

Course Syllabus for Common Core 7 with Mr. Nichols



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I would like to welcome all of you to Common Core 7 at Pacific Cascade Middle School! I am happy to have all of you in my class and am looking forward to an exciting and challenging year of mathematical explorations. We will build upon what you have learned in previous years in order to make new discoveries about math and the world around us.

The Connected Mathematics Project (CMP) curriculum demands a high degree of participation, focus, and dedication to completing all assignments. Below is an outline of the topics we will be studying this year.

UNIT TITLE	TOPICS
<i>Shapes and Designs</i>	Two-Dimensional Geometry
<i>Accentuate the Negative</i>	Integers and Rational Numbers
<i>Stretching and Shrinking</i>	Understanding Similarity
<i>Comparing and Scaling</i>	Ratios, Rates, Percent, and Proportions
<i>Moving Straight Ahead</i>	Linear Relationships
<i>What Do You Expect?</i>	Probability and Expected Value
<i>Filling and Wrapping</i>	Three-Dimensional Measurement
<i>Samples and Populations</i>	Samples and Analyzing Data

GRADING POLICY

The purpose of grading in the Issaquah School District is to show the current level of academic performance of students. Behavior and work habits are important as well, but they are different than academic performance and will be communicated in the comment section on the report card.

Grades will be determined from these weighted categories

Assignments: 15% *Homework: 0%* *Formative Assessments: 0%* *Tests: 70%* *Trimester Final: 15%*

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments can consist of group/partner quizzes, group challenge problems, concept check-ins, in-class activities, and projects. Anything in this category will be graded for accuracy.

HOMEWORK

Homework is very important to your success as a student in this class. Most math homework will be done on graph paper, either stored in a binder or spiral notebook. If absent, it is your responsibility, as the student, to *make up all missed work*. Homework is very important to your success as a student in this class. You will be expected to *correct your own homework each evening using online answer keys*. We will review important (or requested) problems together in class the following day. I will check homework daily for completion. The following rubric will be used to record how much homework you completed:

4	All homework problems are attempted and all work is shown.
3	Most homework problems are attempted and/or most work is shown.
2	Some homework problems are attempted and/or some work is shown.
0	No homework problems are attempted and/or no work is shown.

LATE WORK POLICY

7th graders are expected to complete all of their work on time. Students are encouraged to complete any late or missing work for their learning. Late work will be accepted up to the number of days the student is absent. It is the student's responsibility to arrange test or assignment category make up work with the teacher, within one week of returning to school.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS

Learning Checks are like practice tests, and a great way of checking your understanding of the common core standards as we work through each unit. If you struggle with a Learning Check, make sure you seek help immediately!! These formative assessments will not count toward your final grade, but they will be listed on Family Access and will be useful tools to prepare for Unit Tests and Trimester Finals.

TESTS

Comprehensive Unit Tests will be given at the end of each unit, assessing your understanding of the common core standards. This means that you will receive multiple scores on a single test (one for each standard). Learning Checks, class work, vocabulary, and notes are great resources to prepare for Unit Tests.

TRIMESTER FINALS

At the end of each trimester, there will be a cumulative final given for all the common core standards covered during the trimester. Learning Checks, vocabulary, notes, and Unit Test are great resources to prepare for Trimester Finals.

TEST RETAKE OPTION

Retake tests will *not* be offered after each unit. However, you will have the chance to raise your score if you do not pass any common core standard on a Unit Test. You will be re-assessed on your level of understanding when you take the Trimester Final. If you show improvement on a standard on the Trimester Final, your original Unit Test score will be changed to reflect that improvement (up to a maximum of 3.4). The Trimester Final cannot lower your scores on the Unit Tests. There are no retakes for Trimester Finals.

GRADING RUBRIC FOR ASSESSMENTS

For each assessment, you will receive multiple grades based on the standards that are being tested on that assessment. The following assessment rubric will be used:

meet standard	4.1:	Exceeds standard by demonstrating in-depth, thorough understanding beyond what is expected. This usually involves doing an optional extension problem—may not be possible on all tests. (A+)
	4.0:	Meets standard with no errors. (A)
	3.7:	Meets standard with near perfection. (A-)
	3.4:	Meets standard with minor errors or confusions. (B)
below standard	3.0	Approaches standard and understands a lot, but has at least one major error or confusion. (C)
	2.5:	Approaches standard, but has multiple major errors or confusions—may not apply to all tests. (D)
	2.0:	Does not meet standard and demonstrates limited understanding. (F)
	0:	No attempt. (0% F)

COMMUNICATION

It is very important to have good communication between students, parents, and me. I am available through voicemail or email, although email is the most efficient way to contact me.

DAILY SUPPLIES

These supplies are your responsibility to bring **daily** to math class:

- sharpened pencils or mechanical pencils with extra lead
- graph paper spiral (for homework and class work)
- 3-ring binder (for worksheets and notes)
- scientific calculator (TI-30XIIS recommended)

- correcting pen and highlighter
- planner

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please read over the syllabus as a family. Parents/Guardians, please detach, fill out, and sign this page. Students, please sign this page and complete the questionnaire on the reverse side. This sheet is due to Mr. Nichols by **Friday, September 15, 2017**. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns at any time during the year, I can be reached through the contact information given at the top of the syllabus. I am looking forward to working with you and your family this year!

Student's Name (print) _____ Period _____

Which email or phone number is the best way to reach a parent or guardian?

Do you have internet access at home? (check one box) Yes No

Please use this space to help me understand your child as a math learner: _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

