

## 2019-2020 7th Grade Math Syllabus

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We want to welcome you and your child to 7th grade math! We are excited for the upcoming year. We know that some of you are returning 6th grade Summit students and others are not. Even though you might know some of the information, we would like to share our expectations and, hopefully, clarify any questions you might have about Summit math procedures. Math in Summit is quite different than the other subjects. We will explain below how math will be taught and our expectations for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Concept Lessons (daily math lessons):** In Summit, math is a concept learning approach. This means that students will learn math in concept lessons by doing math problems, often collaboratively and facilitated by the teacher. During these lessons, the students will either be working individually or with a partner but it will always be led by us, the math teachers. We will start lessons by exploring what students already know and using that previous knowledge with the lesson that will be learned for that day. At the end of each day, students will take a cool-down (exit ticket) so we are able to assess the learning for the day. The cool-downs' daily progress will be in the Summit platform for you, as a parent/guardian, to see at any time. The students will also be given an exercise set after each lesson. Students practice using procedures through these exercise sets during self-directed time or for homework. The exercise sets' progress will also be in the Summit platform for you to see, but we will be checking for completion not accuracy on these.

**Focus Areas/Additional Focus Areas:** After a couple of days into the unit lessons, students will be working on the focus area for that unit. The focus areas are on the Summit platform and are a resource used to reinforce what they are learning in class. Students are allowed to work on focus areas for all subjects during self-directed learning time. As they start a new focus area in math, students are required to take a diagnostic test first. This diagnostic test will immediately show the students the objectives that they are strong in and which objectives they need extra work in. Once they have discovered which objectives they need extra work in, they will then complete the resources under those objectives, which may be a video to show them how to work the problems, practice problems, and/or check for understandings. If they make a 100 on the diagnostic test the first time taking it or after completing the extra work for the weak objective, they will take a content assessment. They will get immediate feedback on how they did on the content assessment. Depending on how they did, they can either complete the additional focus areas, move on to the next focus area, or do some extra practice on the weak area so they are able to retake the content assessment. Any students that need to retake a content assessment for the second time or more will need to have a small group lesson with their math teacher.

**Portfolio Problems:** Portfolio problems are application-based problems that take the unit's concepts deeper. The students will get a choice of multiple problems to choose from and they will work these problems in small groups. Students will start portfolio problems a few days after starting a new unit and complete them by the end of that unit.

**End-of-Unit Assessments:** After all of the above work is completed, students will take an end-of-unit assessment. This assessment is to show whether they have mastered the unit. If a student does not show mastery, they will need to do a small group with their math teacher before retaking it.

**Grading Policy:** The below is how each of the above areas will be weighted in the students' grades:

End-of-Unit Assessments - 70%

Power Focus Areas - 14%

Portfolio Problems - 10%

Additional Focus Areas - 6%

You are able to access the Summit platform at any time to see how your child is doing in each of their classes. Some of the assessments may show a grade or only show green, yellow, or red. The green means that the student is exactly where they need to be in their learning. Yellow means they are close to where they need to be but they have corrections that need to be done. Red means they are struggling and they either need to refer back to their notes to find out what happened or have an intervention with the teacher. Exercise sets will have a checkmark or an "x". Checkmarks mean they have completed their exercise sets or x's mean they have not completed it.

**Communication:** We love keeping an open communication with our parents/guardians. We will be communicating with you through the Remind app and/or email. To sign up for our class, text \_\_\_\_\_ to 81010. If your cell phone provider is charging you for these notifications, you can change it to your email in the settings on the app. We are also asking you to provide your email address at the bottom of this form when we need to email you. If you ever need to reach one of us, the best way to reach us would be through our email below.

**School Supplies:** In math, students will only need their subject 3-ring binder, lots of pencils, extra erasers, loose-leaf paper, and highlighters. We are also asking for post-it notes that will be turned into their homeroom teachers.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Christie Pennington, Mrs. Cristy Swope, or Mr. Jacob Miller at 731-989-8135 during school operation hours. You may also contact your teachers by email – [christie.pennington@chestercountyschools.org](mailto:christie.pennington@chestercountyschools.org), [cristy.swope@chestercountyschools.org](mailto:cristy.swope@chestercountyschools.org), or [jacob.miller@chestercountyschools.org](mailto:jacob.miller@chestercountyschools.org).

We are excited to begin this journey with you,

Mrs. Christie Pennington, Mrs. Cristy Swope, and Mr. Jacob Miller

**\*\*\*This syllabus is subject to change if needed.**

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By signing below, I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the above 7th Grade Math 2019-2020 Syllabus.

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ or  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:

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