

Course Syllabus: 6th Grade Advanced Math 2017-2018



Instructor: Mrs. Mason

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Course Goal

Mathematics is a strong and powerful skill. My goal for the students taking this course is that they can learn to appreciate mathematics and make connections to their everyday lives. I incorporate games, activities, videos, technology, and many other hands-on activities into my classroom in hopes to instill in my students a desire and ability to mathematically communicate and reason through life's toughest problems.

In 6th grade, the focus of mathematics learning is to

- Build on students' concrete reasoning experiences to emphasize foundations of algebra;
- Construct through active learning experiences a more advanced understanding of mathematics to emphasize;
- Rational numbers;
- Develop deep mathematical understandings required for success in abstract learning experiences;
- Apply mathematics as a tool in solving real-life problems.

Students in the 6th grade use problem solving, mathematical communication, mathematical reasoning, connections, and representations to integrate understanding across all the strands.

This is an advanced course! Students will be held to higher expectations and given a more rigorous curriculum. We will be covering all of the sixth grade SOL's and half of the seventh grade SOL's.

Course Outline

All Year

- ❖ Problem Solving +, -, ·, and ÷ of decimals (SOL 6.7)
- ❖ Customary/Metric Ballpark Comparisons (SOL 6.9)

1st Nine Weeks—August 9-October 10

- ❖ Integers (SOL 6.3) *SOL 7.3 Add/Subtract Integers
- ❖ Coordinate Plane (SOL 6.11)
- ❖ Percents, Fractions, and Decimals (SOL 6.2)
- ❖ Ratios (SOL 6.1)
- ❖ Model Multiply/Divide Fractions (SOL 6.4)

2nd Nine Weeks—October 11-December 15

- ❖ Multiply/Divide Fractions (SOL 6.6)
- ❖ Order of Operations (SOL 6.8)
- ❖ Area, Perimeter, and Volume (SOL 6.10)
*SOL 7.5b
- ❖ Mean as a Balance Point (SOL 6.15)

3rd Nine Weeks—January 3-March 8

- ❖ Mean as a Balance Point (SOL 6.15)
- ❖ Circle Graphs (SOL 6.14)
- ❖ Dependent and Independent Events (SOL 6.16) *SOL 7.10
- ❖ Properties of Quadrilaterals (SOL 6.13)
*SOL 7.7
- ❖ Congruence (SOL 6.12)

4th Nine Weeks—March 9-May 23

- ❖ Exponents/Perfect Squares (SOL 6.5) *SOL 7.1 b,c
- ❖ Patterns (SOL 6.17) *SOL 7.2 Introduce
- ❖ Equations (SOL 6.18) *SOL 7.13a, 7.14a
- ❖ Properties (SOL 6.19) *SOL 7.16 c, d, e
- ❖ Inequalities (SOL 6.20) *SOL 7.15b
- ❖ SOL Review (ALL SOLs)

**This stated plan is subject to change if needed.*

Grades

A	100-93
B	92-85
C	84-75
D	74-70

Below 70 results in failure of this course

Grading Policy

Grades will be calculated using a points system. Daily warm-ups, homework, classwork, writing assignments, quizzes, and tests will be given a point value equivalent to its importance to this course. I will send home mid-nine weeks progress reports, and will be willing to send home reports more frequently upon request. Parents may access student grades at any time via the Parent Portal. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic zero for that assignment. Students will also have the opportunity to make test corrections on any failed test, but it is the students' responsibility to make arrangements with me to do so.

Homework

Homework is practice! Homework plays a very important part of your student's success in this class. Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday and is due the following day. Homework is always a spiral review consisting of 5-10 questions per night. Student will have a study guide to complete before each test. It is important for your student to become responsible for having their homework every day, to keep the skills they are learning sharp. We go over homework at the beginning of every class that it is due, and your student has the opportunity to correct their work for half credit back. If a student does not have their homework completed, classroom consequences will be enforced. They MUST show all work at all times to receive credit.

Make-Up Work

Due to any Excused Absence:

- ❖ If a student is absent due to illness, it is his or her responsibility to ask for any missed work. These missed assignments must be made up within 5 days as per BVPS policy.

Due to an Unexcused Absence:

- ❖ Late work will be accepted at a penalty of 10 points per late day. Students are encouraged to speak with the teacher about any missed materials or assignments.
- ❖ If a student continues to consistently not complete homework, the parent will be called or a conference will be requested so the teacher and parent can work together to help the student.

Tutoring

Tutoring will be available from all mathematics teachers on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings until 4:00 p.m. A bus will run for students that have not made transportation plans for that evening. All students are welcome to stay and receive extra help, but it is their responsibility to make sure they have made plans with a parent/guardian to stay. If the teacher sees that a student needs extra help the parent will be called and request that the student stay for tutoring; otherwise tutoring is available at student discretion.

