

8th Grade Math - 2019-2020

Meet the Teacher: Ms. S. Churchill

Welcome to the 8th grade! I hope you had a wonderful summer and are as excited to begin your last year at Hope MS as I am to have you in my class!

I attended Campbell University in Buies Creek, NC, where I was blessed with the opportunity to be a Division 1 student-athlete, which allowed me to play softball while pursuing my degree. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with Teacher Licensure, Summa Cum Laude, and I am certified to teach grades 6-12. I began my career teaching Math 1 at a local high school for two years, which provided me with insight into the skills and information you will need to be successful on the next step of your educational journey. It is a joy to be part of the Hope Mustangs family, and I look forward to another successful year!

8th Grade Math consists of several topics that will give you a good foundation that you will build on during high school. We will be rigorously analyzing concepts that fall under the following categories: the real number system, linear equations, the Pythagorean Theorem, geometry, linear functions, systems of linear equations, line of best fit, and statistics. I am excited to begin exploring these 8th grade math topics with you!

Hope MS strongly supports a culture of excellence and high expectations. I strive to make the most of the blessings, opportunities, and resources I have been given. As your teacher, I expect the same from you. Everyone in our classroom brings their own experiences, knowledge, and abilities. YOU are an important part of our class, and I look forward to helping you grow as an individual this semester!

Contact Info

Email: churchs@pitt.k12.nc.us

If you need to reach me by phone, please call during my planning period which occurs from 2:00-3:30 pm.

Class Website

www.churchillmath.weebly.com

Our class website is a great place to find information about weekly topics or resources if you need extra help!

Remind Notifications for Quizzes and Tests

Get text or email alerts about upcoming assessments!

1st Block text @1st-hms-8g to 81010 or use the link remind.com/join/1st-hms-8g

Required Supplies:

- Three-ring binder (1.5 inch)
- Loose-leaf paper
- Dividers
- #2 pencils
- 1 Two-Subject Spiral Bound Notebook OR 2 Composition books (for notes only)
- 1 Composition book (for iReady use)
- 2 packs 4x6 ruled index cards
- 1 pack 3x5 blank index cards
- Earbuds WITH a cord (no AirPods)
- Strongly suggested- TI83/84 Calculator

Wish List:

I would greatly appreciate if you could donate some of these items that we will use regularly throughout the year!

- Thin Black Expo Markers
- White Copy Paper
- Kleenex
- Clorox Wipes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Paper Towels
- Pencils
- Candy for class rewards

Calculator Info:

We will use TI-83 Plus graphing calculators during the school year. It is NOT a requirement to purchase one. Most homework assignments can be completed without the use of a graphing calculator! If a student has a graphing calculator of their own, I would highly suggest that they leave it at home. Use my calculators at school!

If you are interested in purchasing a graphing calculator, I suggest buying a TI-84 or higher model. These calculators are costly, but they will be used extensively in high school. They are a durable investment if properly cared for. I have personally owned mine since 2004.

Textbook Info:

The Big Ideas Math Common Core blue textbook is paired with 8th grade math.

All students will be assigned a textbook that they may take home. They will be responsible for bringing it to class occasionally. I will let them know in advance when it is needed.

However, I do not teach directly from the textbook. It is a valuable resource for practice problems and reference outside of class, but you may find that we cover topics in a different order or use methods other than what is listed in the book.

Class Expectations:

Listen to instructions

Enter & exit prepared

Always try your best

Respect yourself and others

No Excuses!

Class Rules:

1. Cell phone use is not allowed.
2. Raise your hand if you have a question or would like to make a statement.
3. Stay in your seat unless you have permission to be up.

PBIS procedures will be followed for any discipline issues that arise.

Grading Policy

- 40% Tests
- 25% Quizzes
- 20% Classwork
- 15% Homework & Journals

Tests:

There will be 4-5 tests scheduled each marking period. They will be announced approximately a week in advance. A written test review will be given the day before each test. In addition to completing the review assignment, students should study their daily notes to prepare. *If you miss the review day, you will still be expected to take the test on the scheduled date.* The tests will require students to do more than just recall formulas or definitions. 8th grade math students should be able to analyze information presented to them in a variety of ways, apply their knowledge, and explain the procedures they use to solve problems.

Quizzes:

Most quizzes will be announced ahead of time. However, there will be occasional pop quizzes.

Classwork:

Classwork offers the time for students to complete guided practice problems. It is important that they learn to reference their notes, attempt the assigned problems, and then ask for assistance. Occasional classwork assignments will be graded to assess student progress.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned almost every night. The only homework on the night before a test will be to finish the review assignment if you did not complete it during class. It is important that you practice material on your own and come prepared to ask questions the following day. Failure to complete your homework will deduct points from your weekly homework grade. I do not accept late homework, as we go over the correct answers at the beginning of class each day.

Journals:

Our class mission is to read, write, think, speak, and solve like mathematicians! We will use a daily journal to review key concepts, explain our reasoning, conduct error analysis, and process our thoughts about what we have been studying.

Make-Up Work:

When students are absent, they are responsible for all work missed. You are responsible for getting the make-up work on your own from the designated location for your class! You have 1-5 days to turn in all make-up work assignments, depending on the number of days you were absent. Failure to complete this work will result in zeros.

Extra Credit:

It is my job as your teacher to help you learn material, assess your knowledge, and assign the grade you earn that is a true reflection of your math capabilities. As such, no extra credit projects or assignments will be given. However, test corrections will be available for half credit. Test corrections will require the corrected work, as well as a written explanation of what you did wrong and how you fixed your error. It is expected that you have consistently completed regularly assigned work (notes, classwork, homework, etc.) to be eligible for test corrections.

PLEASE SIGN THE FOLLOWING:

I have read the syllabus and understand the expectations for 8th Grade Math. I agree to take responsibility for my education and actively work towards meeting the rigorous expectations of this course.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

I have read the syllabus and understand the expectations for 8th Grade Math. I agree to support my child and work together with Ms. Churchill to help my child successfully complete this course.

Parent Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____