

Kula Handbook

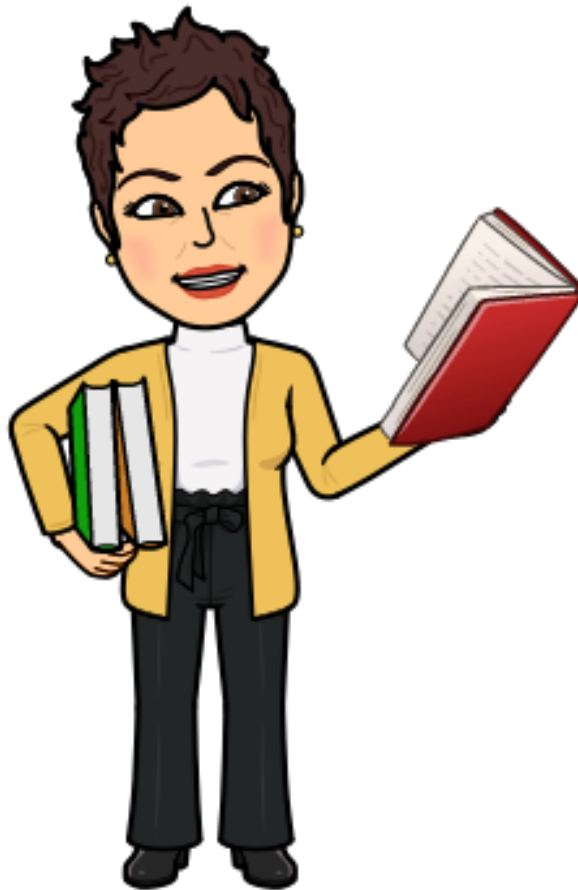
2019-2020

Math 8



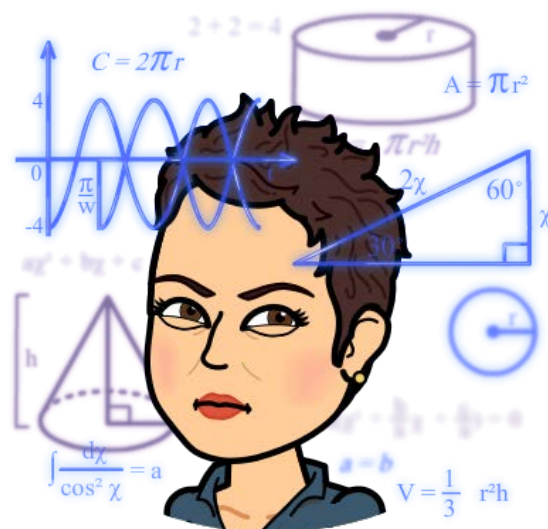
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Math 8 Units of Study

- **Unit 1 - Integer Exponents and Scientific Notation**
 - Topic A: Exponential Notation and Properties of Integer Exponents
 - Topic B: Magnitude and Scientific Notation
- **Unit 2 - The Concept of Congruence**
 - Topics A & B: Definitions and Properties of the Basic Rigid Motions, Sequencing the Basic Rigid Motions
 - Topics C & D: Congruence and Angle Relationships, The Pythagorean Theorem
- **Unit 3 - Similarity**
 - Topics A & B: Dilation, and Similar Figures
 - Topic C: The Pythagorean theorem
- **Unit 4 - Linear Equations**
 - Topic A: Writing and Solving Linear Equations
 - Topic B: Linear Equations in Two Variables and their Graphs
 - Topic C: Slope and Equations of Lines
 - Topic D: Systems of Linear Equations and their Solutions
- **Unit 5 - Examples of Functions from Geometry**
 - Topics A & B: Functions, and Volume
- **Unit 6 - Linear Functions**
 - Topics A & B: Linear Functions, Bivariate Numerical Data
 - Topics C & D: Linear and Nonlinear Models, Bivariate Categorical Data
- **Unit 7 - Intro to Irrational Numbers**
 - Topics A & B: Square and Cube Roots, Decimal Expansions
 - Topics C & D: Pythagorean, Applications of Radicals and Roots
- **May – Math 8 State Assessment**



Grading

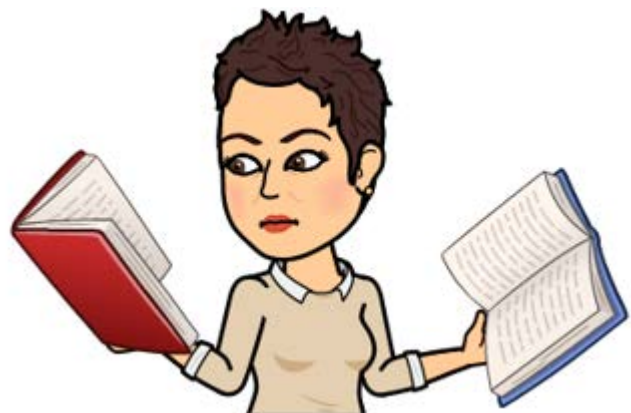
Summative Assessments (80% of total grade)

Summative assessments are given throughout the year to assess what students know and do not know. These assessments are used to gauge student learning at certain points throughout the year. In Math 8 the unit assessments are used as summative assessments. Summative Assessments are given after instruction, with the expectation that the student has completed the necessary practice assignments, took advantage of interventions and prepared for the assessments. In rare cases, when students have not met standards for the unit, students will be provided the opportunity to take a second, different unit test, once they have successfully shown they have prepared for the assessment.

