Welcome to middle school math! I am looking forward to working with your students this year.

### Curriculum

We will be using the Big Ideas Math series of books. Sixth grade students will be using the green book, seventh will use red, and grade-level eighth will use blue. Advanced eighth grade will be using the purple Algebra 1 book. The Big Ideas Math series is aligned to the Common Core Curriculum, which is the basis of the mathematics standards for the Saginaw Diocese.

Your student will be given a username and password to log-on to the Big Ideas website at [www.bigideasmath.com](http://www.bigideasmath.com) . Here they can find reviews, games, flash cards, and other resources, along with an electronic copy of their book. Without their log-in, they can still access an online version of their book, however, not all of the extra features will be available. Please write down the username and password in a safe place at home. I encourage you and your student to take some time exploring the website!

### Supplies

Students will need to bring their book, planner, math notebook and folder, a pencil, and a correcting pen to class every day. I do have a classroom set of calculators, but highly recommend that the student have a scientific calculator at home. We will be using the TI-30XS in class, which is a fairly inexpensive model. Not having a calculator is not an excuse for incomplete homework! Classroom calculators are not to be removed from the math room. **Eighth grade students will need a graphing calculator.** I recommend purchasing a TI-83+ or TI-84+ (color screens not necessary). Both will last your students through their high school, and maybe even college, courses.

### Homework

You should expect your student to have math homework 4-5 nights a week. Students typically have some time in class to begin their homework, but will need to take it home to finish. I encourage you to ask your student to show you their homework and talk to you about what we did in class that day! Every day, homework will be spot checked for completeness before we go over the answers. Students will receive credit or no credit, and late homework will receive 0 points. Homework may be collected randomly and graded based on corrections made during class time. In addition to daily homework assignments, longer assignments may be given from time to time. These assignments will be graded based on both completion *and* accuracy, and will lose points if turned in late. Students will have multiple days to complete these assignments, and should take time to discuss any questions they have with me prior to turning them in.

### Absences

If your student is not in class, they are still responsible for the material covered. Students will be given one day to make up work for every day they are absent. For example, if a student is absent Tuesday, the student has until Thursday to turn in anything assigned the day he/she was absent. If an assignment was due Tuesday, that must be turned in the next time the student is in class, in this case, Wednesday. Any deviations from this policy must be approved *before* the due date! Extended absences may require your student to stay after school in order to make up work. If you know your child will be absent in advance, please let me know as soon as possible.

### Tests and Quizzes

Students should expect 1-2 quizzes per chapter and one test at the end of each chapter. Each will be announced in advance, and we will take time in class to review for them.

Pop quizzes may also happen from time to time. The best way to be prepared for a pop quiz is to pay attention in class, check your homework, and ask questions when you’re confused!

### Grading

Grades will be computed using the following breakdown: Homework 25%, Tests 30%, Quizzes 25%, Classwork (including group work and daily warm-ups) 20% **(Algebra 1: Homework 20%, Tests 40%, Quizzes 35%, Participation 5%)**

The grading scale will be as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A | 93-100% | C+ | 77-79% |
| A- | 90-92% | C | 73-76% |
| B+ | 87-89% | C- | 70-72% |
| B | 83-86% | D+ | 67-69% |
| B- | 80-82% | D | 63-66% |
|  |  | D- | 60-62% |

Grades are updated regularly on Skyward.

### Contact Me

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. The best way to reach me is via my school email [abergman@stbrigid-midland.org](mailto:abergman@stbrigid-midland.org). More information throughout the year will be available via my classroom webpage at bergmanmath.weebly.com . You can also call the school office and ask to leave me a voicemail.