

Horner Middle School

8th Grade: Algebra 1 and Common Core Math 3
Room C-219

Ross Morrow (He/Him); rmorrow@fusdk12.net
#510.656.4000 ext.48619

Welcome, 8th graders, to Horner Middle School for the 2026-2027 school year! I look forward to working with students, parents, and families as we study Algebra 1 and CC3 mathematics together.

To Students: as your teacher, please understand that I have high expectations and will encourage you to work hard. **I do not tolerate cheating of any kind**; my goal is to encourage you to learn this year's content in order to be prepared for an assessment. Be ready to ask questions and work hard. **It is the responsibility of each student to learn the material in order to earn the grade they desire.**

To Parent, Guardian and Families: I look forward to your support and cooperation in order to ensure the best possible learning experience for your student. Together, I anticipate a successful year.

Please note that the best way to contact me is via FUSD email. If you have a desire to set up a meeting time please contact me. **Be sure that you and your child have an AERIES account AND that the student has joined my Google Classroom (this will be posted in class) account as soon as possible.**

FUSD Adopted Texts:

McGraw-Hill Education. CC 3; CA Reveal Math, 2026

Big Ideas Math. Algebra 1 - Common Core Curriculum, 2015

Classroom Rules

Listed to the right are basic classroom rules that are vital for all students to follow to create an atmosphere of success.

1. **Be Safe/Responsible**
2. **Be Respectful**
3. **Be Accountable**

With the basic rules listed above there are some additional general guidelines expected from every student:

- To arrive at class on time and be **prepared with the necessary supplies/materials** (see supply list below).
- To respect other people. **NEVER EVER** put anyone down.
- To use proper language in class and **listen** when others speak.
- **Always do one's best! Be an active participant in class! Learn from your mistakes and don't give up!**
- Ensure that cell phones and ALL other electronic items are turned OFF and put away COMPLETELY before entering the classroom.

NOTE: I follow and enforce all Horner Middle School Rules as listed in the Student Handbook. Please be sure to read and understand the behavior that is expected.

For more information regarding Horner Middle School's rules, policies, and expectations, please review the beginning pages of your student's planner.

Important Math Practice & Grading Information

Math Practice Norms

Students will be assigned daily math practice. It is expected that students complete their math practice before the assigned due date and to do self-corrections of the assignment before they come into class. It is suggested that students use the provided student planner **DAILY** to keep track of assignments and important due dates. Parents/guardians should review their student's planner nightly to ensure that all math practice has been completed.

Classwork/Homework

Daily agendas will be shared during class. This will include assigned classwork and homework. On Friday, a list of all assigned work will be posted on Google Classroom for that week. All work assigned during the week will be due by Sunday evening of that week (early submissions will be accepted). This work will be entered into the gradebook during the following week. Late work will be accepted (and encouraged), but may take longer to be graded and inputted into the gradebook.

Assessments

Quizzes and Chapter Tests will be administered throughout the semester. Students will receive at least a week notice prior to tests being assigned during class (review topics and practice assignments will also be provided). Assessments will be graded based on students ability to show mastery/proficiency of the math standards being targeted. Therefore, students are highly encouraged to show what they know about each problem in order to get partial credit. Most assessments will be independent work, but some may be partner work and some may be presentation based.

Projects/Performance Tasks

There will be one project and performance task per unit. These will be completed in groups of 2-4 students. Some will include a presentation. Each project will include group portions **and** INDIVIDUAL reflection portions that EACH student will be responsible for completing on their own.

Late work

Late work will be accepted (and encouraged), but may take longer to be graded and inputted into the gradebook.

Test Corrections/Retakes

After assessments are returned, students will be encouraged to complete test corrections. Test corrections will allow students to earn up to 75% on their test grade. Students will also be given opportunities to complete **one** retake on all assessments. Students **must** complete test corrections and show evidence of completing a study activity before completing the retake. Students will plan times with the teacher to complete test corrections and retakes. Limited time to complete test corrections and retakes will be provided during class time. Most retakes will need to be scheduled to complete during non-class times (breaks/after school).

Absent Work

Academic success is related to how often a student is present for class. **Students are responsible** for any missed work, including notes taken during class/the lesson. Math Practice assignments will be posted to my Google Website and scores/grades will be posted to student's Aeries accounts. BE ACCOUNTABLE.

Extra Credit & 25% Club

Students will earn **stars** electronically during class (may be tied to the 5 star school system). Students can earn stars for participation and going above and beyond to help classmates. Each star will count as 0.01%

extra credit with a maximum of 3% be awarded per semester. Some assignments and tests will include opportunities to earn extra credit. These opportunities will be limited to no more than 3% of the assignments value. Missing assignments will be entered into the gradebook as 25% instead of 0%. Also, students will earn a minimum of 50% on all assignments that are submitted with shown effort on all tasks.

Test and Quiz Cheating Policy

Cheating will not be tolerated in my class (this includes, but is not limited to, sharing the content of an assessment with students in other periods, changing answers after something has been graded and/or looking at a neighbor’s work). Should cheating occur on a quiz or test, the student will receive “No Credit”. There will be no makeups or retakes given. Horner Administration will be notified of each occurrence and parents will be notified as well. Simply put: DON’T CHEAT.

Aeries

Math practice assignments (HW), assessment scores and grades will be posted to Aeries. Work is to be completed/accepted by assigned due dates provided by the teacher. Be sure that your student AND a parent/guardian have signed up for their respective Aeries account types.

Grading Breakdown

Classwork/Homework	30%
Tests/Projects/Quizzes	70%

*Please note: In order to ensure that grades are inclusive and equitable for ALL students, Fremont Unified is using the text “Grading for Equity” by Jon Feldman (Corwin, 2019) as a model for making modifications to existing grading practices.

Supplies Needed for 2026-2027 Academic Year - BE PREPARED ALWAYS

- MUST BRING their California Reveal Math Workbook AS WELL AS a personal math notebook (100 page).
- Calculator: Casio #FX-260 solar, scientific calculator (about \$10) (**PLEASE GET a calculator**)
- Pens for correcting (multiple colors)
- Highlighters (multiple colors)
- Ruler, Glue Stick, Student Scissors
- Handheld Eraser & Correction/White-Out Tape
- Pencils/Mechanical Pencils/Filler Lead
- Pocket Folder for HW, Classwork (**STAY ORGANIZED - there will be handouts**)

Cut off and turn in the signature page. Keep the rest of the syllabus for yourself.

My family and I have reviewed and understand the syllabus.

_____ Student Name	_____ Student Signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent Name	_____ Parent Signature	_____ Date