

8th Grade Math

Dear Parents,

I am very excited to be teaching your eighth graders math. This is my twenty-sixth year of teaching and my twenty-fourth at St. Peter's. I received my Bachelor's degree in elementary education with a math emphasis from Missouri Western State University and my Master's degree in curriculum and instruction in mathematics from UMKC.

The textbook the eighth graders use is McDougal Littell *Middle School-Course 3*. We will be covering many topics this year. Each unit has four chapters. Unit 1 is about algebra, integers, and equation solving. Algebra and rational numbers are the concepts covered in Unit 2. The topics in Unit 3 are similarity, measurement, and geometry. Unit 4 is about advanced algebra topics such as linear equations, functions, and polynomials.

The eighth graders take pretests over each chapter and sometimes sections of chapters. They are then grouped into two groups and those students that need review or re-teaching, work on the concepts they need help on and the others do enrichment activities or problem solving.

The students will have homework every Monday through Thursday. It is written in their planner. If the student does not have his/her work a "ZAP" form will be sent home. This form needs to be returned the next day, signed along with the homework. The students will receive a 10% point deduction for that assignment. In addition, I will let the students know at least one week in advance about tests and give them page numbers to study.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to send me an email or leave me a voice mail. I am looking forward to a wonderful year.

Extension: 325

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Sincerely,

Dorothy Starnes