

() Volume of spheres, cones, and cylinders () Transformations () Interior/exterior angles, transversals, and similar triangles
() Pythagorean theorem () Scatterplots, linear modes, and two-way tables () Rational and Irrational numbers () Radicals and integer exponents () Solve Linear Equations in one variable () Solve pairs of simultaneous linear equations () Define, Evaluate, and compare functions () Use functions to model relationships

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Grading

Assignment grades are based on two factors: quantity (whether or not the assignments are complete) and quality (whether or not the assignments demonstrate effort toward understanding and improving). Only complete, high-quality assignments will receive full credit. Any score that is lower than you would like can be improved by improving the work on that assignment. Grades are also weighted for this course. For more information on grading look at the chart below.

Grading Scale			Percentage Weighting
100 - 90%	A	Exceeded Expectations / Almost Perfect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignments 40%• Attendance/Participation 10%• Assessments 50% <p><i>Attendance each day is an important part of being able to achieve consistent and uninterrupted growth in mathematics. It is vital that students are present and on time each day.</i></p>
89 - 80%	B	Proficient	
79 - 70%	C	Nearing Proficient	
69 - 60%	D	Beginning Steps	
59% and below	F	Incomplete / Absent / Missing	

Assessments: All assessments must be taken/retaken until the score is 80% or higher. If a student does not achieve a score of 80% or higher, they may be required to attend Targeted Assistance (8th period) 2 or more days per week until that assessment is completed.

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Attendance/ Late Work

Attendance: Attendance is based on a combination of physical presence and meaningful engagement with the learning opportunities each week (participation). These span the entirety of the class period and of the school week. On-time student attendance is expected and will be noted through Powerschool.

Late work: My expectation is that all assignments will be completed and turned in on time. I also understand that stuff happens. For this reason, you will have an opportunity to turn in assignments late without penalty. To do so requires contacting me before the due date is passed and informing me of your plan for getting the work completed and when it will be submitted.

Students can also fix or finish previous assignments in order to improve the grade (including exams). Be sure to send a message to Mr Doug once you have completed an already-graded assignment so that he will know to regrade it.

The deadline to complete work is the end of each quarter's grading period.

Online Work Expectations

It is my expectation that you are attempting to complete all of the assigned work and getting whatever help you need whenever you are having trouble doing so, as well as making sure all turned in work is your own original thinking and effort.

IXL.com	KhanAcademy.org	When to Get Help
<p>Every student has an account. Any work done while not signed in is not recorded.</p> <p>Assignments are posted as “suggested topics”. They can be found on the recommendations page and by clicking on the Math tab.</p> <p>Students should work on a topic until they reach a SmartScore of 80 or higher for full credit. Partial credit is given for lower scores.</p>	<p>Every student should sign in with their “paparts.net” Google account.</p> <p>Assignments are posted each week. The “new” ones can be found on the Active page and the previous assignments can still be accessed on the Past page.</p> <p>Students should attempt the exercises and then redo each of them if necessary until they get a score of 80% or higher.</p> <p>Videos should be watched in their entirety and students should take notes while watching.</p>	<p>Students are not expected to achieve expertise on their own, but everyone has different needs. Learning how to identify the signs that you need to get help can be a challenge, so here are some “red flags” to watch out for. Any one of these should trigger your effort to get some help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More than 30 minutes on an IXL topic• More than 20 questions on an IXL topic• More than 4 attempts on a Khan Academy assignment <p>To get help, students should ask questions in class, work with a partner, email the teacher, or post a message in our Google Classroom, or copy/paste the lesson title into a Google search to find videos, tutorials, and examples</p> <p>*THE ONLINE PLATFORMS ARE FOR PRACTICE AND TO HELP STUDENTS REMEMBER WHAT TO DO. They are not intended to effectively teach, reteach, or explain, so do not spend too much time “being stuck” in your online work.</p>

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Contact Information

Email: dfery@paparts.org

You can also contact me by commenting on a Post in our Stream or by sending a private comment on an assignment.

If you need to speak with me over the phone, email me a phone number and a time and I will call you.

Zoom conferences can be scheduled by contacting me.

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Our Google Classroom Page

You should sign into our Google Classroom page every day at the beginning of class. The stream will have announcements, assignments will be posted, and all class materials can be found here.

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Textbook:
Algebra Readiness

Assignments from the textbook will always be collaborative, in-class assignments. Getting the wrong answer is a sign that you need extra help or practice before you leave class that day.

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Website
www.ixl.com

This website will be a primary resource for assignments.

Each student has their own account.

Assignments do not need to be “submitted.” All work can be viewed in real time and reviewed by the teacher without any action from the student.

[*Next resource](#)

Website
www.khanacademy.org

This resource will be used to help students achieve mastery of the material. Assignments need to be completed through this site in addition to the assignments done through our Google Classroom and IXL.com.

Current assignments are on the “Active” page and previous assignments are on the “Past” page.

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Website
www.brainbashers.com

This website features a variety of logic puzzles. Logic is the basis of mathematical reasoning, so improving your use of logic will help your understanding of math. There are puzzles from beginner through advanced levels.

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I am extremely grateful to have joined this community of learners. My door is always open to students, parents, and families to ensure everyone's success in this class. Email is the best way to reach me and I will make every effort to be prompt about replying.

Expectations for students: I expect students to actively participate in their own instruction. Have a question? Ask it. Need help? Get it. Have an assignment? Do it. Bomb a test? Retake it. Want to avoid bombing a test? Study for it. Google some help. Trade numbers with other students to be able to call each other for information or help. Participate in lessons and discussion. Do the things. All of them.

Expectations for Mr. Doug: You should expect respect, professionalism, and support at all times. Customer satisfaction is a priority, and the students and their families are my customers. You should expect timely responses to all inquiries, timely feedback on progress toward learning goals, and sufficient information for all students to be successful. Please bring any needs you have to my attention early so that I may address them.

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About My Teaching

Mr Doug is focused around helping students achieve a deep conceptual understanding of the material. The goal is for students to be able to engage in the content in a way that is more than just a reproduction of a learned procedure. As such, they will receive instruction around metacognition, educational psychology, and learning practice as tools to support their mathematical work. I will rely heavily on direct work with expanding each student's Zone of Proximal Development by utilizing the Engagement Strategies below and on work that draws from Webb's Depth of Knowledge levels (primarily level 2 and above).

Students will be instructed on how and when to apply these strategies in the classroom. They are a resource for each student to ensure they are adequately participating in their own instruction.

- Restate
- Table Talk
- Over the Edge
- Sample Problem
- Define
- Build on PK
- Specific Question
- Question Feedback