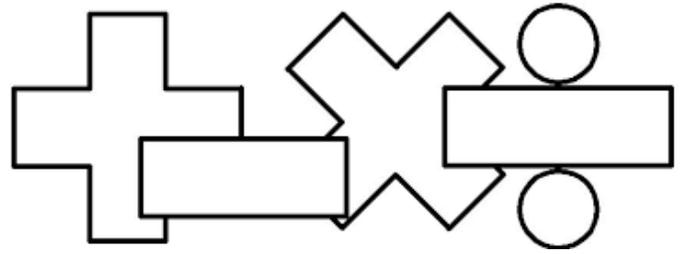


Dear Parents/Guardians of 8th Grade Math students,



Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Pojoaque Valley Middle School! I will be your child's 8th Grade Math teacher this year. My content knowledge qualifications are a Bachelor's of Science in Physics with a minor in Mathematics and a Master's of Science in Biomedical Engineering. I am a Pojoaque High School graduate and this is my third year teaching.

Students are required to have two composition or spiral notebooks for this class. Depending on your child's personal note-taking habits, they may need a third notebook for the second semester. I'm asking that the notebooks stay in class unless students have an assignment to finish at home. Students will also be assigned a workbook. The cost of the workbook is \$10. Should your student lose their book, they will be responsible for the cost of a replacement book to use the remaining of the year. Everyday your child must have their notebooks, their workbook, and a pencil. If you would like to donate extra supplies, I will make sure those supplies are used as part of a class set or given out as needed.

Homework must be completed in their notebooks, in pencil, and must include all the steps taken to get an answer. I will check notebooks regularly for specific content (examples, assignments, notes, foldables,...), so students need to have all assignments finished, their notes complete, and their notebooks organized and in their possession every day. Please regularly check PowerSchool for your student's current grade and for any work that may be missing. Assignments will be given a weighted point value (an *example* being: homeworks ~25 points; quizzes ~15 points; tests ~50-100 points). Your student's grade will then be determined by how many points s/he earned divided by the total number of points possible. When notebooks are turned in late, a point will be taken off each assignment per day it is late. Assignments that get a grade lower than a 60% may be made up in Homework Club for partial credit. Students must ask to make-up an assignment before redoing the work and it must be turned in within 2 weeks of the original grade.

Posted in the classroom, there will be a calendar of assigned work for absent students, and a chart showing the assignments each student has turned in. It is your child's responsibility to use these resources and stay caught up in class. It is important that students come to school regularly and turn in their assignments on time. If they have any questions about any of the class work or homework, they need to ask me for clarification or help, either in class or during Homework Club.

We do have a set of calculators that students may use while they are in class, however they will need their own calculator for homework assignments. For 8th Grade Math most basic calculators can be used, but a scientific calculator is recommended. For both classes, I suggest a scientific calculator that can display a complete expression which can be edited, such as a TI-30XIIS or a TI-30XIIB.

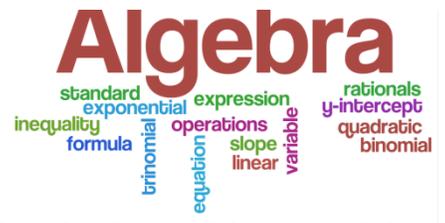
The course content for 8th Grade Math will include The Number System, Expressions & Equations, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics & Probability. All lessons will be aligned with the 8th Grade Math Common Core State Standards.

My email is js1@pvs.k12.nm.us if you ever need to contact me during the school year. Please feel free to stop by anytime and sit in on a class; we just ask that you adhere to the Visitor's Policy and check in at the front office.

I am very excited for this new school year and I hope you and your child are also!

-Jessica Saiz





Dear Parents/Guardians of Algebra students,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Pojoaque Valley Middle School! I will be your child's Algebra teacher this year. My content knowledge qualifications are a Bachelor's of Science in Physics with a minor in Mathematics and a Master's of Science in Biomedical Engineering. I am a Pojoaque High School graduate and this is the beginning of my third year teaching.

Students are required to have two composition or spiral notebooks for this class. Depending on your child's personal note-taking habits, they may need a third notebook for the second semester. I'm asking that the notebooks stay in class unless students have an assignment to finish at home. Everyday your child must have their notebooks and a pencil. If you would like to donate extra supplies, I will make sure those supplies are used as part of a class set or given out as needed. Students will also be assigned a textbook. The cost of the textbook is \$85. If the textbook is not returned or returned damaged at the end of the year, the student is responsible for the replacement cost of the book.

Homework must be completed in their notebooks, in pencil, and must include all the steps taken to get an answer. I will check notebooks regularly for specific content (examples, assignments, notes, foldables,...), so students need to have all assignments finished, their notes complete, and their notebooks organized and in their possession every day. Please regularly check PowerSchool for your student's current grade and for any work that may be missing. Assignments will be given a weighted point value (an *example* being: homeworks ~25 points; quizzes ~15 points; tests ~50-100 points). Your student's grade will then be determined by how many points s/he earned divided by the total number of points possible. When notebooks are turned in late, a point will be taken off each assignment per day it is late. Assignments that get a grade lower than a 60% may be made up in Homework Club for partial credit. Students must ask to make-up an assignment before redoing the work and it must be turned in within 2 weeks of the original grade.

Posted in the classroom, there will be a calendar of assigned work for absent students, and a chart showing the assignments each student has turned in. It is your child's responsibility to use these resources and stay caught up in class. It is important that students come to school regularly and turn in their assignments on time. If they have any questions about any of the class work or homework, they need to ask me for clarification or help, either in class or during Homework Club.

We do have a set of calculators that students may use while they are in class, however they will need their own calculator for homework assignments. For Algebra classes a scientific calculator is needed, but a graphing calculator is not. I suggest a scientific calculator that can display a complete expression which can be edited, such as a TI-30XIIS or a TI-30XIIB.

The Algebra class here at PVMS is taught as a high school level class, with students receiving a high school math credit. Because of this, the class expectations and rigor will be on par with a high school class. The Course Content for this class will include Rational and Irrational numbers, Expressions/Equations/Functions, Geometry, Linear Functions, Quadratic Functions, Exponential Functions, and Inequalities. All lessons will be aligned with the adopted Common Core standards.

My email is js1@pvs.k12.nm.us if you ever need to contact me during the school year. Please fill free to stop by anytime and sit in on a class; we just ask that you adhere to the Visitor's Policy and check in at the front office.

I am very excited for this new school year and I hope you and your child are also!

-Jessica Saiz

