

Important Information - Accelerated Math

Teacher: Mrs. Cheryl Hanselman
2019-2020

My contact information: chanselman@ledyard.net OR LMS office (860-464-0200)

Parent contact information: Please make sure to complete and return the last page of this packet to let me know how to best contact you. Form should be returned by Tuesday, September 4

My website: lmshanselman.weebly.com

- *Find tentative list of weekly topics, announcements of quizzes, tests, and other assignments
- *Find daily homework assignment with links to copies of worksheets and homework
- *Find copy of e-book
- *Find copies of class notes listed on the date they were given

*****Special Note about Accelerated Math*****

We have done our best to place students in the appropriate math class. We want to give students the opportunity to take on this challenge, yet be watchful that it may not be in their best interest at this time.

Accelerated Math is a **fast paced** class as we are covering two years of mathematics in one year. We cover all of the 7th grade curriculum and most of the 8th grade curriculum.

More homework is assigned in this class. In order to complete the curriculum, we often need to cover multiple concepts in one class period. There is limited time to practice concepts during class. Students need to understand that completion of homework is part of the expectation for being in an advanced math class.

I expect that students **communicate their thinking process** (sometimes called "work"). It is a big change for some students who have always done most math problems "in their head." This is not negotiable and I often tell students "Resistance is futile". The ability to communicate one's thinking is an important skill to learn. After school help is available if students need help with this transition.

The expectations on quizzes tests is that students understand the math concepts at a higher level (**more critical thinking is expected**).

This course **should be challenging** to students but **not produce unnecessary anxiety or tears**.

If you think your child has been misplaced, please get in touch with me as soon as possible so we can address your concerns.

If I think your child has been misplaced, I will contact you at the time of the first progress report or sooner so we can have a conversation. It is important that students be challenged, but if this class is too much of a struggle, it is best to make the change to the Math 7 class. There are many other transitions to middle school that may impact a student's ability to cope with the challenges of Accelerated Math.

Required Materials to bring each day to class:

- Math binder(1-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in) If you choose to use a larger binder that includes other subjects, make sure your math section has only math papers and no math papers are in other sections
 - Three dividers: notes, assignments, quizzes These may be 3-hole pocket folders NO other subjects in these sections!
 - Pencil pouch with sharpened pencils, correcting pen (not black), extra erasers and/or lead for mechanical pencils. ALL math work needs to be done in PENCIL.
**Please let me know if there is any financial hardship for getting the required materials and I will try my best to find materials for your child.
- Agenda and traveler

About Our Textbook:

*Online resources can be found on this website: www.connected.mcgraw-hill.com Students will be given passwords to use this resource. It includes an online copy of the book.

*I have classroom copies of the textbook so students do not need to bring their own book to class each day. Student issued textbooks should be covered at all times. Students may choose to leave their personal copy of the textbook at home so that they do not need to carry it back and forth to school.

*We cover all chapters in the textbook except Chapter 9. We also do a unit on the Pythagorean Theorem which is not in the textbook.

Other Math tools needed:

*Calculators (TI30x) will be available for in-class work. For work done outside of class, students will need their own calculators.

Please note: There are some Accelerated Math units in which we do not use calculators. Students are expected to be comfortable with knowledge of basic facts.

Final Grade is Weighted:

***40% Tests** - These unit exams may NOT be retaken. Tests are expected to be completed within the allotted time

***35% Quizzes** - These quizzes may NOT be retaken. Quizzes are expected to be completed within the allotted time. Some in-class and out-of-class assignments will be graded and counted in this category.

***15% Other Assignments** - includes in-class assignments, performance tasks, journal/warm-up entries, selected homework problems chosen to be graded on correctness, spot notebook checks...

***10% Daily Homework Assignments** (Grade based on effort, completion, and work shown)

Absences:

*Recovering from a missed math class can sometimes be difficult. Notes and assignments from the missed class can be accessed on my website. If students are unable to print notes at home, they can use a school computer during homeroom. They should use the online resources (textbook videos) for the lesson missed and if needed plan to stay for help on an "after school help" day. Students should show me their missed homework when they return to school.

* If students are absent from class one day, the missed assignments should be turned in within two days. If students are absent on the day of a quiz or test, students are expected to take the quiz or test the day they return. For absences longer than one day, students should see me to get a timeline for making up work.

*For students who are not absent from school, but miss math because of band lessons (or a field trip...) homework due that day should be turned in BEFORE band lesson(or leaving for field trip...) and students should see me afterwards to get the missing notes and assignment. They can also get these from my website. Students are responsible for all missed work. Being at band lesson or a field trip is NOT an excuse for not having homework the day of the lesson/trip nor an excuse for the day after the lesson/trip.

Homework Policies:

*It is the student's responsibility to copy assignments correctly into his/her agenda from the assignment board in class. Extra copies of handouts are clipped to the assignment board or they can be downloaded from my website. If a student forgets his/her book, the e-textbook can be used. Please keep the usernames and passwords readily available at home.

*Students must have completed homework with them when they come to class. Late homework is not accepted (except when a student is absent). Students will not be allowed to go to their lockers during class to get their homework and they may not turn it in later in the day for credit. "My internet was not working" is not an acceptable reason to not have an assignment completed. During each marking quarter, I excuse (without penalty) three missing homework assignments. This will be adjusted in powerschool at the end of the marking period.

*Homework should be done in pencil.

*Students are expected to show work as shown in class notes. "Answers only" are not enough to get full credit for a completed homework assignment. I do occasionally give a No Work Needed (NWN) assignment.

*Daily homework is graded on a four point system:

4-ALL problems are attempted and sufficient work is shown. If you are unsure of how to do a problem, you must show me what you tried to do or write a question that shows me what you didn't understand about the homework problem. "I don't know", "?", "I don't understand", and blank spaces will not receive full credit.

3-MOST problems are attempted and most work is shown.

2-ABOUT HALF of the assignment is completed and/or work shown

1-VERY LITTLE of the assignment is completed and/or work shown. "Answers only" papers receive a "1" unless NWN (No Work Needed) has been specified for that assignment.

0-Assignment not attempted or not in class on time.

Rules for Our Classroom:

- 1) Be on time, on task, and totally PREPARED to learn EVERYDAY.

#homework not optional
#pencils required

- 2) RESPECT the teacher, the classroom, other students, and yourself.

#be nice
#believe in yourself
#you can be successful in math class
#be kind to others

- 3) Be RESPONSIBLE for your own learning.

#work hard
#persevere
#ask questions
#stay on task
#stay for after school help

- 4) CLEAN up after yourself.

#not your mom

*School policy on electronic devices is in effect in the classroom. There should be no cell phones in class.

Your actions...your consequences

#verbal and nonverbal reminders

#chat with teacher

#lunch detention

#talk with your parents

#after school detention

#grades affected by homework zeroes

Please tear off this page, fill out the information below and return to Mrs. Hanselman by Wednesday, September 4. Keep the other pages at home for you to reference as necessary. Students will be given another copy to keep in their math binders.

My child and I have read and understand the expectations for Mrs. Hanselman's accelerated math class.

Student Name (Please print) _____ Block _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent Contact Information (Please print)

Name(s) E-mail(s) Phone contact(s) for calls or texts

Please share any information which you think would be important for me to know in order for me to better help your child have a successful year in mathematics this year.