



COURSE DESCRIPTION

In Grade 8 Math Foundations, instructional time focuses on three important areas:

- Operations with rational numbers (terminating and repeating decimals) and irrational numbers; expressions and linear equations
- Formulating and reasoning about equations, including modeling data with a linear equation and solving linear equations and systems of equations
- Analyzing two- and three- dimensional space and figures, solving real-life and mathematical problems involving similarity and angles and triangles and how they behave under translations, rotations, reflections, and dilations, volume of cones, cylinders, and spheres, and the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.

CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Common Core Standards will be addressed in this course. Please visit the website of the California State Board of Education for a list of applicable standards. Go to:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/>, under mathematics choose either the PDF format or Word format, and scroll through the document to find Grade 8 standards.

8 MATHEMATICAL PRACTICES

1. Solve problems without giving up.
2. Think about numbers in many ways.
3. Explain thinking and try to understand others.
4. Show work in many ways.
5. Use math tools and explain their use.
6. Work carefully and check work.
7. Use prior knowledge to solve problems.
8. Solve problems by looking for rules and patterns.

GRADE 8 MATH COURSE OVERVIEW

- Two-Dimensional Geometry
- Integers, Rational Numbers, and Irrational Numbers
- Understanding Similarity
- Linear Relationships and Non-Linear Relationships
- Three-Dimensional Measurement
- The Pythagorean Theorem

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to practice respect, common courtesy, and responsibility in class. Discipline guidelines for 8th grade are offered on my website and in the LFCS handbook. Please see the *Agreements, Policies, and Rules* sheet for more information.

SUPPLIES

Each day it is important that your child is prepared with necessary supplies.

- Math textbook
- Ruler
- Highlighter & red pens
- Spiral notebook
- Glue sticks / tape
- Graph paper
- Planner
- Scientific Calculator
- Pencils, erasers, sharpener (holds shavings)

HOMEWORK

All assignments will be listed on my website. Students will also have a planner in which to write assignments. It is the student's responsibility to write down the assignments. Your child will be expected to complete all homework and class work assignments given, and return them by their due date. Parents are encouraged to share in this responsibility to see that work is completed before the school day begins.

Homework is assigned daily and must be completed in pencil. Only a pen is allowed out during correcting time. Homework will be graded on a **10 point scale**.

- 10 - All problems completed in pencil, more than half correct. Just writing the answer is not enough.
- 7 - All problems attempted in pencil, but half or more are incorrect
- 4 - Did not attempt every problem, or not all work is shown
- 0 - Assignment not completed

No homework is assigned on weekends or holidays in our math class. Those times are reserved for students to be with their families, relax, get exercise, and come back ready to learn on the next school day. At their discretion, students may choose to work over the weekends on vocabulary terms, video tutors, or simply review the week's lessons and assignments for upcoming assessments. If a student is working beyond his or her bedtime on math homework, please encourage them to go to bed. Sleep and health will do more for a student's education than finishing an assignment when the student is tired. In these situations, parents need to send a brief note or email asking for a short extension to earn full credit on the assignment. Please be aware of the student's need to manage his or her life such that homework is a priority; creating balance is a vital skill to learn while in middle school.

LATE WORK AND MAKE-UP POLICY

Late work is only accepted with a late pass or one day late for half credit. Your child will receive 2 late passes for each academic subject (language arts, math, history, science) per trimester, along with 2 additional passes to be used for any subject. The incomplete assignment must be completed and turned in by the next school day with the late pass attached for full credit. Anything later will receive half credit.

Make up work must be completed according to the school policy for excused absences. Work is due the number of excused days absent plus one additional day from the date of return to class, (if x = the number of days absent, then $x + 1$ = the number of days the student has to turn in assignments). Students must come in and correct the late work during recess or lunch. It is your child's responsibility to check with me regarding work missed while out.