Supplies

- **Students must have a notebook to bring to class!** Whether it is a 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper, or a spiral notebook. They must have some form of notebook for this course. If they decide to have a spiral notebook, it is best to have a folder or notebook with pockets, so that they have some safe place to put handouts. Since we have laptops, students must show all work on their notebook paper. It is imperative that the student always have paper!
- **They are to ALWAYS bring a pencil to class.** If the student does not have a pencil, they may borrow one but it must be returned at the end of class.
- Textbooks will be left in the classroom. Students may take a textbook home, upon request; however, the teacher will not distribute textbooks to students. If you would like your student to have a textbook to take home as a resource, please call the teacher and request one. There is a charge for any book that is not returned at the end of the school year.

Substitute Teacher Policy

I will do my very best to be at school every day, but in the event that a substitute teacher is in the classroom the student is to be on their best behavior. If a student is disrespectful or does not follow the substitute's instruction only one warning will be given. If the student continues to misbehave and the substitute writes their name down, the student will receive after school detention when the teacher returns.

Contacting the Teacher

Please feel free to contact me at any time! I will be available at the school from 7:10—3:30 every day. The school number is 276-821-5660. If I am not available at school at that time, please leave a message and I will get back with you as soon as possible. You may also email me if you have any comments or concerns at smason@bvps.org. Again, I will get back with you as quickly as I can. You can view any assignments or note sheets on my website at <http://smason.weebly.com/>. You may also view your child's grades at any time via the Parent Portal.

Please add yourself and/or your child to my Remind list. I will send out daily reminders of homework, test dates, etc. You can also message me if you have any concerns at any time. This will be the quickest and easiest way of contacting me. Instructions are attached. Thank you for all your cooperation and interest in your child's education. I look forward to working and communicating with you!

Rules

I have five simple rules that are as follows:

1. Treat each person in this room with dignity and respect.
2. Be in your assigned seat and WORKING on the assigned warm-ups when the tardy bell rings.
3. Bring ALL books and materials to class AND take them with you when you leave.
4. Follow directions the FIRST time they are given.
5. Follow ALL procedures and policies as outlined in the VMS and Bristol City Schools handbook.

I have simplified these rules even further to make posting them in my room easier. **Be Ready, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Resilient.** The “Be4 Rules” simplify the above listed rules, and are simple and to the point. We must do these things Be4 learning can take place. They will be strictly enforced. I treat the students like young adults and in doing so I expect them to act as such.

Laptop Rules:

1. Because every student has been given a laptop, there will be no other electronic devices permitted for use in 6th grade classrooms unless approved by the classroom teacher.
2. Students may **only** print with teacher permission, and only to the designated classroom printer.
3. Backpacks will remain secured and zipped on your classroom desks or seats at all times.
4. Computers are to be stored in student lockers during Lunch and PE class.
5. (Entrance Procedures) **S**ecure. **S**it. **S**ilent. **F**ollow.
(Extra Procedures) **C**lose. **S**tand. **P**ack up. **D**ouble Strap with both straps over the shoulders.
Dismiss.
6. Student classroom computer usage is limited to times and websites as designated by the teacher.
7. Students are responsible for keeping their laptop charged.
8. When transporting the laptop, students are required to have the backpack zipped and have both straps over the shoulders.

The student is **FULLY** responsible for any and all damage, maintenance, theft, or any other problems concerning their laptop throughout the year.

Furthermore, teachers will **NOT** be held liable for students viewing any un instructed websites.

Signing: Please Sign and Return to Mrs. S. Mason

By signing below, you are stating that you have reviewed this syllabus and are aware of my goals, procedures, and rules for this course. Please keep in mind that this syllabus is subject to change at any time. I am very excited to have you in class and I hope that we all have a wonderful year.

NOTE: TEACHERS WILL NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR STUDENTS VIEWING ANY UNINSTRUCTED WEBSITE, OR FOR ANY DAMAGE, MAINTENANCE, OR THEFT TO A STUDENT COMPUTER WHEN IN THE CLASSROOM.

Please have the student return with this syllabus once it has been reviewed and signed by both parties.

Thank you!

My name is _____ (please print your name), and my relationship with the student is _____.

The best way to contact me is through:

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Work Home

_____ Yes, my student will have access to the Internet every/most evenings.

_____ No, my student will rarely have access to the Internet.

_____ Other, please explain:

My student and I have read this syllabus in its entirety, and understand that my student will be held accountable for its contents.

Parent

Date

Student

Date



**This syllabus is subject to change if needed.*