Unit assessments occur too far down the learning path to be used as a "uh, oh" dip stick to student learning. Scores on unit tests should not be a "surprise". It is formative assessments that provide information to make instructional adjustments and interventions during the learning process.

Formative Assessments (20% of total grade)

Formative assessments are given throughout the unit to provide information needed to adjust instruction and provide intervention where needed. Such assessments inform both teacher and student of student progress in a timely manner so that adjustments and interventions can be put in place BEFORE a unit test. Practice assignments, quizzes and in-class assessments are examples of formative assessments. While not all formative assessments are used as part of the 20% grade, it is expected that students complete all forms of formative assessments so that together we can determine growth and understanding.



Teacher Expectations

Ms. Kula will . . .

- design a supportive classroom where students are free to share ideas and feel comfortable taking risks.
-
- establish class procedures, structure and consequences that are fair to all students.
-
- help students develop strategies and skills that will encourage growth and responsibility.
-
- provide opportunities for outside assistance. i.e. before or after school.



Student Expectations

Students will . . .

- be on time for class. Lateness without an acceptable reason is rude and inconsiderate.
- be prepared for class. Unit workbook, pencils and calculator is required **EVERY DAY**.
- attempt/complete practice **DAILY**. Review class notes, complete assignments, assess progress, and come to class prepared to discuss solutions and ask questions.
- participate in class and group discussions. Complete classroom tasks, share ideas and strategies, as well as, listen to the ideas and strategies of others.
- take responsibility for learning. Use notes and practice problems as opportunities to learn, assess and measure progress. Review feedback from formative assessments, make corrections, seek assistance and prepare for the unit assessments.

Students who are successful . . .

- come prepared for class; keep notebook up to date and organized; complete/attempt assignments; participate in class/group discussions; make corrections; prepare for assessments; attend help sessions when needed.



Frequently Asked Questions

How do we reach you?

- NKula@rhnet.org. I check my e-mail regularly. It is the best to contact me.
- Information may be accessed from my webpage: www.rhnet.org/Domain/1723

Are you available for extra help?

- Yes. I am available after school. A weekly schedule will be posted on my agenda. On those rare occasions, when meetings conflict with help sessions, I will post any changes as soon as possible.

What if I'm absent?

- All information about the day's activities, assessments and/or assignments will be posted on the Agenda and may be found in Google Classroom.

I was absent and I missed a quiz . . . test . . . assignment.

- Since summative assessments, (unit tests), are announced and posted at least a week in advance, you will be expected to take the test on the announced day. If you missed instruction prior to the test, it is your responsibility to complete any missed assessments and schedule a day to take the test. Depending on the length of the absences, tests should be taken within a week of your return.
- Formative assignments, (quizzes and graded assignments), are rarely "announced" and should be anticipated. You will be expected to complete any outstanding formative assessments within a week upon your return to class.
- Don't forget to complete the missed practice assignments. Being absent is not an excuse for not knowing a lesson topic. If you have difficulty, attend a help session to catch up.



I forgot my pencil, have no paper . . . what calculator? May I borrow materials from you?

- It is your responsibility to come prepared for class. I DO NOT PROVIDE PENCILS. Lined and graph paper is available but limited. Math 8 requires the use of a calculator. Classroom calculators are available when your calculator is “forgotten” and not intended for daily use. It is to your advantage to acquire your own calculator.

I didn't do my assignment. What will happen?

- Practice assignments are carefully assigned to differentiate student learning. Each assignment is designed to practice skills, review material and challenge understanding at all levels. It is your responsibility to assess your learning and understanding with each practice assignment and to return to class prepared to share with classmates and with me what you learned and what concepts may continue to be a challenge for you.
- Assignments are discussed the next class. Opportunity for class discussion, individual questions and feedback will be a daily routine. It isn't about coming to class with the correct answers, but to come to class with questions, insight and mastered skills.
- You should not avoid an assignment just because you did not understand. Seek assistance from a classmate, friend, teacher, parent or sibling. Not “getting it” is no excuse for not attempting an assignment.

I didn't do well on a unit test. What are my options?

- There are rare instances when a student, after completing all necessary preparation, will not perform well on a unit assessment. Retests are available, but you will be required to complete the necessary criteria outlined by the Math Department Policy.

