

Mill Creek Middle School

Course Name: Pre-Algebra

Grade Level: 8th Grade

Teacher name: Melanie Dever

Teacher Contact Information:

Classroom Phone: 734-424-4150 x5211

Teacher email: deverm@dexterschools.org

Team website: <http://devergrantteam.weebly.com>

Team Conference period: 8:15-9:25 am

Course description - Pre-Algebra emphasizes problem solving, critical thinking, communication, connections among mathematical topics, and connections between math and other subject areas. We'll use multiple representations to help solidify complex ideas, and explore the applications of our learning beyond the classroom. We'll do activities and projects to practice the use of our math skills, and will often work in pairs or groups.

Course Goals, Topics to be Covered: Our learning this year will be guided by the Common Core State Standards for Grade 8 in Mathematics. These describe what every 8th grader in Michigan is expected to be able to do by the end of an 8th grade math class. The Standards are categorized into main areas which are: the number system, expressions & equations, functions, geometry, and statistics & probability. The specific standards in each category can be found by visiting <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards/mathematics/grade-8/introduction/>

Textbook and Website:

McDougal Littell. Pre-Algebra. 2005

Textbook Website: <http://www.classzone.com/cz/index.htm>

Materials:

Required Math Supplies: A 3-ring binder with lined and graph paper, pencils

Optional Math Supplies: TI-83+ or TI-84+ graphing calculator or a graphing calculator app. on an iPod or app. phone. Note: Students will not be allowed to use iPod or phone based calculators on in-class assessments. Several TI-84 calculators will be available to borrow during assessments when needed. TI-89 calculators are not recommended, and will not be allowed on assessments.

Grading system and Criteria for Evaluation:

Please see the Dever-Grant Team Policies document for a detailed explanation of Mill Creek's grading system.

Guide to Resources/Tools for Student Success:

Mill Creek Math Department Website:

<https://sites.google.com/a/dexterschools.org/mcmath/home>

Common Core State Standards for Grade 8 Mathematics:

<http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards/mathematics/grade-8/introduction/>

Online Course Specific Resources in Moodle:

<http://moodle.dexterschools.org>

Textbook Website: <http://www.classzone.com>

ONLINE TEXTBOOK, TUTORIALS & GAMES!

McDougall-Littell provides a fabulous website as a resource for students and parents. This website offers:

- step-by-step verbal tutorials for each section in the textbook. If a student needs a refresher course after hearing the explanation in school, he/she can listen to the tutorial online at home. Also, if a student is home sick from school, he/she will still be able to access a tutorial for the math topics taught in class that day.
- an online version of the textbook itself. This is an exact replica of our entire textbook. Students with reliable internet access may use this as a way to access the book without carrying it back and forth to school each day.
- flashcards and many extra practice problems (with answers) for students and/or parents.
- interactive games and activities linked to each chapter of the textbook.
- practice assessments.