Grade 8 Math

Course Overview

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About the Course

The overall focus of the Grade 8 Mathematics is Algebra I. Students follow a path from writing and solving simple equations to exploring the graphs and solving the equations of quadratic functions. Students will learn mathematics through a sequence of connected problems in an inquiry-based classroom, using a standards-based and problem-centered curriculum. We will work to develop deep understanding in three mathematical learning strands: Numbers and Operations, Algebra, and Geometry. These learning strands will be covered over seven units of study.

Course Structure

Students in Grade 8 Mathematics work individually, in pairs and in groups to investigate problems and construct algorithms as part of their learning. Through guided investigations the course encourages students to recognize and articulate mathematical questions and meaningful solutions. The course is designed to encourage creative, practical thinking and problem solving, and to build students' confidence in themselves as mathematical learners.

Each student is expected to be an active member of the class who respects each student's right to learn. Students will gain access to classroom calculator use by demonstrating satisfactory computational skills with decimals, fractions, and integers. Students are required to show their work at all times in order to show what they know. Students will have access to the appropriate technology to complement their learning.

Course text

Connected Mathematics is the text used in class. Other print and online resources will also be used.

Assessment and Grading

Each unit is designed around a number of learner outcomes (skills and concepts), which are assessed before, during, and at the end of the unit. Test, projects, observations, and other forms of assessment are used to determine how well a student has mastered each skill/concept using the scale below:

Score	Description
4	Demonstrates thorough mastery of the concept/skill/learning goal and can go beyond what was learned in class
3	Demonstrates a high level of mastery of the concept/skill/learning goal, but with minor errors
2	Demonstrates understanding, but with significant gaps
1	Attempts at understanding were made, but with little progress.
0	No attempt