

Math Problem Solving Course Syllabus

Welcome an exciting math adventure! Your child has been selected to be part of a 6th and 7th grade math intervention program that has been developed to increase success in algebra. This class, called *Math Problem Solving*, will be in addition to your child's general math class. I will work closely with your child's general math teacher to make sure we address any specific needs your child may have in mathematics.

Goals of Math Problem Solving:

- Increase student engagement and interest in math
- Develop critical thinking skills
- Focus on math concepts that are essential to success in algebra

Textbooks:

Since your child already has a general math class, there is no required textbook for *Math Problem Solving*. We will be using the state adopted curriculum *Connected Math*, but all *Connected Math* books will stay in class. **No textbooks are required for students to take home in *Math Problem Solving*.**

Homework:

Your child will have homework assigned in his/her general math class, so in *Math Problem Solving*, **there will be no homework assigned**. The only situation in which a student might have homework is if he/she did not complete an assignment in class and needs to finish at home.

Absences:

Due to the interactive, hands-on nature of this class, it is too difficult to make-up assignments without the proper materials at home. For this reason, any work missed during a student's absence must be completed in Room 302 during lunch. It is the student's responsibility to make up all assignments missed in class. Failure to complete a missing assignment will result in a fail for that assignment. **Please make sure your child misses class only when absolutely necessary.**

Grading Policy:

Classwork will be graded based on completeness of the assignment. **The only reason a student will fail this class is if he/she refuses to complete the assigned classwork.** If a student is identified as failing or in danger of failing, a parent conference will be arranged as soon as possible.

Grading Scale:

90 – 100%	A
80 - 89%	B
70 – 79%	C
60 – 69 %	D (in danger of failing)
0 – 59 %	F (fail – no credit)

Materials:

Most materials will be provided in class, including a composition book that will be used as an interactive notebook. There are, however, several basic supplies every student will need to bring to class every day:

- Pencils
- Lined Notebook Paper

Uniform:

All students at John Muir Middle School must be in uniform at all times as a means of keeping students safe. The uniform is black pants (not jeans) with a collared shirt in either white, burgundy, or gray. Uniform shirts may be purchased at the student store.

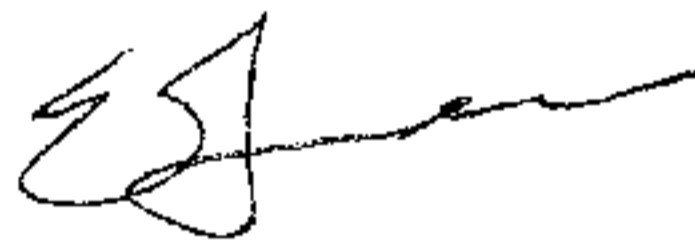
Tardies:

If a student comes late to class, he/she will have to make up twice as much time during nutrition, lunch or after school. For example, a student who is two minutes late to 2nd period will have to stay in class for four minutes of his/her nutrition. If you do not want your child serving time after school or during nutrition or lunch, **make sure he/she knows to be in class on time.** Any student caught ditching class will have to make up the time in an hour-long after school detention during which all missed classwork will be completed. Parents will be notified before a student serves an after school detention.

If you have any questions, feel free to arrange an appointment by contacting the John Muir Middle School counseling office (323) 565-2200. Ms. Walzberg is available for conferences from 8:15 am – 9:00 am and from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm in room 302. Thank you in advance for your cooperation; we're looking forward to an exciting school year!



Ms. Megan Walzberg
6th/7th grade math teacher
John Muir Middle School



Mr. Edward Lee
novice teacher
USC mathematics



Ms. Judy Song
novice teacher
USC mathematics

I read and reviewed the course outline for Math Problem Solving with my child.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date