GRADING

Grades are based on a percentage and will be weighted as follows:

10% Homework, **10%** Quizzes, **10%** Classwork/Participation,
10% Midterm and Final, **15%** Projects, **45%** Unit Tests

CONTACTING MRS. MASUCCI

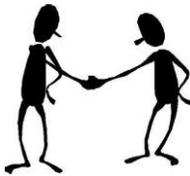
For regular updates and class information, please visit our school website at www.lfcsinc.org, click on Parents, click on Faculty/Staff, and then finally click on the link that has my name, Amanda Masucci, under "Support Teacher." Please bookmark the class website, as it is a tool I will be using to communicate with you and your students. Since homework will be based on what we were able to cover in class, assignments will often be posted or edited on a day-to-day basis.

If you would like to contact me, you may leave a phone message at school or send me an email. Your child is important to me and I believe it is imperative to be in continual contact with you in order to ensure his or her success. I am looking forward to working with you this year in helping your child grow.

Please introduce yourself as we pass on campus! Looking forward to seeing all of you at our annual Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 4!

Thank you,

Mrs. Masucci



Mrs. Masucci
Foundations Math
Agreements, Policies, and Rules

Classroom Agreements

Classroom agreements are straightforward, informal rules that list simple, concrete ways to make things run smoother.

Agreement 1

If you open it, close it.

Agreement 2

If you turn it on, turn it off.

Agreement 3

If you break it, fix it.

Agreement 4

If you can't fix it, find someone who can.

Agreement 5

If you use it, take care of it.

Agreement 6

If it belongs to someone else, get permission before you use it.

Agreement 7

If you borrow it, return it.

Agreement 8

If you make a mess, clean it up.

Agreement 9

If you move it, put it back.

Agreement 10

If it doesn't concern you, don't mess with it.

Agreement 11

If your hands are dirty, wash them (ask permission to leave the classroom first!).

Agreement 12

If you have homework, complete the assignment.

Agreement 13

If you have an assessment, prepare for it.

Agreement 14

If you are thirsty, bring water.

Agreement 15

If you are hungry, wait until recess, lunch, or in between classes to eat.

Agreement 16

If your backpack, folders, or binders are messy, organize them.

Agreement 17

If we are reading aloud from the textbook, follow along; you may be called on next.

Agreement 18

If another student is bothering you, tell your teacher.

Agreement 19

If you make a mistake, learn from it and move on.

Agreement 20

If you are with a substitute, follow these agreements.

Classroom Policies

Classroom policies support the purpose of the learning community.

Policy 1

When you are absent, it is your responsibility to see me the day you return to school. We will then discuss appropriate due dates for any missed assignments.

Policy 2

If you are tardy to class because of a scheduled appointment, enter the room quietly and take your seat. Notice your surroundings and follow the lead of your classmates. If we are doing group work, greet me first to receive directions.

Policy 3

Students will meet me in the agreed upon location before entering the classroom. Transitions will be smooth and incident free. You are expected to be with the class waiting for Mrs. Masucci.

Policy 4

Students must come to class with the necessary supplies. See the course syllabus for more information.

Policy 5

Students are allowed to make corrections to all **unit tests**. You will receive partial credit for correct answers.

Policy 6

Students may retake any quiz or test in which they score below 70% **WITHIN two weeks** of receiving the assessment back. Makeups may be taken in their Academy class. The higher score will be recorded. Redoing an assessment is a privilege, not something to be taken for granted. To retake an assessment, the student must meet with Mrs. Masucci or their Academy teacher to review the material prior to the retake.

Policy 7

There is no extra credit. If your work is turned in on time, you have prepared for weekly assessments and unit tests, you have taken the opportunities to correct unit tests, and you have asked questions and asked for help when needed, extra credit is unnecessary. It can often over-inflate (pump up, exaggerate) your grade and not be a reflection of your comprehension of the subject. I do not expect an A in math from every student, but I do expect your best effort.

Classroom Rules

Rules are stricter than agreements or policies. Breaking a rule evokes clear consequences (Steps, detention, phone call home, etc.)

Rule 1

Do not speak unless:

- You raise your hand, and I call on you.
- I ask you a question and you are responding.
- It is recess or lunch.
- I instruct you otherwise (for example, during group work).

Rule 2

Follow all rules given out in the 7th and 8th Grade Behavior Plan, listed in the LFCS student handbook and on my website.