Math 1 Syllabus

Fall 2021

Teacher: Mrs. Tracy Conte

Email: tconte@wcpss.net

**My teaching philosophy:**

I believe that every student is capable of learning mathematics to the highest levels. First and foremost, I want to help develop students’ problem-solving abilities, which to me means that students will develop perseverance in the face of a challenge, and use mathematical tools to reach an educated conclusion. It is my duty to help students see themselves as mathematicians, and to provide a safe environment for them to explore the subject collaboratively as well as independently.

**Office Hours**

I am available before school from 6:45 a.m. – 7:15 a.m. every Monday-Friday.

I am also available after school Wednesday and Thursday from 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

There is a bus that can take you home at 5 p.m. every day of the week if you wish to attend the office hours of any of your teachers after school.

If these hours do not work for your schedule, please contact me directly or by email ([tconte@wcpss.net](mailto:tconte@wcpss.net)) to make a personal appointment.

**Course Description**

Math 1 contains a set of standards chosen by the NC Department of Instruction from the larger pool of Common Core State Standards for Mathematics recently adopted by 41/50 states. Standards include topics on linear functions, quadratic functions, exponential functions, modeling data, analyzing statistics, and using properties in geometry to solve problems. Of the 45+ Common Core Math standards that have been assigned to Math 1 by the NC DPI, I have reviewed and condensed these into 40 content standards that students will be assessed on throughout the semester. Students will also be continuously assessed on 3 additional “growth mindset” standards that will help to improve problem-solving skills.

There is currently no textbook for this class. All classroom tasks for Math 1 topics have been curated by the teacher from the KHS Math Department and/or math teachers in the global math community.

**Quarter Grade**

Each quarter grade will be an average of the mastery scores (scale: 0-4) you receive for the standards for each quarter (there are a total of 40 content standards for the entire semester). The content and “growth mindset” standards can be found on the next page of this syllabus. When students demonstrate mastery of each standard through class conversations, class work, and biweekly quizzes, the student’s score for that standard will be documented in the teacher’s personal gradebook. The teacher will update the online gradebook at least once every two weeks so students and guardians can view progress. Eight quizzes and the final exam will be the only formal assessments given in this course. Each quiz is cumulative and can cover any material already discussed in class.

*You will have quizzes every other Friday on the following dates:*

1. 8/20
2. 9/3
3. 9/17
4. 10/1 (end of the 1st quarter)
5. 10/15
6. 10/29
7. 11/12
8. 12/3 (end of the 2nd quarter)

**Semester/Overall Grade**

The semester grade is calculated as such:

* 40% 1st quarter grade
* 40% 2nd quarter grade
* 20% final exam grade

**Homework**

Homework will consist of any classwork that a student did not complete in class. There will be time allotted within class daily for the completion of work, but as a teacher I acknowledge that all students work at different paces. I do not assign any additional homework problems outside of class for a grade, and instead would prefer students to take the time at home to finish any work from class (hopefully minimal) and to, more importantly, spend time with loved ones.

For those who would like additional problems related to the classroom content, I have a weekly Math Puzzle Page that I hand out, that is completely optional and not graded. The Math Puzzle Page contains a “Problem of the Week” that directly relates to the classroom content we are currently working on, and this can substitute as homework if the student desires. Group discussions of the Problems of the Week are held weekly every Wednesday and Thursday mornings, and Wednesday and Thursday after school.