

Course Description

Welcome to Village D! I'll be teaching 6th-grade Math Flex and Science! Our focus this school year will be learning and developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners through critical thinking and analysis. The development and mastery of math and scientific thinking skills is not only important to achieving success in the classroom, but it is also a critical component of achieving success in other school subjects, building strong relationships with others, and attaining a flourishing career as an adult. The quality of life you experience now & throughout adulthood will depend a lot on how well you read, write, and especially, how you communicate and interact with others.

This syllabus will outline the basics of our class as well as expectations for this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Course Materials for each student

Math:

Besides the supplies for other classes, the following supplies are suggested specifically for math:

- A GRIDDED math journal
- A SIMPLE calculator
- Protractor
- Red, black, or blue ballpoint pen for corrections
- Standard/metric 12 in ruler

Personal colored pencils, markers, and highlighters are also helpful but not required

Science:

The following supplies are suggested specifically for science.

- A science journal – a spiral-bound notebook or composition book (your choice of college- or wide-ruled or graph paper)
- If you do not have a journal with graph paper, you will need sheets of graph paper
- Red ballpoint pen for all corrections
- Personal colored pencils, markers, and highlighters are also helpful, but optional
- Simple Calculator (the same one you have for math – not a scientific calculator) - optional
- 12" ruler (with both US and metric units) - optional

Behavioral Expectations

There are four behavior expectations in Room 12:

- 1) Be Safe: don't do anything that could physically or mentally hurt yourself or others
- 2) Be Productive: Stay on task and complete your work to the best of your ability, ask questions and for help when needed
- 3) Respect Others – Treat others as you would want to be treated; ask permission before using someone else's property or ideas
- 4) Do what is right, even when someone isn't looking – develop a good reputation

My goal is to provide a safe, respectful atmosphere so that students feel comfortable learning, being creative, working, and exchanging ideas in the class. To accomplish this goal, students must follow classroom rules at all times. For students who fail to follow the rules and the directions of the teacher, the following procedure will be used. Also, please remember the rules found in your school planner and certain infractions (theft, violence, or harassment) will lead to an automatic referral to the office.

- 1) The student will receive a verbal or non-verbal warning.
- 2) If the distracting behavior continues I will meet one one-on-one with the student at the earliest available time to review the behavior expectations of the class. Parents will be contacted via email.
- 3) A parent meeting will be requested if distracting behavior continues. Strategies will be brainstormed to help modify behaviors.
- 4) If the distracting behaviors continue administration, parents, students, and teacher will be involved to help set up an intervention such as a behavior plan.

Positive Rewards for Following Rules

Your appropriate behavior in class assures everyone of an environment conducive to learning. Some possible rewards for continuous appropriate behavior are intrinsic value (satisfaction of learning), improved skills, verbal praise, positive notes to parents, and special class activities/privileges.

Classroom Guidelines & Procedures

- Backpacks/water bottles under your desk
- If you have a backpack with wheels, place it at the back or the side of the room.
- Bathroom pass: sign out/sign-in on the clipboard, place the pass on the desk
- Rule: "Ask 3 Before me."
- Write your full name and period number on the front of all papers
- Have supplies assigned and ready for daily use
- Classroom library - borrow a book and return it promptly (honor system)
- Absent: Check in with a classmate or teacher for missed assignments and directions
- Returning from an Absence: check in with classmate/teacher for new assignments, one day per absence, turn in any due assignments, and write "absent" on the page

Homework and Classwork

Homework is always due the day after it is assigned unless otherwise directed by your teachers. Credit will be given for complete work with all thinking shown. Late work will be accepted up to one week after the due date, unless due to illness. However, deductions are made on a case-by-case basis depending on the situation.

Grading Overview

Please check the online grade book SYNERGY (**ParentVue/StudentVue**) regularly for grades and assignment completion. If you have questions regarding grades or assignments, please feel free to contact me.

For our class, we will use a points-based system with each assignment falling under one of two categories:

- Assessment - This will include tests, projects, homework assignments, and presentations.
- Homework and Classwork - This will also include notebook checks.

Grading Policies

Math

1. Journals: Homework and Classwork – 10% of grade
 - Journals will be used for notes, assignments, and reflections. Both sides of a page in the journal should be used. Journals will be graded on completion and clarity of work
 - Homework will generally be assigned each school day
 - Homework will be checked and given credit daily
2. Assessments - 90% of grade
 - Assessments are given every two weeks. Assessment questions will cover new and previously learned topics. Many assessments will include OPTIONAL questions on 7th-grade standards. These questions will not be counted in your actual grade but will provide feedback to you on how well you understand a more accelerated topic.
 - Assessment scores will be scaled to 50 points in the grade
 - A review with topics and sample problems from classwork and homework will be given 4 to 5 school days before the assessment
 - A review discussion will occur 1-2 days before an assessment
 - Retakes will be offered for conceptual mistakes
 - Projects may be included in the assessment category

Science

Summative Assessments: Tests and Projects

- Tests/projects are given approximately every four to six weeks.
- Graded tests will be returned and then reviewed in class.
- Projects will be assigned periodically with enough time for planning and completion.

1. Classwork

- Journals are used to record lab activities, notes, vocabulary, and reflections. All paperwork MUST be in the journal. Each entry must follow the journal entry format explained in class. Journal work will be submitted at different points during the grading period.
- Classwork involves individual work, as well as collaborative work with peers.

2. Homework

- Homework will be checked for completeness during class time or online
- The following are ways you can lose points on your homework:
 - Homework assignments turned in late
 - Missing assignments
 - Incomplete work

**** Please keep ALL current online unit work in your Drive or somewhere else on your computer until the end of the semester**

Grade Scale

A = 93% - 100%

A- = 90% - 92%

B+ = 87% - 89%

B = 83% - 86%

B- = 80% - 82%

C+ = 77% - 79%

C = 73% - 76%

C- = 70% - 72%

D+ = 67% - 69%

D = 63% - 66%

D- = 60% - 62%

F = Below 60%

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me.

Email: nguyen_viet@cusdk8.org

Website: <https://sites.google.com/cusdk8.org/mrvietnguyenclasswebsite/home>
or through the Kennedy Website at <https://kennedy.cusdk8.org/>

Best,

Mr. Viet Nguyen